



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II SOFTBALL COMMITTEE
JUNE 16-17, 2026, ANNUAL MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review of 2025 annual meeting report.** The committee approved the 2025 meeting report as written.
2. **NFCA report.** Brian Stanley from the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) and Megan Corriea, head coach at Cal Poly Humboldt, provided feedback from coaches regarding the 2025-26 season and championship. The committee and NFCA also discussed future education surrounding the rollout of NPI.
3. **Umpires.** Austin Mezzacasa provided an overview RefQuest enrollment, umpire evaluations and coach evaluations across all three divisions from the 2025-26 season. Mezzacasa also provided areas in which the Softball Umpire Program (SUP) has made progress. The committee received an overview of video review statistics from the Division II softball regular season and championship. Growth has been seen in the number of schools utilizing video review during the regular season and preliminary rounds of the Division II Softball Championship. Ten conferences utilized video review during the 2025-26 regular season compared to four conferences in 2024-25. The committee agreed that while the use of view review is growing, we are still not in a place to make it a requirement of hosting preliminary rounds.
4. **NPI discussion.** The committee met with Tim Danehy to begin discussions regarding NPI dial setting. This was the first of three meetings the committee will have to set the NPI dials that will be used for the 2026-27 academic year. The Division II Softball NPI dial setting webinar for the membership will be held at 2 p.m. Eastern time on August 18.
5. **Division II governance update.** The committee was provided an update on the 2025-26 Division II priorities and operating plan.
6. **Eligibility Review Working Group.** The Division II Softball Committee received an update on the Division II eligibility review and ongoing discussions occurring within the Division II governance structure. Specifically, the committee received an update on discussions occurring with the Division II Legislation Committee surrounding an age-based model in Division II. The committee provided feedback on NCAA Division II Proposal 2026-6 and a potential age-based model in Division II.
7. **Review of 2026 championship.** The committee reviewed participant survey results and discussed improvements that could be made to future championships. In order to continue improving the overall championship experience and provide more transparency, the committee will continue tracking recurring issues at host sites and share potential areas of improvement

with hosts after the conclusion of the championship to provide the opportunity to rectify noted issues.

8. **Championship manuals and site selection material.** The committee reviewed necessary changes to the manuals and bid specifications for the 2026-27 academic year. The committee will continue reviewing the manuals this summer and provide necessary updates to staff by August 1.
9. **Championship host update.** Brant Donlon and Cassidy Brinkley, representing the Division II Softball Local Organizing Committee, met with the committee to review the 2026 championship and discuss opportunities to enhance future championship experiences. Chattanooga reiterated its enthusiasm for hosting the Division II Softball Championship and expressed its commitment to continuing its strong partnership with the NCAA and the committee.
10. **2027 championship format.** The committee approved the regional and super regional brackets for the 2027 Division II Softball Championship in addition to a draft schedule for the 2027 championship. The committee voted to change the championship series game times to 2 p.m. (Game 1), 2 p.m. (Game 2) and 4:30 p.m. (Game 3).
11. **NCAA playing rules and barrel compression testing (BCT) review.** Dee Abrahamson provided an update on bat testing data from the 2025-26 season. Vickie Van Kleeck, NCAA softball secretary-rules editor, also joined the meeting to share an update on rules changes being discussed by the Softball Rules Committee. Additionally, the committee was reminded that the use of the double first base will be mandatory in Division II softball beginning with the 2026-27 season.
12. **Softball and baseball joint discussion.** The Division II Baseball Championship manager participated in the meeting to provide updates on ongoing discussions in baseball that could also be relevant to softball. These topics included NPI, committee meeting cadence and review of preliminary round hosts who served as host for both Division II baseball and softball. With the rollout of the NPI, the committee and staff emphasized the importance of increased education and communication regarding home and away designations to help prevent calculation errors during the 2026-27 season.
13. **2027 annual meeting dates.** The committee will hold its next annual meeting June 28-29 in Indianapolis.
14. **Chair appointment.** Neil Morgan will continue to serve as committee chair for the 2026-27 academic year.

Committee Chair: Neil Morgan, Biola University, Pacific West Conference.

Staff Liaison(s): Alyssa Rice, Championships and Alliances

Jess Gaumer, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Softball Committee June 16-17, 2026, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Dixie Cirillo, Colorado School of Mines.	
Stephanie DeFeo, University of West Alabama.	
Neil Morgan, Biola University.	
Andrea Miller Grady, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania.	
John Regenfuss, GLIAC.	
Claudia Stabile, Pace University.	
Dawn Turner, Lander University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Dee Abrahamson, NCAA Equipment Consultant.	
Cassidy Brinkley, Lee University.	
Megan Corriea, NFCA.	
Tim Danehy, NCAA Power Index (NPI)..	
Brant Donlon, Sports and Events Corp.	
Austin Mezzacasa, NCAA Division II National Advisor.	
Vickie Van Kleeck, NCAA Softball Secretary-Rules Editor.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Jess Gaumer, Championships & Alliances.	
Alyssa Rice, Championships & Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Eric Breece, Championships & Alliances.	
Chelsea Hooks, Governance and Member Services.	
Maritza Jones, Governance and Member Services.	
Ryan Jones, Governance and Member Services.	