



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I SPORTS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
APRIL 9, 2025, MEETING

**Note:** This document does not include items incorporated in the NCAA Division I Council report.

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and opening remarks.** Division I Sports Oversight Committee Chair Michael Kelly welcomed SOC members to the meeting.
2. **Committee focus for 2024-25.** The SOC reviewed the focus areas as it does at the beginning of each meeting:

Student-athlete experience | Equity, diversity and inclusion | Competitive fairness |  
Student-athlete health and well-being | Fiscal planning
3. **Equity, diversity, inclusion and the student-athlete voice.** The SOC recognized the first NCAA Division I men's and women's basketball champions – Oregon in 1939 and Louisiana Tech in 1982, respectively. The SOC also celebrated the winter national champions.
4. **Review of recent reports.** The SOC approved the report of its Feb. 19 meeting.
5. **Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee update.** The SOC received an update regarding the ongoing work of the Division I SAAC, including the selection of the new executive team, focus on congressional efforts on employment status and NIL, building conference connections between commissioners and student-athletes and continued education on the House settlement.
6. **Subcommittee assignments.** The committee chair reviewed how committee members will submit interest and experience for the SOC subcommittees before assignments are made.
7. **Legislative, blanket waiver and policy requests.**
  - a. **Recruiting calendars – men's lacrosse, women's soccer, men's wrestling.** The SOC approved changes to the 2025-26 recruiting calendar in men's lacrosse, women's soccer and men's wrestling. The committee will ratify recruiting calendars in sports other than basketball and football during its June meeting.
  - b. **Sport-specific legislative requests.**

- i. **Cross country and track and field – elimination of December transfer window.** The committee reviewed a request to eliminate the December transfer window in cross country and track and field. The committee determined that the request does not meet the Board's interim policy and legislative priorities. The request will be revisited once the interim period has concluded.
  - ii. **Field hockey – first practice date, recruiting contact and visit dates, and scouting.** The committee reviewed requests to amend the first permissible practice date, first permissible recruiting contact, and prohibition on scouting in field hockey. The committee determined that the requests do not meet the Board's interim policy and legislative priorities. The requests will be revisited once the interim period has concluded.
  - iii. **Women's golf – Pan Pacific competition exemption.** The committee reviewed a request for event exemption in women's golf. The committee determined that the request does not meet the Board's interim policy and legislative priorities. The request will be revisited once the interim period has concluded.
  - iv. **Men's lacrosse – first contact date.** The committee reviewed a request to amend the first permissible date for recruiting contact in men's lacrosse. The committee determined that the request does not meet the Board's interim policy and legislative priorities. The request will be revisited once the interim period has concluded.
  - v. **Women's soccer – first date for recruiting materials and telephone calls.** The committee reviewed requests to amend the first permissible date for recruiting materials and telephone calls in women's soccer. The committee determined that the requests do not meet the Board's interim policy and legislative priorities. The requests will be revisited once the interim period has concluded.
8. **Squad size summary.** The committee reviewed information related to championships squad size vs. anticipated roster caps and conveyed the challenges for participating teams to fully fund the championship experience based on current travel party sizes. The committee will revisit the topic for further discussion at a future meeting
9. **Budget update.** NCAA staff updated the committee on championships financials from the fall season.
10. **Sport committee reports.**
  - a. **Women's soccer.**
    - i. **Automatic qualification.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 30 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2025 championship: America East Conference; American Athletic Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Atlantic 10

Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Big 12 Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big West Conference; Coastal Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference; Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and Western Athletic Conference.

- ii. **Championship format change.** The SOC approved in concept a request to establish a second day of rest between the second and third rounds of the NCAA tournament; the effective date for implementation is pending budget allocation.
  - iii. **Video review.** The SOC approved the recommendation to require all preliminary round hosts to provide video review at the expense of hosts beginning with the 2025 championship.
  - iv. **Players available to participate in NCAA tournament.** The SOC tabled to its June meeting the recommendation to allow every student-athlete that dresses the ability to enter the game.
  - v. **Championship date formula change.** The SOC approved the recommendation to move the championship one week later in coordination with the adoption of NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-62, which reallocates two weeks from the spring nonchampionship segment to the fall championship segment to decompress the fall schedule, effective with the 2026 championship. The women's soccer committee believes this will help schools mitigate institutional impacts by only having to bring student-athletes back to school one week earlier for the start of the championship season. This also would place the women's championship on the same weekend as the men's championship. Cary, North Carolina, which has already been selected for both championships in 2026 and 2027, has confirmed that it will have no issues in hosting both events on the same weekend.
- b. **Men's soccer.**
- i. **First- and second-round date adjustment.** The SOC tabled a request to adjust the first- and second-round dates of competition from Thursday/Sunday to Friday/Tuesday and requested additional input from the men's soccer committee before considering the proposal again in the future. The committee expressed concerns about missed class time and the low spectator attendance with a shift to Tuesday for the second round.

ii. **Automatic qualification.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 22 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2025 championship: America East Conference; American Athletic Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Big East Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big West Conference; Coastal Athletic Association; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference; Patriot League; Southern Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and Western Athletic Conference.

