

## REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I COUNCIL JUNE 24-25, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

In an effort to connect NCAA Division I Council items to the NCAA pillars of academics, fairness and well-being, items included in this report have an identifying pillar. There is an additional pillar, operational, that is used to denote items that relate to maintaining a stable and efficient Division I.

### KEY ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative Actions. (Academics/Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The Division I Council took the following key legislative actions, effective on the dates specified. All legislative actions are detailed in Attachment A and voting results are available in Attachment B.
  - a. NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2025-2 Playing and Practice Seasons Basketball Maximum Number of Contests and Qualifying Regular-Season Multiple-Team Event Requirements. The NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Committees previously adopted (subject to council review), and the council took no action on Proposal No. 2025-2, which is now adopted and final. The proposal specifies that, in basketball, an institution shall limit its total regular-season playing schedule with outside competition during the playing season to 32 contests (games or scrimmages) and eliminates the legislated requirements for an institution to participate in a qualifying regular-season multiple-team event and the in-season foreign competition limitation. The proposal's effective date is August 1, 2026.
  - b. Proposal No. 2025-7 Championship Subdivision Football Maximum Contests and First Permissible Contest Date. At the recommendation of the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee, the council <u>adopted</u> expedited legislation to amend the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision playing and practice season legislation to increase, from 11 to 12, the maximum contest limit in any one year, permit outside competition beginning the Thursday 13 weeks prior to the FCS Championship selection date and eliminate all first contest date exceptions. The proposal's effective date is August 1, 2026.
  - c. Proposal No. 2025-18 Elimination of Periodic Compliance Review Requirement. The council <u>adopted</u> emergency legislation, effective immediately, to eliminate the requirement that an institution complete a compliance review at least once every four years and attest to its completion.
- 2. Introduction of Legislation into the October 2025 Legislative Cycle.
  - a. Elimination of Prohibition on Wagering on Professional Sports. (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The council <u>introduced</u> legislation into the October legislative cycle to eliminate the prohibition on wagering on professional sports. If adopted in October and adopted by Divisions II and III, this proposal will be effective immediately and will apply to student-athletes and staff at all NCAA institutions.

- b. Flag Football as an Emerging Sport for Women. (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) At the recommendation of the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics and the NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee, the council introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to add women's flag football as an emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to athletics personnel, athletics eligibility, recruiting, playing and practice seasons and membership.
- National Collegiate Acrobatics and Tumbling Championship and NCAA c. **Acrobatics** and **Tumbling** Committee. Women's (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) At the recommendation of the Committee on Women's Athletics and the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee, the council introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to establish an NCAA National Collegiate Acrobatics and Tumbling Championship and the NCAA Women's Acrobatics and Tumbling Committee. The proposal's effective date is immediate. The Women's Acrobatics and Tumbling Committee would begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first NCAA National Collegiate Women's Acrobatics and Tumbling Championship in spring 2027.
- d. National Collegiate Stunt Championship and NCAA Women's Stunt Committee. (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) At the recommendation of the Committee on Women's Athletics and the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee, the council introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to establish an NCAA National Collegiate Stunt Championship and the NCAA Women's Stunt Committee. The proposal's effective date is immediate. The Women's Stunt Committee would begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first NCAA National Collegiate Stunt Championship in spring 2027.

#### **ACTION ITEMS.**

None.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Update from NCAA President Charlie Baker. (Academics/Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The council received an update from President Baker on topics related to the NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group, a successful championship season and the recently approved *House* settlement.
- 2. Update and Discussion of National Division I and Association-Wide Issues. (Academics/Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The council received an update on current litigation and the *House* settlement, which included an update on the work of the Implementation Committee. It was noted that the NCAA Division I Board of Directors adopted Proposal No. 2025-17 as emergency legislation. The proposal establishes

provisions for compliance with the roster limitations of the House settlement and includes the application of the "designated student-athlete" process. A comprehensive <u>question-and-answer document</u> for schools with Division I sports addresses the implementation of roster limits as set forth in Proposal No. 2025-17 and additional key topics related to the House settlement. In addition, the council received an update on congressional engagement efforts.

