



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 5, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative item.

- **Women's Ice Hockey – Notification of Transfer – Undergraduate Student-Athletes.**

Amend women's ice hockey legislation as follows:

- (1) **Recommendation.** The NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee recommends that the NCAA Division I Cabinet amend Proposal No. 2025-44, which was introduced by the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Oversight Committee and recommended for expedited action to include women's ice hockey in the application of the proposal that moves the notification of transfer window for Division I undergraduate ice hockey transfer student-athletes to a single, 15-day period beginning the Monday following the conclusion of the NCAA championship.
- (2) **Effective date.** Immediate.
- (3) **Rationale.** The move to a 15-day notification of transfer window that opens after the conclusion of the women's ice hockey season allows institutions to focus on supporting student-athlete academic and athletics 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.
- (4) **Estimated budget impact.** Varies by institution.
- (5) **Student-athlete impact.** This proposal to open the notification of transfer window after the conclusion of the women's ice hockey season eliminates disruption to the NCAA championship and provides more certainty around roster stability and the likelihood of future participation opportunities.

2. Nonlegislative item.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review of the notification of transfer head coach departure in women's ice hockey.** The Women's Ice Hockey Committee reviewed the Men's Ice Hockey Oversight Committee's recommendation to the cabinet to modify the head coach departure exception to establish a 15-consecutive day notification-of-transfer period that begins five-calendar days after

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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 Women's Ice Hockey Committee agreed to continue their review of the head coach departure exception and to solicit additional feedback from coaches and student-athletes for possible introduction into the June legislative cycle.

2. **Future meetings.**

- Noon to 1 p.m. Eastern time, Wednesday, January 21; videoconference.

Committee Chair: Janine Oman, The Ohio State University.

*Staff Liaisons: Travis Johnston, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.
Caleb Kolby, NCAA Championships and Alliances.*

NCAA Division I Women's Ice Hockey Committee January 5, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Brittany Kane, Boston University, Hockey East Association.	
Dean O'Keefe, Stonehill College, New England Women's Hockey Alliance.	
Janine Oman, The Ohio State University, Western Collegiate Hockey Association.	
Melanie Ruzzi, Brown University, ECAC Hockey (Women's).	
Britni Smith, Syracuse University, Atlantic Hockey America (Women's).	
Absentees:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Travis Johnston and Caleb Kolby.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
None.	