



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
May 21, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

• **Expedited Legislation - Championship Segment Start Date.**

- (1) Recommendation. The NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Oversight Committee recommends the NCAA Division I Cabinet introduce a proposal into the 2026-27 legislative cycle to specify that an institution shall not to play its first contest with outside competition until the Thursday preceding the Saturday that is 15 weeks before the first Saturday in December, and to eliminate the first contest date exception for the AVCA Showcase.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2027.
- (3) Rationale. This proposal will promote the continued growth of women's volleyball by allowing institutions and conferences flexibility to schedule contests earlier in the fall. Scheduling contests earlier in the fall is expected to meaningfully increase the number of televised women's volleyball contests and decrease scheduling conflicts for institutions that sponsor football. The proposal also provides a consistent first contest date for all Division I women's volleyball programs. Standardizing the first contest date removes potential competitive advantages gained by the few institutions that participate in contests prior to the legislated first contest date. This proposal does not increase the 132-day playing season or eliminate the permissibility of participating in one scrimmage or exhibition contest or an alumni match that does not count toward the institution's won-lost record.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Dependent on institutional and conference scheduling decisions.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Dependent on institutional and conference scheduling decisions.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **NCAA Division I Bylaw 17 Decentralization Feedback – Phase I.** The oversight committee discussed the decentralization of Division I Bylaw 17 (Playing and Practice Seasons). The committee provided feedback to the NCAA Division I Cabinet on the first practice date, first competition date, end of the playing season, maximum competition dates, summer athletics activities and health and safety for women's volleyball.
2. **Legislative Update.** The committee received an update on proposals anticipated for legislative action during the June meeting of the NCAA Division I Cabinet and proposals introduced into the June legislative cycle.
3. **Report approval.** The committee reviewed and approved the report for the May 7, 2026, NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Oversight Committee meeting as written.

**4. Future meetings.**

- 1 p.m. Eastern time, Thursday, July 16, 2026.

*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.*

<b>NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Oversight Committee May 21, 2026, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Joeleen Akin, Georgia Institute of Technology.	
Laura Alexander, San Jose State University.	
Nayelis Cabello, University of Louisville.	
Ally Cordes, 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.	
Jennifer Saxon, University of Mississippi.	
Adam Tschour, University of the Pacific.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Ava Kanj, University at Buffalo, the State University of New York.	
Kelli Myers, Georgetown University.	
Julie Voeck, NCAA secretary-rules editor.	
Scott Wetherbee, Eastern Michigan University.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Kristin Fasbender, Karen Metzger, and Jay Jay Rackley.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:</b>	
Brandy Hataway, Catherine Lant, Luke Schultheis, and Rachel Seewald.	