



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
JUNE 23-24 and JULY 28, 2026, ANNUAL MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review agenda and meeting schedule.** The oversight committee reviewed the agenda and schedule for the meeting.
2. **Reports from previous meetings.** The committee approved the 2025 annual meeting report and the April 21 and May 26, 2026, meeting reports.
3. **Championship strategic plan.** The oversight committee reviewed the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Championships strategic plan and noted that since created, the pilot program moving the singles and doubles championships to the fall has been adopted permanently. The oversight committee adopted language in the plan to evaluate policies and rules to promote the growth of NCAA tennis on a regular basis as the championships evolve.
4. **Intercollegiate Tennis Association updates.** ITA CEO David Mullins presented multiple proposals and updates for the oversight committee's consideration.
 - a. **ITA pathway proposals.** The ITA submitted five proposals for oversight committee consideration and approval.
 - (1) The oversight committee approved reducing the number of ITA Conference Masters doubles qualifiers from three to two. The oversight committee also approved adding one NCAA doubles qualifier to the ITA All-American Championships. This will take effect in **fall of 2026**.
 - (2) The oversight committee supported that the ITA Regional Championships, the ITA Sectional Championships and the ITA Conference Masters will conclude once the NCAA qualifying rounds have been completed for singles and doubles. Implementation will be **fall of 2026**.
 - (3) The oversight committee approved an annual lottery to fill remaining slots in the ITA Conference Masters draw instead of awarding byes. Conferences that are selected for additional singles and/or doubles spots via the lottery are ineligible for lottery selection in back-to-back years in the same division (singles and/or doubles). This will go into effect for the **fall of 2026**.
 - (4) The oversight committee approved separating the ITA Conference Masters and ITA Sectional Championships into two different weeks of competition. This would allow the ITA Conference Masters to precede the ITA Sectional Championships. Implementation will be **fall of 2027**.

- (5) The oversight committee approved increasing ITA Sectional Championships from four to six. There will now be four qualifiers from each section rather than six. This will take effect for the **fall of 2027**.
 - b. **Minimum dual-match play requirement.** The ITA brought forth an idea to socialize a minimum dual-match requirement for student-athletes to be eligible to compete in the team tennis championships each spring. The ITA will provide a proposal to NCAA staff to further consider.
 - c. **Social media coverage.** The ITA was disappointed in the coverage of collegiate tennis from NCAA social accounts. The oversight committee requested the audience of NCAA championships social and digital to express concerns and a pathway to more coverage for future seasons and championships.
 - d. **ITA divisional tennis letter.** Mullins reviewed the annual ITA divisional letters sent at the completion of the 2026 championship season. One highlight is the ITA Live app launching this fall, free to all ITA membership teams as a streamlined live scoring and official capture throughout each season.
5. **Review of 2026 championships.**
- a. **Team and individual selection criteria and procedures.**
 - (1) **Review weighting of categories.** The committee reviewed the selection criteria and weighting of categories and made a change to the singles and doubles seeding. [See Item No. 5-a-(2)].
 - (2) **Selection criteria – team and individual.** The committee updated the seeding process for the singles and doubles championships **only**. The committee approved using the World Tennis Number (WTN) as the new ranking system, replacing the ITA ranking. The remaining selection and seeding principles and process will remain unchanged (head-to-head, wins versus individuals already considered and common opponents).
 - (3) **Bracketing policies.** The committee supported expanding the seeding to 50% of the team championship field (top 32 teams) for the 2027 season, following the women's volleyball and women's soccer model. NCAA staff will be coordinating with other sports that also self-fund for preliminary-round travel to ensure consideration is taken up by all relevant sports. The committee also noted that teams fund their own travel, and the new seeding principles will likely require more teams to fly, which may result in additional cost. NCAA staff will follow up with the committee after the additional sport outreach with more information on the implementation timeline.

- b. **Preliminary-round and finals site evaluations.**
 - **Preliminary-round incident reports.** The committee reviewed incident reports from the preliminary-round sites and took necessary actions that will be communicated to those involved.
- c. **Preliminary-round match times and order.** The committee committed to reviewing preliminary-round bids and evaluate match times to provide proper guidance to hosts ahead of potentially hosting a preliminary round.
- d. **Evaluation of lineup challenge process and timing.** The committee asked NCAA staff to consider delaying the notification of challenged coaches until after the challenge submission deadline.
- e. **Awards.** The oversight committee remains aligned with the awards structure at the finals site, noting that having the national runner-up present for awards and a head coach's speech provides great opportunity for student-athletes to gain experience in that position as they explore transitioning to a professional career.
- f. **All-tournament team selection criteria.** The committee plans to review the all-tournament team selection criteria through the season.
- g. **Credentials.** The oversight committee reviewed the credential policies and made no changes.
- h. **Hotels.** The committee reviewed feedback from the preliminary rounds and finals site.
- i. **Inclement weather.** NCAA staff recapped weather issues that impacted numerous preliminary-round sites. The committee was pleased with the way staff managed weather policies and procedures.
- j. **Practice and prematch requirements.** The committee established that during a team's two-hour practice on the competition courts at the finals site, players will switch between courts 1-3 and 4-6 to allow both teams to hit on all six competition courts at the Dan Magill Tennis Center.
- k. **Adherence to practice court assignments policy.** The committee charged NCAA staff to provide stronger language related to preliminary-round practice time availability in relation to their match times, to provide a fair and equitable opportunity for opposing teams preparing for their matches. There were no issues of teams not adhering to practice court assignments at the final site.

