



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS COMMITTEE
JUNE 24-25, 2025, ANNUAL MEETING

Action Items: The NCAA Division I Sports Oversight Committee will be asked to approve the automatic qualifying conferences (see Action Item 2-a), approve a coach as committee chair (see Action Item 2-b) and approve the permitted use of electronic line calling during the NCAA championships (see Action Item 2-c).

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Automatic qualification.** The committee requests approval for all eligible conferences to receive automatic qualification. (See Action Item 2-a.)
2. **Committee chair.** The committee requests approval of a coach as committee chair. (See Action Item 2-b.)
3. **Electronic line calling permitted during NCAA championships.** The committee requests that electronic line calling be permitted during the NCAA championships, beginning with the 2025-26 academic year. (See Action Item 2-c.)

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Automatic qualification.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic bids for the 2026 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Championships (30 conferences for the women's championships and 27 for the men's): American Athletic Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 Conference; Big West Conference; Coastal Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Missouri Valley Conference (women's only); Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference (women's only); Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and Western Athletic Conference (women's only).

- (2) Effective date. 2025-26 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are recommended. The WAC will enter the first year of grace period for the 2025-26 season for women's tennis. The WAC no longer has automatic qualifiers for men's tennis.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Committee chair.

- (1) Recommendation. That Alison Silverio, head women's tennis coach at the University of Notre Dame, be appointed as committee chair for 2025-26. The committee is seeking a waiver from the Sports Oversight Committee to allow a head coach to serve as chair of the committee.
- (2) Effective date. Sept. 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. The committee unanimously supported Alison Silverio to serve as the overall committee chair for 2025-26. The overall chair rotates between the men's and women's subcommittees each year; 2025-26 rotates to the women's subcommittee. There are five coaches and one administrator on the women's subcommittee. The lone administrator does not have the capacity or experience yet to serve during the 2025-26 season.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Coach Silverio is a former student-athlete with a championship background who will provide the necessary attention to the student-athlete experience.

c. Electronic line calling permitted during NCAA championships.

- (1) Recommendation. To permit an electronic line calling system approved by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association to be used during the preliminary rounds of the NCAA team championships if the host has used it throughout the season and the officials are trained to use it, and to permit ITA-approved electronic line calling systems to be used at the singles and doubles championships and team championships final site if available.

- (2) Effective date. 2025-26 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. The ITA approved the use of ITA-approved electronic line calling systems as part of the playing rules changes for the 2025-26 academic year. The approved system is a challenge system that allows a player to challenge a call already made by a human. The ITA successfully piloted electronic line calling at select events during the 2024-25 season, including at the ITA Indoor Championships. The ITA has developed protocols and authorized a provider, Play Replay, for the 2025-26 academic year, which is ITF-certified at the silver level. This electronic line calling system will be used at the ITA All-American Championships and the ITA Indoor Championships this year. Based on feedback from the ITA's pilot, it is noted that the use of the system during these events has improved sportsmanship and reduced arguments over line calls, with great confidence in the system.

The committee supports the use of approved electronic line calling systems during the NCAA championships to help ensure the correct calls are made, to improve the integrity of competition and to improve sportsmanship. The committee did not support using the system if it would be used by a host and officials for the first time during the championships, affirming that a host must use it during the season. The committee noted use of the system is permissive but not required. The committee will add questions to preliminary-round bid questionnaires on its availability. There will not be any additional expense to the NCAA for its use as it is not required and the NCAA provides only a stipend to preliminary-round hosts to help support the payment of officials' fees and lodging. For the final site, should the host have the system, the committee supports its use, which would be at no cost to the NCAA. If a final site host does not have it, the committee will investigate the potential expense to fit within its current annual budget. The United States Tennis Association, host of the 2025 singles and doubles championships, noted that it already owns the approved system, and it could be available for use in the fall if approved.

