



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I SPORTS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
AUGUST 20, 2025, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

a. Recruiting – Tryouts and Sports Camps and Clinics – Local Sports Clubs, Private Lessons and Attendance Restrictions at Camps and Clinics – Fencing.

(1) Recommendation. The NCAA Division I Sports Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the January 2026 Division I legislative cycle to: (a) Eliminate the requirement that all prospective student-athletes participating on a local sports club on which an institution's coach is involved with live within a 50-mile radius of the institution; (b) Permit an institution's athletics department or an institution's athletics booster group to sponsor a local sports club that includes prospective student-athletes; (c) Permit an institution's coach to provide private lessons to prospective student-athletes; and (d) Eliminate camp and clinic attendance restrictions.

(2) Effective date. August 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. The United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee College Sports Sustainability Think Tank was charged with recommending actionable priorities in Olympic sports to support and sustain the ongoing development of elite student-athletes at NCAA institutions and encourage the continued growth of Olympic sports. In fencing, the think tank identified several areas of NCAA recruiting rules, that when broadly applied across all sports, stifle the growth of the sport. Deregulation of recruiting legislation in fencing in a manner consistent with specific recommendations from the USOPC College Sports Sustainability Think Tank will boost engagement, promotion and cooperation across community/youth programs, and college varsity teams. These efficiencies will sustain the ongoing development of elite student-athletes at NCAA institutions and promote the partnership between the NCAA and USOPC.

(4) Estimated budget impact. Variable; dependent on institutional decision-making.

(5) Student-athlete impact. This proposal will allow institutional staff to have increased engagement with prospective student-athletes in order to encourage continued participation and development in fencing.

b. Playing and Practice Seasons – Women's Stunt – First date of competition.

(1) Recommendation. The committee introduced legislation into the January 2026 Division I legislative cycle to amend the first permissible date of competition in women's stunt to the Friday preceding February 1 if February 1 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Monday.

(2) Effective date. August 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. Dates of competition in stunt are primarily scheduled on weekends. If the first permissible date of competition falls beyond the first weekend in February, the playing and practice season is unnecessarily compressed. This compression negatively impacts student-athlete well-being, reduces opportunities for participation, and does not support the ongoing growth of the sport. Further, this proposal would not permit an institution to exceed the maximum dates of competition or extend the length of the playing and practice season.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. This proposal would promote student-athlete well-being by avoiding unnecessary compression within the playing and practice season in years when February 1 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Monday.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and opening remarks.** Division I Sports Oversight Committee members were welcomed to the meeting.

2. **Committee focus.** The SOC reviewed its focus areas:

Student-athlete experience | Equity, diversity and inclusion | Competitive fairness |
Student-athlete health and well-being | Fiscal planning

3. **Celebrating student-athletes.** The SOC recognized the national championship teams from the 2024-25 season.

4. **Review of recent report.** The SOC approved the report of its June 18 meeting.

5. **Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee update.** The SOC received an update regarding the ongoing work of Division I SAAC.

6. **Sport committee reports.**

a. Automatic qualification requests.

(1) **Field hockey.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 10 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2025 NCAA Division I Field Hockey Championship: America East Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic

Coast Conference; Big East Conference; Big Ten Conference; Coastal Athletic Association; The Ivy League; Mid- American Conference; Northeast Conference; and Patriot League.

- (2) **Men's golf.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 29 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026 NCAA Division I Men's Golf Championships: American Conference; ASUN Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 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.
- (3) **Men's lacrosse.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 10 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026 NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Championship: America East Conference, Atlantic 10 Conference, ASUN Conference, Big East Conference, Big Ten Conference, Coastal Athletic Association, The Ivy League, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Northeast Conference and the Patriot League.
- (4) **Women's golf.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 28 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026 NCAA Division I Women's Golf Championships: American Conference; ASUN Conference; Atlantic-10 Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 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.
- (5) **Women's lacrosse.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 15 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026 NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship: America East Conference; American Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Big 12 Conference, Big East Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Coastal Athletic Association; Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Northeast Conference; and Patriot League.
- (6) **Women's bowling.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 11 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026 National Collegiate Women's

Bowling Championship: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Conference Carolinas; Conference USA; East Coast Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Northeast Conference; and Southwestern Athletic Conference.

