



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S SOCCER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MARCH 12, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- a. **Playing and Practice Seasons -- Men's Soccer --- Redistribution of Men's Soccer Playing Season Model.** The NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Oversight Committee took action to modify NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2026-27, as specified: (1) reduce the minimum number of contests in the fall segment from ten to eight, and (2) remove the seven-day discretionary period at the conclusion of the fall segment while maintaining the seven-day discretionary period after the championship in the spring segment.
- b. **Recruiting -- Notification of Transfer -- Men's Soccer -- Undergraduate Window**
 - (1) Action. The NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Oversight Committee introduced legislation, in men's soccer, to specify that an undergraduate student-athlete may initiate notification of transfer during a 15 consecutive-day period beginning the day after the NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Championship game.
 - (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2027.
 - (3) Rationale. The current notification-of-transfer windows in men's soccer are constructed around a championship that occurs during the fall. Proposal No. 2026-27 would redistribute the men's soccer playing season and move the championship to the spring term. This proposal would relocate the undergraduate notification-of-transfer window in men's soccer to one 15 consecutive-day period following the conclusion of the men's soccer championship game in the spring if Proposal No. 2026-27 is adopted through the Division I legislative process.
 - (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
 - (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Promotes roster stability throughout the championship season by moving the undergraduate notification-of-transfer window to after the conclusion of the NCAA championship in the spring term.

2. **Championship subcommittee updates.**

- **2026-27 automatic qualification.** The Men's Soccer Oversight Committee approved the following 23 conferences to receive automatic qualification for the 2026 NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Championship: America East Conference; American Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Big East Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big West Conference; Coastal Athletic Association; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference; Pac-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southern Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; and West Coast Conference.

The bracket will feature 23 automatic qualification allocations and 25 at-large allocations for a total bracket size of 48.

3. **Governance and member services update.**

- a. **NCAA Division I Cabinet updates.** The Men's Soccer Oversight Committee was informed that the Division I Cabinet approved a timeline for reviewing legislation related to decentralization and deregulation, noting that the Division I Cabinet may refer items to Men's Soccer Oversight Committee within the governance structure.
- b. **Foreign tour restriction feedback.** In preparation for the Division I Cabinet's April 14-15 review of Proposal No. 2026-8 (Playing and Practice Seasons – Foreign Tour – Time Lapse Between Tours – Basketball – Once per Year), which would eliminate the once-in-four-years timing limitation and permit an institution to take a foreign tour once per year, the Men's Soccer Oversight Committee discussed whether the proposal should apply to men's soccer. The Men's Soccer Oversight Committee supports the proposal applying to men's soccer, noting that doing so promotes a uniform application of the foreign tour legislation.
- c. **NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Oversight Committee Subcommittee update.**
 - **Review NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Oversight Committee legislative proposal introduced in June 2026 cycle and educational materials.** The Men's Soccer Oversight Committee Subcommittee received an update on the redistribution of the playing season/flex model proposal that was introduced into the June 2026 legislative cycle, including recommendations from the subcommittee on modifications to the proposal and the introduction of a proposal that would move the transfer window in men's soccer in conjunction with the adoption of the redistribution of the playing season/flex model proposal (see Item 1-b above). The Men's Soccer Oversight Committee also reviewed educational materials staff developed to educate the membership on the application of the redistribution of

the playing season/flex model proposal and received an update on membership outreach and educational efforts conducted since the proposal’s introduction.

- d. **Report of the Jan. 28-29, 2026, meeting.** The Men’s Soccer Oversight Committee approved its Jan. 28-29 annual meeting report.

Committee Chair: Brian Mackin, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Staff Liaison(s): Micaela Kapsalis, Championships and Alliances
 Abigail Markey, Division I Governance and Member Services
 Sara Thurber, Division I Governance and Member Services

NCAA Division I Men’s Soccer Oversight Committee March 12, 2026, Videoconference
Attendees:
Greg Busch, Princeton University.
John Collins, NCAA National Coordinator of Officials.
Chris Dietrich, Fordham University.
Rob Emmerich, Stony Brook University.
Rob Kehoe, United Soccer Coaches Representative.
Quinn Millerd, Drake University.
Russell Payne, Northwestern University, Big Ten Conference.
Evan Schroeder, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.
Carlos Somoano, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Atlantic Coast Conference.
Kathy Sulentic, University of Memphis, American Conference.
Kevin White, James Madison University, Sun Belt Conference.
Absentees:
Rich Grady, NCAA Men’s Soccer Secretary-Rules Editor.
Brian Mackin, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
Patrick O’Toole, University of Michigan.
Chris Schneider, Big East Conference.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Micaela Kapsalis, Abigail Markey and Sara Thurber.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Jejuan Bowser, Stanley Broaden, Leilyn Miles, Jared Tidemann and Jerry Vaughn.