



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MAY 5, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- **Legislative item.**
 - **Amend Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) institutional and student-athlete maximum contests legislation and first permissible contest date.**
 - (1) Recommendation. The Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee recommends that the NCAA Division I Council adopt expedited legislation, for championship subdivision football, to amend the playing seasons legislation, as follows:
 - (a) Increase the institutional and student-athletes maximum contest limitations in any one year from 11 to 12 contests.
 - (b) Amend the FCS first contest date legislation to permit an institution to engage in outside competition beginning the Thursday 13 weeks prior to the selection of the NCAA Division I Football Championship participants; and,
 - (c) Eliminate all first contest date exceptions.
 - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2026.
 - (3) Rationale. In championship subdivision football (FCS), to standardize the football playing season each year to begin 13 weeks prior the FCS Championship selection date. This proposal also provides the opportunity for institutions to compete in 12 contests within a fixed 13-week period, providing consistency and, in years that would otherwise permit only 11 contests, additional scheduling flexibility.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. Varied based on institutional decision-making.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. Standardizing the start date and number of contests in FCS football enhances the overall experience and provides FCS football student-athletes with the opportunity to participate in the same number of regular-season contests as FBS football student-athletes, regardless of the calendar year. There is also time associated with preparing for and participating in an additional contest.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee Legislative Priorities update.**
 - **Transfer Windows and Related Topics Subgroup.** The committee received an update regarding the anticipated timeline for the subgroup resuming their work.
2. **NCAA Football Rules Committee update.** The committee received an update on rules changes adopted during the Playing Rules Oversight Panel's April 16 meeting, including the permissive use of coach-to-player communication through the helmet beginning in fall 2025 and modifications to overtime and injury timeout rules.
3. **NCAA Division I Football Student-Athlete Connection Group update.** The committee received an update on the April 27 FSACG videoconference. The FSACG's next videoconference is Sunday, May 18.
4. **American Football Coaches Association update.** The committee received an update on the April 29 and 30 AFCA Board of Trustees meeting. The AFCA Board discussed football's spring and summer calendar and agreed to share their concept with the Transfer Windows and Related Topics Subgroup.
5. **NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group update.** The committee received an update about the NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group.
6. **NCAA Division I Football Championship Committee update.** The committee received an update on the work of the NCAA Division I Football Championship Committee.
7. **NCAA legal issues update.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.
8. **NCAA Division I governance update.** The committee received an update on the recent and upcoming Division I governance meetings.
9. **Approve NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee April 14 videoconference report.** The committee approved the April 14 FCSOC videoconference report.
10. **Future meeting dates.**
 - 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, Monday, June 2; videoconference.

Committee Chair: Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University.

Staff Liaisons: Ty Halpin, NCAA Championships and Alliances.

Kris Richardson, NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs.

NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee May 5, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Sherryta Freeman, Lafayette College; Patriot League. (alternate)	
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.	
Chris Grant, Southland Conference.	
Gerald Harrison, Austin Peay State University, Atlantic Sun Conference.	
Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University; Coastal Athletic Association.	
Curt Mallory, Indiana State University; Missouri Valley Football League. (alternate)	
Jeff Roberts, Tennessee Technological University.	
Benjamin Shove; Northeast Conference.	
Jason Strong, Yale University; The Ivy League.	
Greg Walter, Pioneer Football League.	
Jamaal Walton, Virginia Military Institute; Southern Conference.	
Mark Wharton, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.	
Absentees:	
Craig Bohl, American Football Coaches Association.	
Charles Brown, Jr., Delaware State University.	
Mark Wilson, Tennessee Technological University; Ohio Valley Conference.	
Invited Guests:	
Bob Nielson, American Football Coaches Association.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Ty Halpin and Kris Richardson.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Geoff Bentzel, DJ Brown, Amanda Conklin, Haydyn Gibson, Ethan Hite, Chris Howard, Chris Johnson, Greg Johnson, Jordan Lysiak, Jackson Marcotte and Greg Pottorff.	