



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

a. Recruiting – Precollege Expenses – Complimentary Admissions to Away-From-Home Athletics Events – After Commitment.

- (1) Recommendation. The NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee recommends the NCAA Division I Cabinet add women's ice hockey to NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2026-48 to permit an institution to issue complimentary admissions to a prospective student-athlete (or prospective student-athlete's relatives or legal guardians) to an away-from-home competition beginning the calendar day after the prospective student athlete (1) signs the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or a settlement related benefits agreement; or (2) the institution receives a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission, as specified.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate, pending Division I Cabinet review as its October 6-7 meeting.
- (3) Rationale. Each year, situations arise in which a prospective student-athlete signs with an institution that later competes at or near the prospective student-athlete's home. Existing NCAA rules prevent institutions from providing complimentary admissions to away-from-home contests and presents as overly restrictive in today's climate. Currently, prospective student-athletes are no longer subjected to restrictions on the forms and frequency of communication between institutional administrators or coaching staff members and a prospective student-athlete (or prospective student-athlete's relatives or legal guardians) beginning the calendar day after a written commitment marking the end of the recruiting process. Establishing an exception permitting institutions to provide complimentary admissions to away-from-home contests after commitment aligns with the intent of recruiting deregulation, likely to have minimal recruiting or competitive impact and enhances the prospective student-athlete's connection to their future institution consistent with recent legislative modifications related to the period preceding the triggering of student athlete status.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Nominal. The proposal does not seek to increase institutional allotments for complimentary admissions but rather gives an institution flexibility to distribute its allotment at its discretion.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Weekly Hour Limitations – Outside the Playing Season – Four-Hour Limitation on Skill Instruction – Eliminate Limitation on Skill Instruction.

- (1) Recommendation. The NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee recommends the NCAA Division I Cabinet introduce legislation, for women's ice hockey, to eliminate the four-hour limitation on skill instruction outside the playing season.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. This recommendation eliminates the four-hour restriction on skill instruction, which aligns out-of-season activities with summer access. It still maintains the limit of eight hours of countable athletically related activities (CARA) outside the playing season but provides institutions with autonomy to determine which activities to conduct within the eight-hour CARA limit each week outside the playing season.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Minimal for there is no increase in the weekly hour time allotment.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Ice hockey roster limit proposal feedback.** The committee discussed a proposal from the Big Ten to increase the ice hockey roster limits from 26 to 28. The committee does not support an increase to the roster limit for women's ice hockey. The feedback will be provided to members of the defendant conferences for a future discussion of the proposal.
2. **Division I Cabinet request for feedback on Division I Proposal No. 2026-68.** Per the request of the Division I Cabinet, the committee discussed the application of Division I Proposal No. 2026-68 to women's ice hockey. The committee does not support the proposal. The feedback will be provided to the Division I Cabinet for their discussion on October 6-7.
3. **Approval of the NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee reports.** The committee approved the August 13 Women's Ice Hockey Committee reports.

4. Future meetings.

- a. 1 to 2:30 p.m., Eastern time Tuesday, October 6, 2026.
- b. 2 to 3:30 p.m., Eastern time Tuesday, December 8, 2026.

Committee Chair: Brittany Kane, Boston University

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

NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee September 11, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Celeste Brown, Rochester Institution of Technology, Atlantic Hockey America.	
Charles Dowd, Sacred Heart University, New England Women's Hockey Association.	
Brittany Kane, Boston University, Hockey East.	
Michelle McAteer, Western Collegiate Hockey Association.	
Melanie Ruzzi, Brown University, ECAC Hockey.	
Absentees:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Travis Johnston and Caleb Kolby.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Paden Allie and Markell Staton.	