

REPORT OF THE NCAA MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SKIING COMMITTEE MARCH 25 & JUNE 17, 2025, ANNUAL MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

- 1. **2025 regional site selections.** The committee recommended regional sites for the 2025 championships, following recommendations made within each of the three regions. These sites are selected annually by each region's institutions on a rotating basis. (See Action Item 2-a.)
- **2. Committee composition.** The committee is submitting a proposal to expand its composition. With this change, the expanded committee would feature a coach from each region in both Nordic and Alpine. (See Action Item 2-b.)
- **3. Non-athlete travel party members.** The committee discussed a proposal to increase the minimum number of non-athlete travel party members to two.

ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
 - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items.
 - a. 2026 regional site selections.
 - (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. Approve the following sites and hosts for the 2026 regional championships:

Region	Dates	Venue	Host
West	February 26-28	Bridger Bowl (A) and Cross Cut Ranch (N)	Montana State University
Central	February 27-28	Grand Avenue Nordic Center (N)	College of Saint Scholastica
East	February 20-21	Middlebury Snow Bowl (A) and Rikert Outdoor Center (N)	Middlebury College

- (2) Effective date. 2026 championships.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. The regionals are selected on a rotating basis by each region's institutions. In addition, there is no formal budget process, as the host institutions receive a set stipend for hosting. These institutions have all hosted successful events previously.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. The stipend is \$3,500 per region.
- (5) <u>Student-athlete impact</u>. Each of the venues will provide a top-caliber facility and experience for the competing student-athletes

b. Expand the committee composition.

- (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. Expand the NCAA Men's and Women 's Skiing Committee from six voting members and the rules interpreter to seven voting members and the rules interpreter.
- (2) Effective date. 2025-26 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. With a committee of six voting members and a rules interpreter, members have to cover three regions, two genders and two major sport disciplines (Nordic and Alpine). Trying to balance the committee across all groups is difficult. One of the main reasons to expand the committee is to ensure having one Nordic coach and one Alpine coach from all regions without using the rules interpreter position as a qualifier. This would accommodate five of the committee spots but leave room for administrators from multiple divisions, plus then still meeting the divisional (DI FBS, DI FCS, DII, and DIII) requirements as well. Another advantage is that expanding to seven could be useful in decisions with split support.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. \$3,000 for travel and per diem for the additional member. However, the expansion will include another coach who in almost every case will be a member of the travel party of their team at the championship, which means there would be no cost assigned to the committee travel and per diem budget. The committee conducts its annual meeting virtually, and so again no travel or per diem costs. In short, for most years the impact will be \$0.
- (5) <u>Student-athlete impact</u>. The impact of this change will be valuable for the entire sport by having equal representation among all three regions, all three divisions (including FBS/FCS as well) and then both Nordic and Alpine disciplines, which need specialty knowledge from committee members. Some administrators or even coaches from the other discipline might not have the full knowledge to make major decisions.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Review agenda and meeting schedule. The committee reviewed the annual meeting agenda and schedule.

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- 2. Review of the 2025 championship. The committee discussed the 2025 championship hosted by Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. Members provided great support for the championship at Dartmouth, while also identifying areas for enhancement that will be implemented into future championships, including wax testing for Nordic and Alpine, championship site coaches bibs, expanded scoring on NCAA.com, and the future use of the online sport zone folders for information distribution.
- **3. 2026 championship updates.** The committee discussed the 2026 championships, which will be hosted by Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. Committee members discussed some early details of the championships and will meet again in the fall to continue discussions and distribute updates to the membership related to the event.
- **4. Event rotations.** The committee established a new process for event and gender rotations. While the host will have the ability to request a change to the event and gender rotations, which the committee would then review, the rotations have been established based on a review of the past rotations that have occurred since the COVID year and based them also on what has most commonly worked best for operations. Rotations will be finalized and put into the pre-champs manual and posted in the online sport zone folder.
- **5. Regional allocations.** The committee reviewed the allocation formula and approved the allocations for the 2026 championships. For Alpine, there will be 17 spots for the East and 17 for the West for both the men and the women. For Nordic men and women, the East and the West will each have 17 spots per gender, while the Central will have six per gender.
- 6. US Ski and Snowboard certifications/licenses. The committee reviewed the new communication process related to obtaining certification and licenses for all NCAA student-athletes participating in the championships. Licenses are required to participate in both regionals and championships, which are both NCAA-sponsored events. It is also highly recommended that all athletes competing have their license to participate in any collegiate competition during the year. Reminders will again be sent in August with a reminder to check on background checks for clearance prior to the new year.
- 7. Nordic sprint event approved. The committee received an update on the proposal to add a sprint event to the national championship schedule. The proposal was approved and will be added starting in 2026-27. The committee will work on the schedule, scoring, and everything related to this change in the fall and release a report prior to the 2026 championship.
- **8. Team scoring.** The committee has begun work to move all championship scoring, including live team scoring, historical data, in-season results/rankings, and more to NCAA.com for expanded coverage and more national tracking for qualifications to the championships. It is expected to be enhanced for the 2026 championship and the 2027 season.

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- **9. Upcoming bid cycle.** The committee began discussing the upcoming bid cycle that will start with the 2030 championships and could include the 2031 and 2032 championships. The bid cycle process is expected to begin in the fall and work through 2026.
- **10. Rules.** The committee met with J.D. Hamilton, assistant director in playing rules and officiating, to discuss edits to the NCAA rules book and other topics within rules and championship operations.
- **11. National committee.** The committee noted there will be one new member in 2025-26, as Sparky Anderson (Alaska-Anchorage) has been named to the committee. Additionally, the committee has selected John Dwyer (Dartmouth) to serve as chair again in 2025-26 after serving as chair in 2024-25.

Committee Chair: John Dwyer, Dartmouth College

Staff Liaison(s): Kevin Alcox, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Men's and Women's Skiing Committee March 25 and June 17, 2025, Annual Meeting (Virtual)

Attendees:

Jessica Cherry, The College of St. Scholastica.

Tracey Cote, Colby College.

John Dwyer, Dartmouth College.

Fredrik Landstedt, University of Utah. (Rules Interpreter)

William Reichelt, University of Vermont.

Tom Smith, Michigan Technological University.

Casey Stangel, University of Nevada, Reno.

Absentees:

None.

Guests in Attendance:

None.

NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:

J.D. Hamilton, Championships and Alliances.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

None.