- 3. Request to Waive FCS to FBS Reclassification Process Requirements. (Academics/Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The council denied a request from California State University, Sacramento, to waive the requirement of the Football Championship Subdivision to Football Bowl Subdivision reclassification process that an institution receive a bona fide invitation from an active FBS conference.
- 4. Division I Decision-Making Working Group. (Academics/Fairness/Well-Being/ Operational) The council received an update on the work of the Division I Decision-Making Working Group and the recommendations shared with the Board of Directors. The group's recommendations include a streamlined committee structure, draft governance and sport oversight committee compositions and duties and responsibilities, proposed weighted voting percentage for autonomy conferences, national standards and referrals for future committees. The working group underscored its commitment to preserving division dominant legislation (revenue distribution and championships access) and processes. No changes to the division dominant legislation were considered by the working group. The working group will meet once more to determine effective dates, consider approval of a transition committee and finalize its recommendations for the board's consideration. The Board of Directors will use the expedited legislative process during its August 5 videoconference to act on the final package of recommendations.
- 5. **Legislative Audit.** (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The council received an update on an audit of the NCAA Division I Manual to identify legislation that should be considered for deregulation based on the new regulatory environment following approval of the *House* settlement. Council members underscored the importance of reviewing the list of identified bylaws and taking action with a level of urgency as soon as practicable.
- **6. Reports from Council Committees.** The Council received reports from committees that included the action and informational items noted below. Roll-call vote results of legislative actions are available in Attachment B.
  - a. Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee.
    - Definition of Prospective Student-Athlete Men's Basketball. (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The Men's Basketball Oversight Committee previously introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to modify the current definition of a prospective student-athlete in men's basketball. The proposal's effective date is immediate.

Rationale. The current recruiting environment in men's basketball is focused primarily on Division I transfer and high school prospective student-athletes and, as a result, the recruitment of younger athletes has significantly declined over the last two years. Given current recruiting trends, the rules that define seventh and eighth graders as prospective student-athletes for the purposes of the camps and clinics and tryouts are unnecessary and overly restrict this population of students from participating in on-campus activities. Changing the definition of a prospective student-athlete to an individual who has begun classes for the ninth grade would allow for more opportunities for seventh and eighth graders to attend camps and clinics throughout the year and may be beneficial for college basketball as it would allow institutions to generate goodwill within their communities. Finally, the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee Student-Athlete Engagement Group and National Association of Basketball Coaches support this proposal.

# b. NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision and Championship Subdivision Oversight Committees.

- 1) Reclassifying Schools Update. (Operational) The council received an update on the status of the schools reclassifying from FCS to FBS. The University of Delaware and Missouri State University will advance to year two of the reclassification process and Kennesaw State University was recommended to be elected to active FBS membership status effective August 1, 2025.
- Review of the Playing-and-Practice Season. (Operational) The council received a report from the Transfer Windows and Related Topics Subgroup related to the review of the football playing-and-practice season. The subgroup continues to review the football spring and summer playing-and-practice season. The subgroup has solicited stakeholder feedback on a concept initially developed by the American Football Coaches Association that could provide greater flexibility for conducting spring and summer practice activities. The subgroup has paused meetings until there is greater clarity surrounding the decision-making process for notification of transfer windows.

#### c. NCAA Division I Sports Oversight Committee.

• NCAA National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championships. (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The Sports Oversight Committee established qualifier allocations, number of regional sites, team entries, the championship date formula and the 2026 finals site for the National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championships. There will be 180 qualifiers and six regionals, allowing 10 entries per team (one in each weight class)

to enter into the regional tournaments, aligning with how men's wrestling manages entries. The University of Iowa and the Iowa City Area Sports Commission will serve as co-hosts of the 2026 National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championships at Xtreme Arena in Coralville, Iowa.

- d. Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee.
  - Reclassifying Schools Update. (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee provided an update on schools in the reclassification process. East Texas A&M University, Lindenwood University, Queens University of Charlotte, Stonehill College, University of Southern Indiana, and University of St. Thomas (Minnesota) were recommended to be elected as active Division I institutions as of August 1. A comprehensive <a href="list of reclassifying institutions">list of reclassifying institutions</a> can be found in the NCAA Directory.
- 7. Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics. (Academics/Operational) The council received a report from the Committee on Academics regarding the continued development of the graduation passport, new graduation rate, activation of academic components of membership requirements and two-year college transfer legislation recommendations.
- **8. Report from the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** (Fairness/Well-Being) The council received a report from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee highlighting the committee's upcoming July 8-10 meetings.
- **9. Legal Update.** (Operational) The council received an update on litigation affecting Division I and the Association.
- **10. Report of the May Council Meeting.** (Operational) The council approved the report of its May meeting.

