



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEE
JAN. 26, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2025 preliminary rounds review.** The committee reviewed preliminary-round competition and was pleased overall, while also noting areas for improvement for specific hosts regarding minimum hosting standards and equitable facility access for participating teams. Staff will address directly with these hosts through the post-championship host memo process recently implemented.
2. **NCAA Power Index (NPI).** The committee conducted a robust discussion on where to set the men's soccer NPI dials. Members came away with a good understanding of where they may want these dials to be set and will finalize these decisions in the coming weeks.
3. **Sponsorship.** The committee reviewed current men's soccer sponsorship, noting teams that have left, or are coming into, Division II. Members noted growth in multiple regions that warrant a bracket expansion request during the current triennial budget request process.
4. **Officiating.** The committee reviewed officiating assignments for the tournament and was overall pleased with their performance. The committee noted its desire to assign separate officiating crews for the semifinals and finals, as is done for matches in preliminary rounds. Staff noted that this request has been submitted as part of the triennial budgeting process.
5. **Committee composition.** The committee reviewed its current composition and noted terms that are expiring in August. The committee thanked Jamie Joss, Patrick Long and Dawn Tatro for their service. The committee also appointed Michael Lavato, senior associate director of athletics at American International College, as chair for 2026-27.

The committee also recognized, with the future use of NPI, regional advisory committees (RACs) will no longer be used for regional rankings. Committee members noted a positive aspect to this change being that the national committee will be able to be more intentional about the time spent preparing site reps and potential preliminary round hosts. They will continue to discuss ways that this can be done as the new season approaches.

6. **Manual review.** The committee assigned manual reviews among themselves and committed to providing suggested edits for the 2026-27 season to staff in the coming weeks.
7. **2027 annual meeting dates.** The committee agreed to hold their next annual meeting Jan. 25-26, 2027.

Committee Chair: Jamie Joss, Florida Institute of Technology, Sunshine State Conference.
Staff Liaison(s): Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Division II Men's Soccer Committee Jan. 26, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Brett Faro, Cedarville University.	
Jon Fridal, Colorado Mesa University.	
Gary Hamill, Wingate University.	
Jamie Joss, Florida Institute of Technology.	
Michael Lavato, American International College.	
Patrick Long, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania.	
Matt O'Sullivan, Californian Polytechnic University, Pomona.	
Dawn Tatro, Rogers State University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:	
Eric Breece.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Carla Laster.	