REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S ROWING
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
JUNE 15-16, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2025 annual meeting report.** The committee approved the 2025 annual meeting report as submitted.

2. **Championship review.** The committee reviewed the 2026 championship and discussed key items to continue to enhance future championships. The group made special note of the work done by the City of Gainesville, Lake Lanier Rowing Club, and the University of North Georgia to successfully host the event.

3. **Broadcast.** The committee discussed the championship broadcast and noted positive improvements this year. The group committed to continue exploring potential enhancements, particularly around providing more team information to the announcers in advance of the championship.

4. **Fall racing and championship selection.** The committee voted to remove any fall racing from counting toward the minimum number of contests required to be eligible for at-large selection to the championship effective for the 2026-27 academic year. The committee noted that schools are currently not relying on fall racing to meet minimums to be considered for at-large qualification, and given the distance from selections, allowing teams to use fall racing as part of their body of work for selections runs counter to the selections process. This change does not impact the counting of fall racing toward sport sponsorship minimums.

5. **Selection criteria.** The committee voted to adjust the definition of late season performance from five weekends prior to selections to six weeks prior to selections, effective for the 2027 championship.

6. **Selection process.** The committee voted to adjust their selection process. Previously, the committee selected the allotment of at-large teams to the field and then ranked each individual boat. Beginning with the 2027 championship, the committee will rank the top 25 boats in each NCAA championship boat class (Varsity 8+, Second Varsity 8+, and Varsity 4+) and use the same underlying point system as the national championship to select the field. The top ranked Varsity 8+ will receive 75 points with each subsequent boat being awarded three fewer points; the top ranked Second Varsity 8+ will receive 50 points with each subsequent boat being awarded two fewer points; and the top tanked Varsity 4+ will receive 25 points with each subsequent boat being awarded one fewer point. These rankings will include any automatic qualifiers as needed, and any automatic qualifiers who do not have boats ranked in the top 25 will be seeded for the national championship at the conclusion of this process.

7. **Championship advisory committee.** The committee discussed the potential addition of a championship advisory committee within the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association as a formal part

of the selections process. The group expressed initial interest in the idea but wanted further discussions with the CRCA through the summer prior to anything being formalized. The committee instructed staff to continue conversations with the CRCA as appropriate.

8. **NCAA Division I Bylaw 17 Decentralization Feedback – Phase I**. The NCAA Division I Women's Rowing Oversight Committee discussed the decentralization of Division I Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons). The committee provided feedback to the NCAA Division I Cabinet's request on the first practice date, first competition date, and of the playing season, maximum competition dates, summer athletics activities, and health and safety for women's rowing.

9. **Automatic qualification.** The committee discussed automatic qualification submissions and approved automatic qualification for the following 10 conferences: Atlantic 10 Conference, Atlantic Coast Conference, Big 12 Conference, Big Ten Conference, Coastal Athletic Association, Ivy League, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Mid-American Conference, Patriot League, West Coast Conference.

10. **Future championships.** The committee began discussing the 2027 and 2028 championships in Sarasota, Florida, and the upcoming bid cycle that will award the 2029-2031 championships.

Committee Chair: *Kacey Light, University of Rhode Island; Atlantic 10 Conference.*
Staff Liaisons: *Audrey Capannari, Governance and Member Services.*
Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Division I Women's Rowing Oversight Committee June 15-16, 2026, Videoconference
Attendees:
Carrisa Adams, Villanova University; Coastal Athletic Association.
Tim Allen, University of Central Florida; Big 12 Conference.
Suna Cicekli, University of Oklahoma; Southeastern Conference.
Jackie Greulich, University of Portland; West Coast Conference.
Sheya Lavin, Student-Athlete from University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
Kacey Light, University of Rhode Island.
Peggy Sue Loroz, Faculty Athletics Representative Association.
Claure Ochal, Harvard University; Ivy League.
Janet Raymer, Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association.
Martin Stone, University of Notre Dame, Atlantic Coast Conference.
Luke Wilhem, Sacred Heart University.
Absentees:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Audrey Capannari and Zach Christopher.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:
Ryan Rea.