Council Chair: Josh Whitman, University of Illinois; Big Ten Conference.

Council Liaisons: Geoff Bentzel, Division I Governance

Amanda Conklin, Division I Governance Jennifer Fraser, Division I Governance Leeland Zeller, Division I Governance

## NCAA Division I Council Videoconference June 24-25, 2025

#### **Attendees:**

Alisse Ali-Joseph, Northern Arizona University; Faculty Athletics Representative Association.

Mark Alnutt, University at Buffalo, the State University of New York; Mid-American Conference.

Nicole Kendall Arrighi, Tennessee State University; Ohio Valley Conference.

Jeff Bacon, ASUN Conference (alternate).

Kelly Barsky, University of California, Santa Barbara; Big West Conference.

Amy Beggin, University of New Mexico; Mountain West Conference.

Jackie Blackett, Columbia University-Barnard College; The Ivy League.

Josh Brooks, University of Georgia; Southeastern Conference.

Don Bruce, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville; 1A Faculty Athletics Representative.

Matt Burgemeister; Atlantic Coast Conference (alternate).

Dan Butterly, Big West Conference (Division I Subdivision conference commissioner).

Jason Cable, Alabama State University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.

Greg Christopher, Xavier University; Big East Conference.

Tim Coffey, Longwood University; Big South Conference.

Neema Connor, Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (alternate).

John Currie, Wake Forest University; Atlantic Coast Conference.

Joey D'Antonio, Coastal Athletic Association.

Tim Day, Iowa State University; Big 12 Conference (alternate).

Marlon Edge, Western Athletic Conference (alternate).

Ellen Ferris, American Athletic Conference (alternate).

Terry Gawlik, University of Idaho; Big Sky Conference.

Gerald Harrison, Austin Peay State University; ASUN Conference.

Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University; Coastal Athletic Association.

Jennifer Heppel, Patriot League (alternate).

Brad Hurlbut, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Northeast Conference.

Jeff Jackson, Missouri Valley Conference.

Jessica Kumke, Horizon League.

Lisa Liotta, Canisius University; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

Brandon Martin, University of Missouri, Kansas City; The Summit League.

Kimya Massey, University of San Diego; West Coast Conference.

Scott McKenzie, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Ed McLaughlin, Virginia Commonwealth University; Atlantic 10 Conference.

Chris Merino, Pac-12 Conference (alternate).

Jennifer Phillips, James Madison University; Sun Belt Conference.

Braeden Pratt, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Elizabeth Rabb, Wofford College; Southern Conference.

Allison Rich, University of New Hampshire; America East Conference.

Greg Sankey, Southeastern Conference (FBS autonomy conference commissioner).

Heath Schroyer, McNeese State University; Southland Conference.

# NCAA Division I Council Videoconference June 24-25, 2025

Jim Senter, University of Texas at El Paso; Conference USA.

Jon Steinbrecher, Mid-American Conference.

Josh Whitman, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Big Ten Conference.

#### Absentees:

None.

#### NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Geoff Bentzel, Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser and Leeland Zeller.

#### Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:

Troy Arthur, Charlie Baker, Scott Bearby, Tim Buckley, Dawn Buth, Audrey Capannari, Emily Capehart, Derrick Crawford, Jon Duncan, Michele Forte-Osborne, Dan Gavitt, Haydyn Gibson, Terri Steeb Gronau, Ty Halpin, Clint Hangebrauck, Brandy Hataway, Jennifer Henderson, Mark Hicks, Brian Higgins, Lynn Holzman, Charnele Kemper, Kevin Lennon, Jobrina Marques, Felicia Martin, Gretchen Miron, Mario Morris, Binh Nguyen, Emma Potter, Greg Pottorff, Stephanie Quigg, Kris Richardson, Bridget Rigney, Anne Rohlman, Dave Schnase, Geoff Silver, Shelby Sonnefeldt, Liz Suscha, Lynda Tealer, Carey Wheelhouse, Stan Wilcox, Meghan Wright and Quintin Wright.

