



REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 13, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and roll call.** The committee chair and NCAA staff welcomed all to the meeting.
2. **Division I championship designation.** NCAA governance and member services staff updated the committee regarding the process and timeline of transitioning from a National Collegiate to a Division I championship.
3. **Division I Cabinet.** NCAA staff updated the committee about the process clarification that was required surrounding the authority of certain aspects of the championship. This update clarified what was required to be approved by the Division I Cabinet in regard to the recent selection criteria change.
4. **Championship updates.**
 - a. **Squad size.** NCAA staff provided an update surrounding a potential squad size change for the championship with further discussion being required at the next meeting.
 - b. **Frozen Four planning.** NCAA staff provided an update after the recent site visit to the host of the 2026 Women's Frozen Four.
5. **Division I Women's Ice Hockey Rules Subcommittee structure.**
 - a. **Governance structure.** The committee discussed the new committee duties for National Collegiate committees. The committee also discussed the committee composition and the differences between National Collegiate committees and Division I sport oversight committees. The committee also reviewed the uniqueness of the sport having a Division I rules subcommittee as a National Collegiate championship.
 - b. **Playing rules subcommittee composition.** The committee voted to approve the composition change of the playing rules subcommittee to have one individual from each automatic qualifier conference, for a total of five individuals instead of the standard recommendation of six individuals. The committee will revisit this composition requirement should a sixth conference be formed.
 - c. **Committee vacancies.** The committee voted to appoint the following individuals to fill its remaining vacancies:

- i. **Playing rules subcommittee vacancies.** The committee appointed Mel Ruzzi, Brown University; Lee J. Mirasolo, Stonehill College; Katherine Lachapelle, College of The Holy Cross; Jeff Sigel, Rochester Institute of Technology; and James Wisniewski of The Ohio State University to the vacancies on the Division I Women's Ice Hockey Playing Rules Subcommittee. The committee also appointed Mel Ruizzi to fill the spot of the women's ice hockey committee member on the playing rules subcommittee.
 - ii. **Playing rules subcommittee student-athlete liaison.** The committee will appoint a student-athlete representative to be on the Division I Women's Ice Hockey Playing Rules Subcommittee at a future meeting.
6. **IIHF Women's World Championship.** The committee discussed the recent announcement of the date change of the IIHF World Championship and tabled the discussion until more information was provided.

Committee Chair: Janine Oman, The Ohio State University, Western Collegiate Hockey Association
Staff Liaison(s): Caleb Kolby, Championships and Alliance

NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee October 13, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Brittany Kane, Boston University.	
Dean O'Keefe, Stonehill College.	
Janine Oman, The Ohio State University.	
Mel Ruzzi, Brown University.	
Absentees:	
Britni Smith, Syracuse University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:	
Caleb Kolby and Travis Johnston.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Markell Staton.	