- (7) **Women's ice hockey.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following five conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026 National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship: Atlantic Hockey America, ECAC Hockey, Hockey East Association, New England Women's Hockey Alliance, and Western Collegiate Hockey Association.
- (8) **Women's water polo.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following seven conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026 National Collegiate Women's Water Polo Championship: Big West Conference, Collegiate Water Polo Association, Golden Coast Conference, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Mount Pacific Sports Federation, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Western Water Polo Association.
- (9) **Men's and women's tennis.** The SOC approved the recommendation that the following 30 conferences for women and 27 conferences for men receive automatic qualification for the 2026 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Championships: American 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 Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Missouri Valley Conference (women's only); Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference (women's only); Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and Western Athletic Conference (women's only).

b. Women's gymnastics.

- (1) **National Qualifying Score formula used for championships selections.** The SOC referred to the women's gymnastics committee its recommendation to increase the minimum number of competition scores from six to nine, with a minimum of five away meets required and a maximum of five home meets permitted as part of the NQS formula. The SOC determined this issue was better decided within the new Division I governance structure/process.
- (2) **Squad size increase.** The SOC referred to the women's gymnastics committee its recommendation to increase the championship squad size from 15 to 20 for the 2026 championships without a corresponding increase to the reimbursed travel party. The

SOC determined this issue was better decided within the new Division I governance structure/process and recommended that staff coordinate a review of the squad size limit for all sports that apply such a limit, including consideration of designated student-athletes.

- (3) **National Qualifying designation of home/away contests for neutral-site meets conducted within 30 miles of an institution's campus.** The SOC referred to the women's gymnastics committee the recommendation that only one contest held at a neutral site within 30 miles of an institution's campus be permitted to count as an away contest for purposes of calculating a team's NQS, inclusive of multiteam invitationals, duals, tri-meets, quad meets and/or conference championships. The SOC asked for more consideration about whether to include conference championships and, generally, the consequences on a school's scheduling practices and recommended a more thorough analysis before finalizing a change.

c. Men's and women's swimming and diving.

- (1) **Individual event selection process and qualifying standards.** The SOC referred to the new swimming and diving oversight committee the recommendation to change the championship qualifying process for individual events; the SOC suggested seeking student-athlete input on the recommended change.
- (2) **Championship schedule of events and format.** The SOC referred to the new swimming and diving oversight committee the recommendation to revise the championship format and schedule of events and format; the SOC suggested seeking student-athlete input on the recommended change.
- (3) **2026 zone diving host sites.** The SOC referred to the new swimming and diving oversight committee the recommendation on the zone diving sites for the 2026 championships.

d. Men's wrestling.

- (1) **Selection criteria.** The SOC referred to the new men's wrestling oversight committee the recommendation to add earning a pre-allocated spot for their conference and to add recency of win as part of the selection criteria for the 2026 championships.
- (2) **Coaches' rank procedure.** The SOC referred to the new men's wrestling oversight committee the recommendation to implement a new coaches rank procedure for the 2025-26 season in which 15 coaches are selected to rank wrestlers.

e. Men's and women's golf.

- **Allowances for student-athletes to participate in competition as individuals.** See Informational Item 7-c.

f. Women's golf.

- (1) **Ranking changes.** The SOC referred to the new golf oversight committee the recommendation to change the rankings algorithm to increase all points for the national championship by 30 percent and to establish a guardrail to minimize the impact of stroke differential in situations where there is a runaway winner for the 2025-26 season.
- (2) **Selection criteria.** The SOC referred to the new golf oversight committee the recommendation to move the adjusted scoring average to the third criterion, behind National Collegiate Golf Ranking and head-to-head results/head-to-head stroke differential and to add spring trending as a criterion for the 2026 championships.

g. Men's ice hockey.

- **Selection criteria – NCAA Power Index (NPI) settings.** The SOC referred to the new men's ice hockey oversight committee the recommended NPI values for selection for the 2026 championships.

h. Women's ice hockey.

- **Selection criteria – NCAA Power Index.** The SOC referred to the women's ice hockey committee its recommendation to adopt the NCAA Power Index as the sole selection criterion for championships selection for the 2026 championship.

i. Women's wrestling.

- **Regional assignments.** The SOC referred to the new women's wrestling committee its recommended regional assignments for institutions sponsoring women's wrestling to one of the six established regions for the 2025-26 inaugural season.

j. Men's and women's skiing.