# June 2025 NCAA Division I Council Legislative Actions

Proposal Number	Title	Source	Intent	Action			
2025-2	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS BASKETBALL MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONTESTS AND QUALIFYING	NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight	In basketball, to specify that an institution shall limit its total regular-season playing schedule with outside competition during the playing season to 32 contests (games or scrimmages), and to eliminate the legislated requirements for an institution to	Previously adopted by the Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Committees, subject to review by the Council.			
	_	Committees	participate in a qualifying regular-season multiple- team event and the in-season foreign competition limitation.	No action taken by the Council.  Adopted (Final).			
2025-3	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS MEN'S WRESTLING OUTSIDE COMPETITION DURING FIRST TERM OF ENROLLMENT	NCAA Division I Council (Committee on Academics)	In men's wrestling, to permit a student-athlete to engage in specific international events, national team tryouts and national team competition during the first full-time term of collegiate enrollment.	Adopted (Final).			
2025-4	CHAMPIONSHIPS AND POSTSEASON FOOTBALL NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS SEPARATE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS	NCAA Division I Council (Sports Oversight Committee)	In men's and women's fencing, to establish separate	Adopted by the Council.  Must be adopted by all three divisions to be final and effective.			
2025-5	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP DIVISION II OR DIVISION III TO DIVISION I REFUND SCHEDULE	NCAA Division I Council (Strategic Vision and Planning Committee)	To adjust the refund schedule for an institution that withdraws from the reclassification processes with the duration of the processes, as specified.	Adopted (Final).			
2025-6	COMMITTEES ASSOCIATION- WIDE COMMITTEES GENERAL COMMITTEES HONORS COMMITTEE NAME, COMPOSITION AND DUTIES	NCAA Division I Council (Strategic Vision and Planning Committee)	To rename, increase the composition of, and expand the duties of the Honors Committee, as specified.	Adopted by the Council.  Must be adopted by all three divisions to be final and effective.			

June 2025 Council Legislative Actions Page No. 2

Proposal Number	Title	Source	Intent	Action			
2025-7	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS FOOTBALL MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONTESTS AND FIRST CONTEST DATE FCS	Council (Football Championship	first contest date and maximum number of contests,	Supported as expedited legislation.  Adopted (Final).			
2025-18	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP PERIODIC COMPLIANCE REVIEW – ELIMINATE REQUIREMENT	NCAA DIVISION I	complete a compliance review at least once every	Supported as emergency legislation.  Adopted (Final).			

