



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S
SWIMMING AND DIVING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
JULY 30, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- **Expedited Legislation - Weekly hours limitations outside the playing season.**
 - (1) Recommendation. The NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Oversight Committee recommends the NCAA Division I Cabinet adopt expedited legislation, in swimming and diving, to eliminate the four-hour limitation on skill-related instruction outside the playing season.
 - (2) Effective date. Immediate.
 - (3) Rationale. This proposal maintains the limit of eight hours of countable athletically related activities outside of the playing season while providing individual institutions the autonomy to determine the activities to conduct within the eight-hour CARA limit each week.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. This permits a more individualized approach to out-of-season activities.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Previous meeting reports.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its June 15-16 annual meeting.
2. **Playing rules subcommittee report.** The oversight committee approved the following recommended playing rules changes from the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Rules Subcommittee effective for the 2026-27 season that were recently approved by USA Swimming and World Aquatics:
 - a. **Backstroke Ledge (Rule 1-3.8.b).** To require the backstroke ledge to be adjustable to 4 centimeters above or 4 centimeters below the water level and may not be used outside of this range. The ledge shall be a minimum of 60 centimeters in length, 8 centimeters in height, and 2 centimeters at the width with 10 degrees of slope.
 - b. **Butterfly (Rule 2-2.3.e).** To add language 'Additionally, once some part of the head of the swimmer has passed the final 5-meter mark (long course and short course meters) or 5-yard mark (short course yards), immediately prior to reaching for the finish, the swimmer may be completely submerged.'

- c. **Freestyle (Rule 2-2.4.d).** To add language ‘Additionally, once some part of the head of the swimmer has passed the final 5-meter mark (long course and short course meters) or 5-yard mark (short course yards), immediately prior to reaching for the finish, the swimmer may be completely submerged.

Greg Lockard, NCAA swimming and diving secretary-rules editor, and Jay Fitzwater, NCAA assistant director of championships and alliances, provided updates that these rules changes will be updates in the digital playing rules book before the beginning of the season and highlighted in the preseason playing rules memo. They also noted a recent change that removed term limits on the secretary-rules editor positions across the NCAA.

3. **2027 zone diving sites.** The committee approved the following institutions to host the 2027 NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Zone Diving Championships March 8-10, 2027:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Host Institution</u>	<u>Location</u>
A	West Virginia University	Morgantown, West Virginia
B	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Knoxville, Tennessee
C	Purdue University	West Lafayette, Indiana
D	University of Texas at Austin	Austin, Texas
E	Northern Arizona University	Flagstaff, Arizona

4. **Championship date formula.** The committee approved a change to the championship date formula for the men’s and women’s championships effective immediately (changes in **bold**):

- Women’s date formula: **In odd years**, third Thursday-Saturday in March with the first night of competition on Wednesday night. **In even years, fourth Thursday-Saturday in March with the first night of competition on Wednesday night.**
- Men’s date formula: **In odd years**, fourth Thursday-Saturday in March with the first night of competition on Wednesday night. **In even years, third Thursday-Saturday in March with the first night of competition on Wednesday night.**
- Women’s zone diving date formula: **In odd years**, one week prior to the women’s finals (five consecutive days Saturday to Saturday inclusive of practice days). **In even years, two weeks prior to the women’s finals (five consecutive days Saturday to Saturday inclusive of practice days).**
- Men’s zone diving date formula: **In odd years**, two weeks prior to the men’s finals (five consecutive days Saturday to Saturday inclusive of practice days). **In even years, one week prior to the men’s finals (five consecutive days Saturday to Saturday inclusive of practice days).**

The committee cited gender equity as rationale. The women's divers have historically had a tighter turnaround from zone diving to the championship than men's divers. Men's qualified swimmers have had to train for a week without some of their coaches who are at the women's championships. The women's championships, by going first, can also experience some operational challenges that are worked out by the men's championships. Lastly, should there be only one linear television opportunity available each year for swimming and diving, rotating the championships will provide each gender with a linear opportunity every other year. Rotating the gender order of the championships every other year will provide a more equitable experience to both genders.

5. **Schedule of events.** The committee reviewed the updated schedule of events recently approved at its annual meeting and made no additional changes. NCAA staff will work on a tentative timeline for the events with the swimming data coordinator, administrative referee and the broadcast partner with a goal to publish in September.
6. **Site visit recap.** NCAA staff and incoming committee chair Charvi Greer and diving representative Susan Bromberg updated the committee on the recent site visit to the Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center in Austin, Texas, site of the 2027 and 2028 championships. All provided a positive update and look forward to working with the host staff to plan and execute the championships.
 - a. **Course configuration.** The committee approved the center course configuration for the competition pool for the 2027 championships, citing past precedent of the 2019 championships and positive participant feedback that provides a championship atmosphere for participants and improved site lines for spectators.
 - b. **Diving spectator seating.** The committee reviewed a request to permit diving spectators on deck during the championships. The committee will discuss after further discussion with the host staff.
7. **Zone realignment proposal.** The committee reviewed a draft proposal from the diving representatives to realign each of the five zones so that each zone had similar number of sponsoring institutions. The committee will continue to review the proposal and seek additional membership feedback before voting.
8. **Annual meeting date.** The committee confirmed June 28-29, 2027, for its next annual meeting.
9. **Future meetings.** The oversight committee will meet next at 11 a.m. Eastern time, Sept. 2.

Committee Chair: Mike Spiegler, University of Florida; Southeastern Conference
Staff Liaisons: John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances
Paige Newman, Championships and Alliances

Audrey Capannari, Governance and Member Services
Danielle Day, Governance and Member Services

Division I Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Oversight Committee July 30, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Samantha Barany, College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America (nonvoting member).	
Hollie Bonewit-Cron, Pennsylvania State University; Big Ten Conference.	
Susan Bromberg, University of Illinois Chicago; Missouri Valley Conference.	
Patrick Gallagher, Cornell University; The Ivy League.	
Charvi Greer, Tulane University; American Conference.	
Caitlin Hughes, Northeast Conference.	
Nikki Kelsey, Northern Arizona University; Big Sky Conference.	
Greg Lockard, NCAA Swimming and Diving Secretary-Rules Editor (nonvoting member).	
Tamber McAllister, Brigham Young University; Big 12 Conference.	
Lauren Rust, University of Louisville; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Mike Spiegler, University of Florida; Southeastern Conference.	
Grace Zifcak, Student-athlete from University of Kansas.	
Absentees:	
John Crock, University of Vermont (Faculty Athletics Representative, nonvoting member).	
Joy Graziano, Student-athlete from University of North Texas.	
Steve Schaffer, Grand Canyon University; Mountain West Conference.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
John E. Bugner, Audrey Capannari, Danielle Day and Paige Newman.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Jay Fitzwater, Amy Skiles and Jonathan Youngblood.	