REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 24-25, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE

***ACTION ITEMS*.**

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

a. Limit on the Maximum Number of Institutional Official Visits – Championship Subdivision Football.

(1) Action. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee adopted legislation to eliminate the institutional limit on the number of official visits permitted in FCS.

(2) Effective date. Immediate, pending DI Cabinet review at its April 14/15 meeting.

(3) Rationale. The legislation that governs official visits for prospective student-athletes in football should align with the legislation applicable to all other sports.

(4) Estimated budget impact. Potential increased costs for institutions that choose to provide more official visits.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Potential increased time demands associated with student host duties if more official visits are conducted.

b. Final Date for Postseason Game – Championship Subdivision Football.

(1) Action. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the June 2026 legislative cycle to modify the final date for postseason competition in FCS to occur no later than the second Monday in January.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. Extending the length of the postseason by one day provides the NCAA Division I Football Championship Committee greater scheduling flexibility.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Extends the season by one day for student-athletes involved in the championship contest.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

a. Division I Football Bowl Subdivision emergency legislation recommendation – Transfers outside of the Notification of Transfer Period. The FCSOC received an update from the NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Oversight Committee on their recommendation for the Division I Cabinet to adopt emergency legislation in the April 2026 legislative cycle to address instances where an institution accepts a transfer student-athlete that did not provide written notification of transfer through the NCAA Transfer Portal. The FCSOC will review the recommendation at its March 23 videoconference.

b. FCS Championship at-large selection criteria. The FCSOC reviewed a recommendation from the FCS Championship Committee to update the at-large selection criteria policy to include prioritization of teams who competed against at least 11 Division I opponents. The FCSOC voted to amend the recommended policy language to allow the FCS Championship Committee to give more consideration to teams that have played all Division I opponents and/or a greater number of Division I opponents. Specifically, it approved the following language "The committee will more consideration to teams that have played all Division I opponents and/or a greater number of Division I games".

c. Legislative Relief Waiver – Final Date for Postseason Game – Championship Subdivision Football. The FCSOC approved a Legislative Relief Waiver to permit the final date for postseason competition to occur on the second Monday of January in 2027 (January 11, 2027). A legislative relief waiver provides appropriate notice in the championship planning process. The committee's proposal to modify the final date for postseason competition in FCS will be considered during the June 2026 legislative cycle.

d. NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Oversight Committee update. The FCSOC received an update from the NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Oversight Committee on a concept that would modify the prospective student-athlete limit of one official visit per institution legislation and another concept that would modify the number of off-campus recruiters. The FCSOC will consider each concept during its March 23 videoconference.

e. FCS Championship update. The FCSOC received an update from the FCS Championship Committee on the FCS Championship's first year in Nashville. Feedback indicates the championship was a high-level experience for student-athletes, athletics staff and fans. The championship's high attendance and viewership levels, digital and social media engagement, and community and

education engagement through participation in the Extra Yard for Teachers and Metro Parks disABILITIES program were highlighted, along with the professional development opportunities FCS Forum and FCS NFL Showcase provided for administrators and student-athletes.

f. **FCS Calendar Subgroup discussion.** The FCSOC received an update on recent meetings of the FCS Calendar Subgroup. The subgroup will review the FBS Calendar Subgroup's initial concept, which would establish a standardized 14-week regular season and permit institutions to engage in out-of-season practice activities (i.e., spring practice) over seven weeks during the spring and summer, to determine if there are elements that would impact FCS. No legislative changes to the playing and practice season are planned for the 2026 season. Membership feedback will occur prior to the introduction of legislation to determine the level of support for any of the concepts the FCS Calendar Subgroup developed or recommended.

g. **Football Championship Subdivision: Future of FCS football.** In follow up to the FCS Forum held in association with the FCS Championship, the FCSOC discussed the future of FCS football, including promoting the subdivision's focus on education and the development of student-athletes and coaches. The committee charged the NCAA staff identify branding and marketing experts to assist the FCSOC with identifying storytelling opportunities to promote the subdivision. The committee will continue this discussion during future meetings.

h. **Criteria for Determining Season of Competition – Exception Football**. The FBSOC discussed the current season of competition legislation and the exception in football. The committee did not propose any changes to the exception.

i. **Notification of transfer data.** The FCSOC reviewed data related to midyear transfers and the notification of transfer period. The committee also received an update on the enforcement staff's work related to FCS football.

j. **American Football Coaches Association update.** The committee received an update from the AFCA and anticipated discussion topics at the AFCA Board of Trustees meeting in April.

k. **Office of Legal Affairs update.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.

l. **Approval of the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee January 26 report.** The FCSOC approved the January 26 FCSOC report.

m. Future meetings.

(1) 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, March 23, 2026; videoconference.

(2) 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, April 20, 2026; videoconference.

Committee Chair: *Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University.*
Staff Liaisons: *Geoff Bentzel, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.*
Jenn Fraser, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.
Ty Halpin, NCAA Championships and Alliances.
Kris Richardson, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.

NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee February 24-25, 2026
Attendees:
Jim Curry, East Texas A&M University, Southland Conference.
Sherryta Freeman, Lafayette College; Patriot League.
Dena Freeman-Patton, Morgan State University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.
Jean Gee, University of Montana; Big Sky Conference.
Anton Goff, Prairie View A&M; Southwest Athletic Conference.
Mike Harrity, Dartmouth College, The Ivy League.
Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University; Coastal Athletic Association.
Kit Hughes, College of the Holy Cross.
Kia'i Keone, University of Northern Colorado.
Curt Mallory, Indiana State University; Missouri Valley Football Conference.
Thomas Michael, Eastern Illinois University, Ohio Valley Conference.
Kyle Moats, Eastern Kentucky University, Atlantic Sun Conference.
Bob Nielson, American Football Coaches Association.
Jeff Roberts, Tennessee Technological University.
Cody Ruff, Stonehill College.
Amy Strickland, Central Connecticut State University, Northeast Conference.
Greg Walter, Pioneer Football League.
Jamaal Walton, Virginia Military Institute; Southern Conference.
Absentees:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Geoff Bentzel, Ty Halpin and Kris Richardson.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
DJ Brown, Chris Howard, Clint Hangebrauck, Leilani Hubbard, Chris Johnson, Travis Johnston, Jackson Marcotte and Greg Potorff.