



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S STUNT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 26, MARCH 2, 12, 18 AND 31, APRIL 21 AND MAY 5, 2026,
VIDEOCONFERENCES**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Introductions.** The committee and NCAA staff liaisons introduced themselves and acknowledged the excitement of launching a NCAA Stunt Championship with the 2026-27 season.
2. **Confidentiality.** NCAA staff informed the committee of the confidentiality policy.
3. **Governance structure overview.** The committee received an overview of the NCAA governance structure. As a National Collegiate championship, the committee reports to the Division I cabinet. Division II and Division III legislative issues would be referred to the appropriate divisional body.
4. **Chair election.** The committee elected Sandra Bell, executive associate athletics director University of Kentucky as chair.
5. **Championship format.**
 - a. **Selections process.** The committee requested staff work with the USA Cheer staff to present the current selection criteria and process on a future videoconference.
 - b. **Automatic qualification.** The committee received an update on automatic qualification. National Collegiate championships have a two-year waiting period for automatic qualification. The waiting period will begin the first year of the championship, so the earliest automatic qualification would be available to conferences would be the 2028-29 academic year. It was noted that the committee would need to recommend automatic qualification be implemented at the championship before any conference would be eligible. For example, beach volleyball did not add automatic qualification immediately after the two-year period.
 - c. **Date formula.** The committee discussed the current date formula (Thursday through Sunday, fourth weekend in April) and noted that a week later may provide a better timeframe for the championship. This would allow for separate weekends for both the NCAA Stunt and NCAA Acrobatics and Tumbling championships. The committee will look to conduct the championship on the weekend that includes the first Saturday in May (Friday – Sunday). The broadcast liaison will seek feedback from potential broadcast partners noting a preference for the current date formula but a willingness to be flexible based on broadcast feedback and exposure opportunities.

6. **Event format.** The committee noted that the current event format includes three separate championships for each NCAA division. For the NCAA championship, it will be one championship that encompasses all three divisions. The committee continues to look at both the format of the championship (single elimination versus double elimination) as well as the number of teams that will be selected for the championship. The committee will continue to discuss these items as they form their recommendation for the championship.
7. **Squad size and travel party.** The committee discussed the current squad sizes of the teams that compete at the current Stunt championship. The committee agreed to review data from the 2026 USA Cheer Stunt Championship before finalizing a recommendation for the squad size and travel party numbers.
8. **Timeline for approval.** The committee discussed the timeline for approval. It is anticipated that the committee will make a recommendation on the format and travel party size on the May 19 videoconference for consideration on the May 27 Division I Cabinet Subcommittee videoconference.
9. **Playing rules process.** The committee received an update on the playing rules process. Sports that transition from the emerging sports program to championship status will continue to have the playing rules governed by the existing organization, with an opportunity for NCAA-specific modifications. The championship manager and the stunt playing rules liaison will meet with the applicable USA Cheer staff to review the playing rules structure and discuss opportunities to collaborate, including the call for proposals process.
10. **Budget.** Staff provided an overview of the budget previously approved by the Division I governance structure when the recommendation was made to establish the NCAA championship. While the committee has flexibility within the established budget to amend base assumptions, the championship must stay within the approved budget. It was noted that there will be additional one-time funds available to celebrate the inaugural championship and the committee was encouraged to think of potential opportunities to utilize those funds.
11. **Legislative issues.** At the request of the Division I Cabinet, the committee provided feedback on the Division I foreign tour legislation. The committee shared that foreign tours are not currently taking place in stunt but would support the adoption of the legislation.
12. **Site selection and bid specs.** Staff provided an overview of the NCAA bid process. It was noted that initially bids will be sought for the 2027 and 2028 championships. It is anticipated that the 2029-31 championships will be included in the upcoming bid cycle with most other NCAA championships. The committee reviewed draft bid specs, including facility requirements and hotel requirements.
13. **Site visit.** Staff noted that the championship manager would attend the 2026 Stunt Championships in Nashville, Tennessee to further understand how the current event operates,

meet with USA Cheer staff and look at opportunities to enhance the current experience for the first NCAA championship.

14. Future meetings. The committee reviewed future meeting dates and adjusted dates and times as needed. The committee will meet weekly for the foreseeable future.

Committee Chair: Sandra Bell, University of Kentucky
Staff Liaison: Kristin W. Fasbender, Championships and Alliances
 Karen Metzger, Governance and Member Services

NCAA Women’s Stunt Committee	
February 26, March 2, 12, 18 and 31, April 21 and May 5, 2026, Videoconferences	
Attendees:	
Sandra Bell, University of Kentucky.	
Perrella Harris, Ferris State University.	
Karen Henson, Drury University.	
Kezia Molinsky, Buena Vista University.	
Adam Puckett, George Fox University.	
Jessica Wolverton, Oklahoma Baptist University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Karen Metzger, Governance and Member Services.	
Kristin W. Fasbender, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Karen Kirsch (February 26 and April 7 videoconferences), Julie Kimmons (March 2 and 12 videoconferences) Nancy O’Hara (contractor).	