Conference Voting Delegate	Conference Type	/oting Weight	Approve Council Report	Women's Flag Football Remove Recommendation From the Table	Introduce Women's Flag Football Proposal	Waiver of Reclassification Requirements –FCS to FBS	Consent Package Proposals	Consider Sports Wagering Proposal as Expedited Legislation	Introduce Sports Wagering Proposal	2025-7 as Expedited Legislation	2025-7	2025-18 as Emergency Legislation	2025-18	Introduce National Collegiate Acrobatics and Tumbling Championship Proposal	Introduce National Collegiate Stunt Championship Proposal
America East Conference A. Rich	DI	1	<	<u>&gt; α</u> γ	Y	> <u>«</u>	Y	ү	Y	N	N	Y	γ	Y Y	Y
American Athletic Conference E. Ferris (alternate)	NA	2		N	Υ		Υ	Υ	Υ			Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
	DI	1		N	Υ		A	· ·				Y	· V	Y	Y
Atlantic 10 Conference E. McLaughlin					•			<u>'</u>	NI NI			· v		· ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Atlantic Coast Conference J. Currie/M. Burgemeister (alternate)	Α	4			N		Y	N	N			'	ı	Y	'
ASUN Conference G. Harrison	FCS	1		N	N		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		N
Big 12 Conference T. Day (alternate)	A	4	_	Y	Y	_	Υ	<u> </u>	Y			Y			
Big East Conference G. Christopher	DI	1		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y			Y	Y	N	N
Big Sky Conference T. Gawlik	FCS	1		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
Big South Conference T. Coffey	DI	1	 	Y	Υ		Υ	Y	Υ			N	N	Y	Υ
Big Ten Conference J. Whitman	Α	4	 	Y	Y		Υ	Υ	Y			Y	Υ	Y	Υ
Big West Conference K. Barsky	DI	1		Α	Υ		Υ	Υ	Y			Υ	Υ	Y	Υ
Coastal Athletic Association S. Heilbron	FCS	1	ļ !	Y	Υ		Υ	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Y	Υ
Conference USA J. Senter	NA	2		N	Υ		Υ	Υ	Y			Y	Υ	Y	Υ
Horizon League J. Kumke (alternate)	DI	1		Y	Y		Υ	Υ	Y			Y	Y	Y	Y
Ivy League J. Blackett	FCS	1		Y	Υ		Υ	Υ	Y	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y
Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference L. Liotta	DI	1		Y	Υ		Υ	Υ	Υ			Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
Mid-American Conference M. Alnutt	nce M. Alnutt NA	2		N	Υ		Υ	Υ	Υ			Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference N. Conner (alternate)	FCS	1		Υ	Υ		Υ	Y		Y	Y	N	Υ	Y	Υ
Missouri Valley Conference J. Jackson (MVFC for FCS votes)	DI	1	Α	N	Y		Υ	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
Mountain West Conference A. Beggin	NA	2	p p	N	٧	D e	٧	N	N			Υ	٧	Y	Y
Northeast Conference B. Hurlbut	FCS	1	r o	Y	Υ	n i	Υ	N	N	Υ	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ohio Valley Conference N. Arrighi	FCS	1	v e			e d	A	Υ	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Y
Pac-12 Conference C. Merino (alternate)	NA	2	d	Υ	Υ		Υ	A	Υ			Υ	Υ	Υ	Y
Patriot League J. Heppel (alternate)	FCS	1		Y	Υ		Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Y
Pioneer League (FSC votes only) G. Walter	FCS	1								Y	Y				
Southeastern Conference J. Brooks	Α	4	!	N	N		Υ	N	N			Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
Southern Conference E. Rabb	FCS	1		N	Υ		Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
Southland Conference H. Schroyer	FCS	1		Υ	Υ		Υ	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	А	Y
Southwestern Athletic Conference J. Cable	FCS	1		Υ	Υ		Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ
Summit League B. Martin	DI	1		Υ	N		Υ	Υ	N			Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
Sun Belt Conference J. Phillips	NA	2		N	N		Υ	Υ	Υ					N	N
West Coast Conference K. Massey	DI	1										Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
Western Athletic Conference M. Edge (alternate)	DI	1		Υ	Υ		Υ	N	Y			Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
IA FAR D. Bruce		1		Υ	Υ		Υ	N	N			Υ	Υ	Y	Υ
Division I Conference Commissioner D. Butterly		1		N	N		Υ	N	N			Y	Y	Y	Υ
FARA A. Ali-Joseph		1		N	Υ		Υ	Υ	N			Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
FBS Autonomy Commissioner G. Sankey		4		N	Α		Υ	N	N			Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
FBS Nonautonomy Commissioner J. Steinbrecher		2		N	N		Y	Υ	Υ			Y	Y	Υ	Υ
FCS Conference Commissioner J. D'Antonio		1		Y	Y		Y	N	A			Y	Y	Y	Y
SAAC B. Pratt		1	<u> </u> 	А	Y		· V	ν ν	Y			Y	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	A	Y
							'	<u>'</u>	·			•	ı		
SAAC S. McKenzie		1		Y	Υ		Υ	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	Υ
	Ye	es/Adopt (Y)		28	41		59	34	36	12	12	58	55	51	53
No/Defeat (N)  Abstain (A)					15		0	21	21	1	1	2	1	4	5
					4		2	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
No Vote Cast (Blank)				6	2		1	5	4	0	0	2	6	5	4
		Total		62	62		62	62	62	13	13	62	62	62	62
A Autonomy NA EDC Noneutonomy	V Do														
A = Autonomy; NA = FBS Nonautonomy	1 70	rcent		51.9%	73.2%		100.0%	61.8%	63.2%	92.3%	92.3%	96.7%	98.2%	92.7%	91.4%