



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S ICE HOCKEY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 9, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Item.

• **Men's Ice Hockey – Notification of Transfer – Undergraduate Student-Athletes – Head Coach Departure Exception.**

(1) Recommendation. The NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Oversight Committee recommends that the NCAA Division I Cabinet adopt expedited legislation, for men's ice hockey, to amend the recruiting legislation as follows:

(a) Modify the notification-of-transfer legislation to require all undergraduate transfer student-athletes to initiate the notification-of-transfer process during a single, 15-day period beginning the Monday following the conclusion of the NCAA championship.

(b) Modify the head coach departure exception to establish a 15-consecutive day notification-of-transfer period beginning five calendar days after the hire or the public announcement of a new head ice hockey coach. If a new head coach is not hired or announced within 30 calendar days after the departure of the previous head coach, the 15-consecutive day window begins on the 31st day, provided the 31st day occurs after the Monday following the conclusion of the NCAA championship. The head coach exception may not occur prior to the notification of transfer period (e.g., April 13, 2026). The 15-consecutive day window may not extend beyond January 1.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. The move to a 15-day notification-of-transfer window that opens after the conclusion of the men's ice hockey season allows institutions to focus on supporting student-athlete academic and athletic success by eliminating disruptions to the NCAA championship and academics at the conclusion of the academic year, while retaining the opportunity for interested student-athletes to transfer for the next academic year. The modification of the head coach departure exception provides institutions and student-athletes clarity on the opening of the notification-of-transfer period. Aligning the exception with the hire of a new head coach instead of the departure of a head coach provides student-athletes an opportunity to evaluate their options and future with the new head coach before deciding whether to initiate the notification-of-transfer process.

(4) Estimated budget impact. Varies by institution.

Commented [BH1]: I advise checking the FB rationale to see if there is any language that is helpful as it relates to moving from 30-days to 15-days. There may not be, but if there is, might be worth considering.

Commented [BH2R1]: Maybe consider using the data for timing of entry and emphasis that this is only the date by which the SA must provide notification and not the timing for making a decision to transfer or not and if so, to where.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. This proposal to open the notification-of-transfer window after the conclusion of the men's ice hockey season eliminates disruption to the NCAA championship and provides more certainty around roster stability and the likelihood of future participation opportunities. The modification also provides student-athletes with an opportunity to evaluate options with the institution's new head coach before deciding whether to initiate the notification-of-transfer process.

Commented [BH3]: MIH already has a single window, so this doesn't make sense.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Update on the NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Rules Subcommittee.** The committee received an update from the first rules subcommittee meeting. NCAA staff noted, preparation is underway for the coordinators meeting in January.
2. **Review of annual contest exemption proposal from the American Hockey Coaches Association.** The committee will discuss the annual exemption proposal from the American Hockey Coaches Association at its next meeting.
3. **Division I Men's Ice Hockey Oversight Committee strategic priorities discussion.** The committee will discuss strategic priorities for the 2026-27 academic year at its next meeting.
4. **Future meetings.**
 - TBD.

Commented [BH4]: Is there any additional detail that can be included as to what was in the update?

Committee Chair: Timothy Troville, Harvard University

Staff Liaisons: Travis Johnston, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.

Chad Tolliver, NCAA Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Oversight Committee December 9, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Frank Cole, NCAA Secretary-Rules Editor.	
Jeff Fulton, Officials Coordinator.	
Rick Gotkin, Mercyhurst University; American Hockey Association.	
Blake James, Boston College; Hockey East.	
Forrest Karr, American Hockey Coaches Association.	
Don Lucia, Central Collegiate Hockey Association (alternate).	
Chris Melde, Michigan State University; Big Ten Conference.	
Andy Moore, Northeastern University; Hockey East (alternate).	
Josh Richelew, University of Michigan; Big Ten Conference.	
Scott Sandelin, University of Minnesota Duluth; National Collegiate Hockey Conference.	
Timothy Troville, Harvard University; ECAC.	
Absentees:	
Luke Strand, Minnesota State University, Mankato; National Collegiate Hockey Conference.	
Thomas Weis, Ohio State University; Big Ten Conference.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Travis Johnston and Chad Tolliver.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Ty Halpin, Brandy Hataway, Catherine Lant, and Jay Jay Rackley.	