REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 26, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE

***ACTION ITEMS*.**

- **None.**

***INFORMATIONAL ITEMS*.**

1. Legislative item.

- **NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2026-59 -- Playing and Practice Seasons -- Championship Subdivision Football -- Out-of-Season Activities and Preseason Practice Period.**

  (1) Recommendation. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee amended and adopted as amended, NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2026-59 to incorporate language reminding institutions to consult with their sports medicine staff in the development of out-of-season activities and the requirement that institutions provide consensus-based care, education and services to their student-athletes. The committee affirmed its support for a February 1 start date for noncontact skill instruction and practice periods.

  (2) Effective date. January 1, 2027.

  (3) Rationale. This amendment reminds institutions that the timing and duration of out-of-season activities, practice periods and discretionary weeks must be consistent with applicable consensus-based sports medicine guidance, which includes Cardiac Care Best Practices; Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist; Independent Medical Care Best Practices; Mental Health Best Practices; and Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes.

  (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

  (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Notification of Transfer Period – Informed Decision Making. The FCSOC continued its discussions related to notification of transfer period waivers involving requests to enter the transfer portal outside of a legislated window. The committee reviewed and discussed two concepts that would require student-athletes to receive information about their team standing before the notification of transfer window. During its next videoconference, the committee will continue to discuss a concept to address situations where student-athletes are removed from the roster after the notification of transfer period and may take action to introduce legislation that would take effect before the notification of transfer period.

b. **Division I Football Playing Rules – Review of season data**. The FCSOC reviewed data from the 2026 season with a focus on trends and implementation of recently adopted playing rules.

c. **FCSOC strategic priorities**. The FCSOC reviewed the committee's areas of focus and approved the following strategic priorities for the 2026-27 academic year: define FCS football and set standards of competitiveness; develop and execute an FCS national marketing and branding platform to generate revenue, media rights, and market exposure while remaining alignment with the mission of higher education; and examine and modernize the FCS playoff structure.

d. **Division I Football Championship update.** The FCSOC received an update on planning for the 2027 Division I Football Championship.

e. **NCAA Governance Dashboard demonstration.** The FCSOC received a demonstration on accessing the NCAA Governance Dashboard, a centralized system designed to provide committee members and the membership easier access to committee information and materials. More information detailing access to the Dashboard will be made available to committee members once it is finalized.

f. **NCAA Office of Legal Affairs update.** The FCSOC received an update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.

g. **FBS Working Group final report**. The FCSOC received an update on the FBS Working Group's final report, including its recommendations for governing FBS football.

h. **NCAA Division I Football Student-Athlete Engagement Group update.** The FCSOC received an update from the Football Student-Athlete Engagement Group's October videoconference, which included a guest speaker discussing life after football and a continued discussion of the FSAEG's 2026-27 strategic priorities.

i. **American Football Coaches Association update.** The FCSOC received an update on the work of AFCA.

j. **Approval of the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee September 28 report.** The FCSOC approved the September 28 FCSOC report.

k. **Future meetings.**

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

(2) 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, December 21, 2026; videoconference.

(3) 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, January 19, 2026; videoconference

(4) February 17-18, 2027, in-person meeting, Indianapolis.

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 October 26, 2026, Videoconference
Attendees:
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.
Curt Mallory, Indiana State University; Missouri Valley Football Conference.
Michael McBroom, Stephen F. Austin University; Southland Conference.
Kurt McGuffin, University of Tennessee Martin; Ohio Valley Conference.
Kyle Moats, Eastern Kentucky University; Atlantic Sun Conference.
Bob Nielson, American Football Coaches Association.
Colby Ramshaw, University of New Hampshire, Coastal Athletic Association.
Jeff Roberts, Tennessee Technological University.
Amy Strickland, Central Connecticut State University; Northeast Conference.
Greg Walter, Pioneer Football League.
Jamaal Walton, Virginia Military Institute; Southern Conference.
Absentees:
Kit Hughes, College of Holy Cross; DI Football Championship Committee Chair.
George Wiley, Central Connecticut State University; Northeast Conference.
Invited Guests:
Dean Blandino, National Director of Instant Replay, College Football Officiating.
Ron Snodgrass, National Coordinator of Officials.
Matt Young, NCAA Secretary Rules Editor.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Geoff Bentzel, Ty Halpin and Kris Richardson.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Paden Alie, Chris Howard, Leilani Hubbard, Brittney Jackson, Chris Johnson, Greg Johnson, Travis Johnston, Haydyn Makins, Jackson Marcotte and Greg Pottorff.