1. **Broadcast and web stream.** NCAA broadcast staff joined the committee to review preliminary-round and finals site coverage with Cracked Racquets and ESPN+. The committee was pleased with the coverage and the data provided. The committee encouraged NCAA broadcast staff to work with ESPN on potentially finding a linear window for the championship matches.
- m. **Committee responsibilities.** This was the first year with the expanded men's and women's tennis committee; therefore, roles and responsibilities continue to be tweaked to meet the needs of the championships and the engaged committee members throughout the year.
6. **United States Tennis Association updates.** Elissa Hill and Dan Holman from the USTA joined the oversight committee to provide updates to the construction progress at the National Campus indoor courts. The USTA has secured funding to hire an outside marketing agency to promote the team championships. Additionally, the USTA is in the process of hiring additional in-house marketing personnel to help promote the championships held at the National Campus. Conversations will continue regarding renting or permanently securing video boards for both indoor and outdoor collegiate competition courts ahead of 2028.

The USTA stated its commitment to aiding the growth and sustainability of college tennis. It has engaged NCAA broadcast on ways it can pledge financial support to bolster the exposure college tennis can have on television. When asking how they can be of service to the NCAA, the oversight committee noted the need for resources to continue using electronic line calling at NCAA championships to elevate and maintain excellence at the national championships. NCAA staff and the committee will continue conversations with the USTA in remaining a key stakeholder to college tennis.

7. **University of Georgia host updates.** Georgia representatives joined the committee to recap the 2026 team championships and begin planning conversations around fall and spring in 2026-27. Further championship planning meetings with Georgia staff will begin regularly in early fall.
8. **2026-27 champions action plan.**
 - a. **Automatic qualification.** The oversight committee approved the following conferences to receive automatic bids for the 2027 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Championships (31 conferences for the women's championships and 27 for the men's): American 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); Pac-12 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 United Athletic Conference (women's only).
- b. Schedule of events.** The committee voted to push the start time for singles and doubles quarterfinals, semifinals and finals to noon local time. For the team championships, the committee also approved that if participating, the host team will be considered when establishing match times for the final site.
 - c. Team and individual banquets.** The committee agreed to continue with the banquet at both the singles and doubles and the team championships. There will be an intentional effort to receive student-athlete feedback on their thoughts of the banquet and how to improve or reallocate funding to their overall experience.
 - d. Championships experience.** Further championship planning meetings with Georgia staff will begin regularly in early fall. The committee chair and vice chair will both participate on these calls to represent the voice of the committee.
 - e. 2026-27 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed the meeting schedule for the 2026-27 academic year. Staff will send calendar invites to members in the coming weeks.
 - f. Electronic line calling.** The committee members expressed their strong desire to secure electronic line calling at all NCAA championship finals sites as it adds a heightened championship experience for student-athletes, coaches and officials.
 - 9. Evaluation days limit.** The committee reviewed the ITA's proposal to establish a limit of 55 evaluation days per calendar year in men's and women's tennis. The committee generally supported the ITA's concept. The committee will continue discussing the concept and consider taking action at a future oversight committee meeting.
 - 10. Blanket waiver - individual and team championships.** The committee extended the tennis postseason opportunities blanket waiver to permit student-athletes to participate in both an individual postseason opportunity (fall) and a team postseason opportunity (spring), as well as a corresponding question-and-answer document to provide further guidance on the application of the blanket waiver. This blanket waiver is effective for the 2026-27 academic year.
 - 11. Notification of transfer.** The committee discussed the timing and length of the notification-of-transfer period in men's and women's tennis and directed the ITA to solicit coach feedback. The oversight committee will continue its discussion at future meetings.
 - 12. Tennis committee composition.** The oversight committee reviewed upcoming vacancies and updates to leadership changes ahead of the next academic year.

