



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I VOLLEYBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 29, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Blanket Waiver – First Permissible Date of Preseason Practice – Women’s Volleyball.** The Division I Women’s Volleyball Oversight Committee approved a blanket waiver to permit member institutions to begin preseason practice in women’s volleyball on July 30, 2026. In approving the blanket waiver, the Volleyball Oversight Committee noted that the blanket waiver: (1) is only applicable for the 2026-27 academic year; (2) does not amend or extend the women’s volleyball playing season, which remains limited to 132 days; (3) provides a uniform date for all preseason practice for all Division I women’s volleyball programs; (4) is supported by the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA); and (5) extends the blanket waiver approved by the Division I Committee for Legislative Relief on June 30, 2025. The oversight committee intends to propose legislation to amend the women’s volleyball playing and practice season to be reviewed through the sport oversight committee legislative process prior to fall 2027.
2. **Nonchampionship segment transportation.** The oversight committee discussed a legislative recommendation from the AVCA to eliminate the requirement that travel associated with nonchampionship segment competition is limited to ground transportation. The oversight committee will discuss the recommendation again during its February meeting.
3. **Competition in conjunction with high school, preparatory school or two-year college events.** The oversight committee discussed a legislative recommendation from the AVCA to allow women’s volleyball competition in conjunction with competition involving prospective student-athletes, consistent with sports other than football, basketball, volleyball and women’s gymnastics. The committee will continue discussing this topic during its February meeting.
4. **Playing and practice season model.** The oversight committee discussed a playing and practice season model recommended by the AVCA. The committee directed staff to refer the playing and practice season model to the NCAA Committee for the Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports for feedback and will continue discussing the recommendation during its February meeting.
5. **April legislative cycle.** NCAA staff provided the oversight committee with an update on the April standard legislative cycle, including proposals introduced by other sport oversight committees.
6. **Future meetings.**
  - February 16-18, 2026, annual videoconference.

*Committee Chair: Jennifer Saxon, The University of Mississippi.*

*Staff Liaisons: Kristin Fasbender, NCAA Championships and Alliances.*

*Karen Metzger, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.*

*Jay Jay Rackley, NCAA Championships and Alliances.*

NCAA Division I Volleyball Oversight Committee January 29, 2026, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Joeleen Akin, Georgia Institute of Technology.	
Laura Alexander, San Jose State University.	
Nayelis Cabello, University of Louisville.	
Jaime Gordon, American Volleyball Coaches Association.	
Erin Hagen, Liberty University.	
Elizabeth Heinrich, University of Michigan.	
Jill Keegan, University of Colorado, Boulder.	
Kathy Litzau, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.	
Ryan MacDowell, NCAA national coordinator of officials.	
Lori Martin, Louisiana State University.	
Kelli Myers, Georgetown University.	
Jennifer Saxon, University of Mississippi.	
Adam Tschour, University of the Pacific.	
Julie Voeck, NCAA secretary-rules editor.	
Scott Wetherbee, Eastern Michigan University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Ally Cordes, Samford University.	
Ava Kanj, University at Buffalo, the State University of New York.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Kristin Fasbender, Karen Metzger and Jay Jay Rackley.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Brandy Hataway, Ariona Johnson, Catherine Lant and Luke Schultheis.	