



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
JANUARY 15, 2026, IN-PERSON MEETING**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Threshold for Amendments to Legislation Governing Membership Requirements.** The NCAA Division I Board of Directors adopted NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2025-37 as expedited legislation. This proposal specifies that adoption of an amendment to a membership provision requires a majority that is greater than the number of votes available to representatives from the Atlantic Coast Conference, Big Ten Conference, Big 12 Conference and Southeastern Conference, including student-athlete representatives, on the governance entity (e.g., NCAA Division I Cabinet, Board of Directors) authorized to consider such an amendment.

In August 2025, the board adopted a resolution that specifies, for a period of five years, institutions and conferences that remain in compliance with membership standards in place at that time will retain their active Division I membership status. Proposal No. 2025-37 establishes a permanent elevated threshold that must be met in order to amend Division I membership criteria. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

2. **NCAA Division I Period of Eligibility Review.** The Board of Directors directed the Division I Cabinet to formally evaluate the eligibility legislation consistent with the modern collegiate model and broader environmental factors.
3. **Review of Institutional Revenue Share Agreements.** The Board of Directors directed NCAA staff to collaborate with conferences and institutions to conduct a detailed review of institutional revenue share agreements to identify potential inconsistencies between contractual provisions and NCAA rules.
4. **Application of Interim Regulatory and Adjudication Flexibility.** In 2024, the Board of Directors permitted regulatory affairs staff and infractions committees to apply discretion when resolving select matters involving NIL, tampering and recruiting inducements for an interim period.

The board received an update on the application of interim regulatory and adjudication flexibility since this discretion was given. The board discussed the discretion's impact on select outcomes and directed staff to charge impermissible contact violations with significant penalties when appropriate and publicize the number of resolved cases more broadly.

5. **NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update from the January 8 joint meeting of the Division I Board Finance Committee and the NCAA Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee. The board discussed the pending Ray settlement and the possible funding payment structure of the settlement over a three-year period beginning spring/summer 2026. Additional information will be shared with the membership soon, including a spending prioritization survey that will be sent to the NCAA membership in February.

6. **Decentralization of Certain NCAA Regulatory Areas.** The Board of Directors received an update on cabinet's approved timeline for reviewing legislation for decentralization and deregulation as directed by the NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group. Moving forward, the cabinet will determine which legislation may be decentralized or deregulated, referring items to appropriate committees in the governance structure as needed. The timeline for the decentralization review that was approved by the Division I Cabinet can be found in Attachment A.
7. **NCAA Research Update.** The Board of Directors received data-based presentations on Transfer Portal trends with 2025 outcome data and graduation rates. The data shared can be found [here](#).
8. **Congressional Engagement Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on the NCAA's latest congressional engagement efforts, including updated information on the SCORE Act.
9. **Division I Decision-Making Working Group Referrals.**
  - a. **Evaluation of the infractions process.** The Board of Directors reviewed the roster and charge of the NCAA Division I Infractions Process Task Force and discussed next steps for the group. The following charge was developed to guide the task force's study on the current Division I infractions process and any resulting recommendations:
    - 1) Ensure Division I infractions process is designed to effectively respond to material violations of Division I rules.
    - 2) Consider improvements to reduce the duration of cases and complexity of procedures, including final resolution.
    - 3) Ensure appropriate flexibility in outcomes, while also prioritizing consistency.
    - 4) Revisit communication strategies for the infractions process to aid Division I.The task force is scheduled to hold its inaugural meeting on Wednesday, January 28.
  - b. **Evaluation of the NCAA's support of bowl subdivision football.** The Board of Directors reviewed the roster of the NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Working Group. The working group will convene for its initial meeting on Friday, January 23, during which members will develop the group's formal charge.
10. **House Injunction Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on items related to the implementation of the *House* injunction.

11. **College Sports Commission Update.** The Board of Directors received an update from College Sports Commission chief executive officer Bryan Seeley, who outlined the organization's ongoing work and collaboration with the NCAA.
12. **NCAA Board of Governors Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on recent action taken and issues reviewed by the Board of Governors. The Board of Directors also received an overview of discussion items for their January 15 in-person meeting.
13. **NCAA Division I Academics and Eligibility Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on issues reviewed during the Academics and Eligibility Committee's January 13-14 in-person meeting.
14. **Faculty Athletics Representatives Association Update.** The Board of Directors received an update from Faculty Athletics Representatives Association Division I vice president, Pam Bruzina, on FARA's work, including their recent annual meeting.
15. **Division I Cabinet Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on the actions taken and issues reviewed during the cabinet's in-person meeting on January 14. The update included information on revised notification of transfer windows for multiple sports and the current state of Proposal No. 2025-35, which addresses the use of commercial trademarks or logos on equipment, uniforms and apparel.
16. **NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on key items and issues discussed in recent Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee meetings including the positive impact of the increased student-athlete voice on the new Division I governance structure and the discussion of a potential name change of Division I SAAC.
17. **NCAA President's Report.** The Board of Directors received an update from President Baker regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I.
18. **Legal Update.** The Board of Directors received a privileged and confidential update from Scott Bearby, chief legal officer, related to ongoing legal matters.
19. **Report Of the October Board of Directors Meeting.** The Board of Directors approved the report of its October 28 meeting. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

*Board of Directors chair:* Tim Sands, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Atlantic Coast Conference

*Staff Liaisons:* Amanda Conklin, Division I Governance and Member Services  
Jenn Fraser, Governance and Member Services  
Haydyn Makins, Division I Governance and Member Services

Report of the Division I Board of Directors

January 15, 2026, Meeting

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Division I Board of Directors January 15, 2026, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Glenn Boyce, University of Mississippi; Southeastern Conference.	
Pam Bruzina, University of Missouri, Columbia; FARA.	
Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas; ASUN Conference.	
Sam Edwards, Michigan State University.	
Doug Girod, University of Kansas; Big 12 Conference.	
Thomas Johnson, Virginia Military Institute.	
Brian Noland, East Tennessee State University; Southern Conference.	
Meredith Page, Radford University; Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Chris Pietruszkiewicz, University of Evansville; Missouri Valley Conference.	
Darryll Pines, University of Maryland, College Park; Big Ten Conference.	
Mark Reed, Loyola University Chicago; Atlantic 10 Conference.	
Quinton Ross, Alabama State University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.	
Brian Sandoval, University of Nevada, Reno; Mountain West Conference.	
Tim Sands, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Josh Whitman, University of Illinois; Division I Cabinet.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Philip Rogers, East Carolina University; American Athletic Conference.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Pearlynn Houck, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Bryan Seeley, College Sports Commission.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser and Haydyn Makins.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Charlie Baker, Abby Bales, Scott Bearby, Lydia Bell, Dawn Buth, Deena Casiero, Michael Cioroianu, Derrick Crawford, Jon Duncan, Michelle Forte-Osborne, Dan Gavitt, Katie Koenig, John Macrina, Felicia Martin, Mario Morris, Binh Nguyen, Mariah Polk, Emma Potter, Greg Pottorff, Stephanie Quigg, Bridget Rigney, Geoff Silver, Lynda Tealer and Meghan Wright.	