- a. **At-large committee vacancy.** The committee appointed Susanne Depka, head women's tennis coach at Davidson College, for the at-large seat for the women's championships subcommittee and oversight committee.
- b. **Student-athlete vacancies.** The committee appointed Indi Patel from Louisiana State University as a new member of the oversight committee. The committee also reappointed Autumn Rabjohns from Northwestern University, Steven Rice from Tulane University and Mert Oral from University of Michigan to the oversight committee.
- c. **Subcommittee chairs.** Alison Silverio will serve as the women's championships subcommittee chair and Taylor Stapleton will serve as the men's championships subcommittee chair, as well as overall chair, for the 2026-27 academic year.

13. Tennis playing rules and officiating.

- a. **Playing rules updates.** Anthony Montero, head referee, updated the oversight committee on the new playing rules as approved by the ITA rules committee, standard for all NCAA divisions, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and junior college leagues. The ITA will be sending a rules proposal survey to its membership the last week of June for feedback and comments before adoption to the ITA rulebook.
- b. **Commercial logo/playing surface update.** The oversight committee approved guidelines to placement of commercial logos on playing surfaces and apparel/uniform/equipment for implementation no earlier than Aug. 1, 2026. The only lines on the playing surface shall be standard court lines, including USTA approved 36' and 60' lines within the same color family as the interior court. Due to the nature of the playing surface, commercial or nonprofit trademarks/logos shall not be placed on a court(s). There are no restrictions on commercial or nonprofit trademarks/logos outside the playing surface if they are placed 16"/40 cm from the sideline and 9'10"/300 cm from the baseline.

For student-athlete uniforms and apparel, two commercial or nonprofit trademarks/logos total, are approved. One additional commercial or nonprofit trademark/logo is also approved during conference championship competition. Logos may not exceed 4 square inches or interfere with required uniform markings. For equipment, one commercial or nonprofit trademark/logo is approved on one piece of equipment. This may not exceed 4 square inches.

- c. **Officiating update.** The finals-site head referee provided the oversight committee with a review of the officiating throughout the championships. The head referee and committee were pleased with the officiating at the finals site.

14. **2028-31 bid process.** The oversight committee received an update from NCAA staff on the upcoming 2028-2031 bid cycle. NCAA staff also requested feedback from the committee and ITA on helping to solicit a host for the 2027 singles and doubles championships.

15. **Other business.**

- **Pac-12 Conference letter to committee.** The Pac-12 did not meet sport sponsorship levels to earn an automatic qualifier to the NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championship. Additionally, this excluded the four Pac-12 men's tennis teams from receiving a spot for their conference in the ITA Conference Masters singles and doubles championships. Discussion of the Pac-12 men's tennis team receiving an ITA Conference Masters berth focused on the fact that it is not a direct NCAA championship qualification but rather access to one of the four pathways to qualify.

The committee reviewed the Pac-12's request to gain a spot in the ITA conference masters men's singles and doubles tournaments despite not having NCAA team automatic qualifying status. The committee voted to approve the Pac-12 access to the ITA Conference Masters men's singles and doubles championships.

16. **Adjournment.**

Committee Chair: Alison Silverio, University of Notre Dame; Atlantic Coast Conference

Staff Liaisons: Audrey Capannari, Governance and Member Services
Khadian Harrison, Governance and Member Services
Kelsi Mahoney, Championships and Alliances
Karen Metzger, Governance and Member Services
Paige Newman, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Oversight Committee June 23-24 and July 28, 2026, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Brendan Armitage, University of South Florida.	
Karen Baebler, University of Washington; Big Ten Conference.	
Lauren Belisle, Vanderbilt University; Southeastern Conference.	
Lynda Wray Black, University of Memphis (nonvoting member).	
Rich Bonfiglio, University of Pennsylvania.	
Leslie Chang, University of the Pacific.	
Grant Chen, Southern Methodist University; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Lee De Leon, Middle Tennessee State.	
Emma Dell, Indiana University Indianapolis.	
George Husack, University of Alabama; Southeastern Conference.	
Ryan Keckley, University of San Diego.	
Anthony Montero, head official (nonvoting member).	

David Mullins, Intercollegiate Tennis Association (nonvoting member).
Courtney Nagle, University of Oregon; Big Ten Conference.
Mert Oral, University of Michigan; Big Ten Conference.
Anthony Pham, University of Colorado; Big 12 Conference.
David Roditi, Texas Christian University; Big 12 Conference.
Alison Silverio, University of Notre Dame; Atlantic Coast Conference.
Taylor Stapleton, DePaul University.
Jana Woodson, Tulane University.
Absentees:
Steven Rice, Tulane University.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Audrey Capannari, Kelsi Mahoney, Karen Metzger, Paige Newman.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:
Tommy Barrett, Khadian Harrison, Kerstin Hunter, Autumn Monaghan, KJ Smith.