The ITA confirmed it is developing training for officials for the 2025-26 academic year. The championships head official confirmed that the finals site officials crew is already experienced and trained to use the system should it be available at the final site.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None. The expense would be incurred by each host that decides to purchase the system for use during the regular season. For the final site, if a host already has it, there should be no additional expense. Should it not be available at the final site, the committee will investigate the potential expense to fit within its current annual budget.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. This would improve sportsmanship and match integrity during the championships by using a system that is accurately able to confirm line calls, which can be a source of contention during a match.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review agenda and meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the agenda and schedule for the meeting.
2. **Report from previous meeting.** The committee approved the 2024 annual meeting report as written.
3. **Review of NCAA Division I Council/Sports Oversight Committee actions.** The committee reviewed actions the Division I Council and Sports Oversight Committee took at their recent meetings.
4. **Strategic plan.** The committee reviewed the strategic plan that guides its actions in the coming years. The committee will focus on executing and promoting the fall singles and doubles championships pilot and subsequent decision-making regarding its future and improved student-athlete and fan experiences throughout the championships. The committee is also focused on collaborating with hosts to best market the championships locally. The committee will annually review and update the document. Should the new governance structure take effect this fall, the new Tennis Oversight Committee will revise the document with its new responsibilities and goals.
5. **Review of 2025 championships.**
 - a. **Team and individual selection criteria and procedures.** The committee supported the new NCAA selection software to assist in the selection process and agreed to conduct the team selection process virtually going forward.
 - (1) **Review weighting of categories.** The committee reviewed the selection criteria and weighting of categories and made no changes.
 - (2) **Selection criteria – team and individual.** The committee reviewed the selection criteria and made no changes. The committee will evaluate options for seeding the singles and doubles championships should the pilot be made permanent.
 - (3) **Bracketing policies.** The committee continues to hear feedback on the current Division I bracketing policies and is steadfast in its currently tabled request for the 50% seeding bracketing policies used by women's soccer and women's volleyball,

noting that there is no cost to the NCAA since first- and second-round travel is not reimbursed.

- b. **Impact of countable contests on selection.** The committee reviewed the new countable-contest attestation process implemented for the 2025 championships and was satisfied with its effectiveness. The committee noted that it will be helpful to send a reminder to all conference offices and coaches via the ITA when the 2026 attestation is available. The reminder will also be available in the monthly championships newsletter.
- c. **Preliminary-round and finals site evaluations.** The committee reviewed participant, host, officials and site representative feedback from the preliminary-round and finals sites, noting the very low response rate and discussed how to encourage more responses. The committee also discussed adding preselection communication to potential preliminary-round hosts, including a participant manual template, to set clear expectations for the conduct of the preliminary rounds and improved communication with participating teams as soon as the selection announcement is complete. The committee will also move the preliminary-round host call from Wednesday to Tuesday after selections. The committee recognized the excellent hosting efforts of the staff at Baylor University at the finals site.
 - **Preliminary-round incident reports.** The committee reviewed incident reports from the preliminary-round sites and took necessary actions that will be communicated directly to those involved.
- d. **Preliminary-round match times and order.** The committee reviewed the preliminary-round match times and order and made no changes.
- e. **Evaluation of lineup challenge process and timing.** The committee reviewed the lineup challenge procedures and timeline and made no changes.
- f. **Awards.** The committee discussed the awards provided and noted appreciation for Wilson providing participant gifts for the final site for the first time.
- g. **All-tournament team selection criteria.** The committee reviewed the all-tournament team selection criteria and will update them to reflect the historical practice that the all-tournament team selection is based on position in the lineup.
- h. **Credentials.** The committee reviewed the credential policies and will permit up to three coach credentials and one team administrator credential for the singles and doubles championships in the fall. This is not an increase in the official travel party and teams will be responsible for paying for those coaches, who have been attending anyway. This will provide all three coaches with access to the players instead of just two coaches as before.