iii. **Mandatory preliminary-round video review.** The SOC approved the recommendation to require all preliminary round hosts to provide video review at the expense of hosts beginning with the 2025 championship.

c. **Women's water polo.**

- **Championship date formula change.** The SOC approved the recommendation to change the championship date formula from the second weekend in May to the last full weekend in April (Friday-Sunday) in response to the adoption of Proposal No. 2024-63. The new date formula supports the legislative change as well as matching the length of the men's season and provides competitive equity among teams for training purposes.

d. **Men's water polo.**

- **Automatic qualification.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following seven conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2025 championship: Big West Conference, Collegiate Water Polo Association, Mount Pacific Sports Federation, Northeast Water Polo Conference, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, West Coast Conference and Western Water Polo Association.

e. **Women's wrestling.** The SOC will review the recommendations from the women's wrestling committee at its June meeting.

f. **Women's volleyball.**

- **Automatic qualification.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 31 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2025 championship: America East Conference, American Athletic Conference, Atlantic Coast Conference, Atlantic Sun Conference, Atlantic 10 Conference, Big East Conference, Big Sky Conference, Big South Conference, Big Ten Conference, Big 12 Conference, Big West Conference, Coastal Athletic Conference, Conference USA, Horizon League, The Ivy League, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Mid-American Conference, Mid-Eastern Athletic

Conference, Missouri Valley Conference, Mountain West Conference, Northeast Conference, Ohio Valley Conference, Patriot League, Southeastern Conference, Southern Conference, Southland Conference, Southwestern Athletic Conference, Sun Belt Conference, The Summit League, West Coast Conference and Western Athletic Conference.

**g. Beach volleyball.**

- **2026 championship site relocation.** The SOC approved the recommendation from the beach volleyball committee to relocate the 2026 National Collegiate Beach Volleyball Championship from Huntington Beach, California to Gulf Shores, Alabama.

**h. Men's gymnastics.** The SOC received the informational report from the men's gymnastics committee meeting.

**i. Men's golf.**

- **2026 regional site relocation.** The SOC approved the recommendation from the men's golf committee to trade hosting responsibilities for the 2026 and 2027 men's regional sites. The University of Arizona and The Gallery Golf Club will serve as host institution and competition venue May 18-20, 2026, and Arizona State University and Ak-Chin Southern Dunes will serve as host and competition venue May 17-19, 2027. Ak-Chin Southern Dunes has significant clubhouse renovations scheduled during May 2026 that required the trade.

**j. Men's and women's tennis.** The SOC received the informational reports from the men's and women's tennis committee meetings.

**k. Men's and women's swimming and diving.** The SOC received the informational report from the men's and women's swimming and diving committee meeting.

**11. Flag football emerging sport legislation.** The committee supported a recommendation from the Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee to introduce into the 2025 legislative cycle a proposal to add women's flag football as an emerging sport for women.

**12. Future meetings.**

- Wednesday, June 18, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time (*videoconference*)
- Wednesday, Aug. 20, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time (*videoconference*)
- Monday, Oct. 6, from 4 to 8 p.m. and Tuesday, Oct. 7, from 8 a.m. to noon Eastern time (*in-person in Indianapolis*)

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*Committee Chair:* Michael Kelly, University of South Florida  
*Staff Liaisons:* Brandy Hataway, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances  
John Bugner, Championships and Alliances  
Kristin W. Fasbender, Championships and Alliances  
Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Karen Metzger, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Russell Register, Enforcement

NCAA Division I Sports Oversight Committee April 9, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Joeleen Akin, Georgia Institute of Technology.	
Sara Burton, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.	
Jennifer Condaras, Coastal Athletic Association.	
Christine Copper, U.S. Naval Academy.	
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference.	
Joseph D'Antonio Jr., Coastal Athletic Association.	
Raymond Harrison Jr., North Carolina State University.	
Brad Hurlbut, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus.	
Michael Kelly, University of South Florida.	
Karin, Lee, University of Alabama.	
Maggie McKinley, University of Cincinnati.	
Celene McGowan, The Ivy League.	
Christina Munger-Rivera, University of California, Los Angeles.	
Janet Oberle, Saint Louis University.	
Rebecca Pany, Big Ten Conference.	
Elizabeth Rabb, Wofford College.	
Allison Rich, University of New Hampshire.	
Jessica Rippey, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Dayna Scherf, Big 12 Conference.	
Matthew Sorbe, University of South Dakota (Student-Athlete).	
Christina Wombacher, Arizona State University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Alisse Ali-Joseph, Northern Arizona University.	
Greg Christopher, Xavier University.	
Kimberly Johnson, Texas Christian University.	
Keeley Rasmussen, Long Beach State University (Student-Athlete).	
Jenna Rogers, University of Nebraska, Lincoln (Student-Athlete).	
Claire Woods, Middle Tennessee State University (Student-Athlete).	
<b>Guest(s) in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	

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John Bugner, Championships and Alliances.
Kristin W. Fasbender, Championships and Alliances.
Brandy Hataway, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Karen Metzger, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Russell Register, Enforcement.
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Jeff O'Barr, Amanda Conklin, Greg Johnson, Abigail Markey, Tracy McClendon, and Lynda Tealer.