- i. **Hotels.** The committee reviewed feedback from the preliminary rounds and finals site.
 - j. **Inclement weather.** The 2025 championships experienced inclement weather at numerous sites throughout the preliminary rounds. The committee was pleased with staff management of inclement weather policies and procedures throughout the tournament.
 - k. **Practice and prematch requirements.** The committee reviewed practice and prematch protocols and requirements that were formalized over the last year. These policies will be updated in the host operations manual and in the new preliminary-round participant manual template.
 - l. **Adherence to practice court assignment policy.** The committee reviewed the new adherence to practice court assignment policy and noted its first-year success in the fall and spring. Staff and committee noted a decrease in confrontations at the final site regarding starting too early, ending too late and practicing on courts not assigned. The committee will continue the policy going forward. The committee will emphasize the policy in the administrative meeting and in pretournament communications.
 - m. **Broadcast and web stream.** NCAA broadcast staff met with the committee to review preliminary-round and finals site coverage with Cracked Racquets and ESPN+, as well as improvements to the selection show. The committee was pleased with the higher quality ESPN production of the semifinals and finals and provided some feedback on some areas of improvement for the future, including adding a sideline reporter, better pre-event advertising and improved storytelling. The committee appreciated ESPN increasing international viewing opportunities. The committee remains pleased with the Cracked Racquets coverage of the preliminary rounds and the quarterfinals, in addition to Alex Gruskin's analysis during the selection show.
 - n. **Merchandise sales.** The committee reviewed the merchandise sales reports from the championships as informational.
 - o. **Committee responsibilities.** The committee reviewed the committee responsibilities document and noted the success of the new team liaison responsibilities that improved communication with participating teams.
6. **2026 championships action plan.**
- a. **Automatic qualification.** The committee reviewed and approved the applications for automatic qualification. (See Action Item 2-a.)

- b. Schedule of events.** The committee discussed the championships schedule of events and supported maintaining the consecutive match schedule for the team championships with start times of 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. for quarterfinals and semifinals. The committee agreed to change the earlier championship final from 4 p.m. to 2 p.m. and keep the second final at 7 p.m. This change will provide the second match with a better chance to start closer to the announced start time, give the first match winner a better opportunity to celebrate without being rushed and provide more flexibility if there is inclement weather. The committee will be flexible with the schedule based on any potential linear broadcast opportunities. The committee moved the singles and doubles championships administrative meeting from 6:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. to mirror the team championship schedule.
- c. Team and individual banquets.** The committee discussed the positive feedback on the team and individual banquets hosted by Baylor University and plans to continue with those as part of the championships experience as long as there is a focus on interactive experiences and high-quality food.
- d. Championship experience.** The committee discussed championship experience elements and will continue to focus on collaborating with each host to enhance and improve the student-athlete and spectator experience.
- e. Fall individual championships.** The committee discussed plans for the fall singles and doubles championships in Orlando, Florida. The committee and staff will continue to work collaboratively with the host staff in preparing for the fall singles and doubles championships. The committee will send out a membership survey this summer to assess the first full year of the pilot. The committee will also work on a timeline for a decision on the future of the pilot to be made before the 2026 team championships, if possible. A final timeline will be developed after the outcome of the possible new Division I governance structure is determined.
- f. Officials' fees.** The committee reviewed the proposed officials' fees for 2025-26 and supported the increase, noting that the championships pay is less than during the regular season. The committee will continue to focus on efforts to increase the fees as the budget allows.
- g. 2025-26 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed a draft of the 2025-26 committee calendar. The 2026 annual meeting will take place virtually June 23-24.
- h. Manuals.** The committee directed NCAA staff to make the necessary updates to the prechampionships, committee operations, site representative, participant and host operations manuals. In addition, the committee directed staff to develop a preliminary-

round participant manual template for hosts to provide consistent communication to participating teams across all sites.

7. Future sites.

- a. 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28 sites.** The committee noted its currently selected sites for the next three years. The University of Central Florida and the USTA will host the 2025 singles and doubles championships in the fall. The University of Georgia will host the 2026 team championships in the spring, the 2026 singles and doubles championships in the fall, and 2027 team championships in the spring. The University of Central Florida and the USTA will host the 2027 singles and doubles championships in the fall, and the 2028 through 2037 team championships in the spring.
- b. Championship format.** The committee members agreed to investigate schedule options for an additional day of rest at the final site of the team championships so that both genders have a day off instead of alternating between genders every other year. The committee noted that the outcome of the fall pilot will impact the direction of such a recommendation.

8. ITA updates. ITA staff provided an update on changes to the ITA rankings, the fall singles and double pilot, and the newly approved electronic line calling system that will be used at the ITA All-American Championships and the ITA Indoor Championships during the 2025-26 season. ITA staff will work to set up additional educational opportunities for staff and the committee regarding electronic line calling.

9. USTA updates. USTA staff reviewed the national governing body's efforts supporting college tennis, including the new US Open Wild Card event, restructuring at the USTA, the capital improvements at the USTA National Campus, electronic line calling technology, and planning for hosting the 2025 singles and doubles championships this fall.

10. Tennis committee composition.

- a. Rules subcommittee members.** The committee made no changes to its roster of four rules subcommittee members.
- b. Subcommittee chairs.** The committee unanimously approved Alison Silverio as the women's subcommittee chair, and Taylor Stapleton, executive associate athletics director and chief revenue officer at DePaul University, as the men's subcommittee chair. The committee thanked outgoing subcommittee chairs Chris Young, director of tennis at Oklahoma State University, and Courtney Nagle, head women's tennis coach at the University of Oregon, for their excellent service.

- c. **Overall committee chair.** The committee unanimously approved Alison Silverio as the overall committee chair. (See Action Item 2-b.)
- d. **Division I governance structure.** NCAA staff provided an update on the proposed individual sport oversight committee governance structure.

11. Tennis playing rules and officiating.

- a. **Rules subcommittee.** The committee reviewed the potential rules changes for 2025-26 season along with learning more about the new electronic line calling system. With the ITA approving electronic line calling beginning in the 2025-26 season, the committee is recommending that the Sports Oversight Committee approve its use in preliminary rounds if it is used during the regular season and officials are trained on it, and also to permit its use at the singles and doubles championships and team championships if available at the site. (See Action Item 2-c.) The subcommittee and the ITA will continue to collaborate on the college tennis rules process.
- b. **Officiating update.** The committee met with the finals-site head referee and deputy referee who provided a review of the officiating throughout the championships. The head referee and committee were pleased with the officiating at the finals site and discussed some officiating issues at one of the preliminary-round sites that will be addressed directly with the host.

12. Other business.

- **Fine appeal.** The committee reviewed an appealed fine and will respond to the impacted individual directly with the outcome.

Committee Chair: Courtney Nagle, University of Oregon, Big Ten Conference
Staff Liaisons: John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances
Kelsi Mahoney, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Committee June 24-25, 2025, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Jimmy Borendame, Middle Tennessee State University.	
Chad Camper, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.	
Leslie Chang, University of the Pacific.	
Rochelle Houston, Florida A&M University.	
George Husack, University of Alabama.	
Courtney Nagle, University of Oregon.	
Peter Pilling, Columbia University-Barnard College.	

Alison Silverio, University of Notre Dame.
Taylor Stapleton, DePaul University.
Paul Wardlaw, University of Denver.
Chris Young, Oklahoma State University.
Absentees:
Vince Baldemor, University of Hawaii, Manoa.
Guests in Attendance:
Cory Brooks, ITA.
Elissa Hill, USTA.
Anthony Montero, Head Referee and ITA.
Dave Mullins, ITA.
Andrew Rogers, Deputy Referee.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances.
Kelsi Mahoney, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Antonio Cannavaro, Kerstin Hunter, Kristen Jacob Smith.