- (1) **Committee composition.** The SOC referred to the skiing committee its recommendation to increase the committee composition by one member. It was noted that there will be a review of national collegiate sport committee compositions by all three divisions.
- (2) **2026 regional site selections.** The SOC referred to the skiing committee its recommendation on the regional sites for the 2026 championships.

k. Men's and women's rifle.

- **Individual selection criteria.** The SOC referred to the rifle committee its recommendation to change the individual selection criteria to match the team selection criteria for the 2026 championships.

l. Women's bowling.

- (1) **Selection criteria – tournament match results.** The SOC referred to the women's bowling committee its recommendation to designate tournament results as a primary selection criterion after using it as a secondary criterion during a two-year pilot.
- (2) **Committee chair waiver request.** The SOC referred to the women's bowling committee its waiver request for John Williamson, head women's bowling coach at Vanderbilt University to serve as committee chair for the 2025-26 season.

m. Women's lacrosse.

- **Video replay at preliminary rounds.** The SOC referred to the new women's lacrosse oversight committee the recommendation to require preliminary-round hosts to have video review capabilities for the 2026 championships.

n. Men's and women's tennis.

- (1) **Committee chair waiver request.** The SOC referred to the new tennis oversight committee the waiver request for Alison Silverio, head women's tennis coach at the University of Notre Dame to serve as committee chair for the 2025-26 season.
- (2) **Electronic line calling during NCAA championships.** The SOC referred to the new tennis oversight committee the recommendation that the use of electronic line calling systems approved by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association be permitted during any rounds of the championships for the 2025-26 season.

7. Legislative blanket waiver and policy requests.

- a. **Review requests tabled based on the NCAA Division I Board of Directors interim policy and legislative priorities.** The SOC discussed the legislative, blanket waiver, and policy requests submitted since January 2025 that were tabled by SOC due to the Board interim policy and legislative priorities. The SOC referred the following concepts to the sport oversight committees in the new Division I governance structure:

b.

- (1) Cross country and track and field – transfer windows.
- (2) Field hockey – first practice date, date for recruiting activities, scouting.
- (3) Women's golf – event exemption.

- (4) Women's gymnastics- summer athletically related activities.
 - (5) Ice hockey – exhibition exemption.
 - (6) Men's lacrosse – first date for recruiting activities.
 - (7) Women's lacrosse – first date of competition.
 - (8) Women's soccer – first date for recruiting activities.
 - (9) Women's volleyball – first date for recruiting contacts, preseason practice.
 - (10) Men's wrestling – maximum dates of competition.
- c. **Season of Competition – Exhibition Routines – Women's Gymnastics.** The SOC discussed a recommendation from the women's gymnastics committee to permit student-athletes to perform exhibition routines in a maximum of three women's gymnastics meets without using a season of competition. The committee did not recommend the introduction of a proposal, noting that a more holistic review in all sports should be conducted.
- d. **Blanket waiver request – men's golf.** The committee approved a blanket waiver of the maximum dates of competition legislation in men's golf. The waiver will allow up to four men's golf student-athletes to participate in a date of competition without it counting as an institutional date of competition provided no student-athletes contribute to a team score on the particular date of competition during the 2025-26 academic year.
- e. **Blanket waiver request -- fencing.** The committee approved a blanket waiver of local sports club legislation in fencing. The waiver will remove the 50-mile radius limitation for local sports club and permit an institution to sponsor and support local sports clubs regardless of whether prospective student-athletes participate with the club. Further, fencing coaching staff members will be permitted to provide private lessons during the 2025-26 academic year.
- f. **Blanket waiver request – stunt.** The committee approved a blanket waiver of the first date of competition legislation in stunt. The waiver will allow competition on the preceding Friday if February 1 falls on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday during the 2025-26 academic year.
8. **Informational sport committee reports.** The SOC received informational reports from the Division I Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee, the Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Committee, the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee and the NCAA Women's Wrestling Committee.

- 9. Adjournment.** Staff adjourned the final Division I Sports Oversight Committee meeting and thanked all members.

Committee Vice Chair: Joseph D'Antonio Jr., Coastal Athletic Association

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 August 20, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Joeleen Akin, Georgia Institute of Technology.	
Alisse Ali-Joseph, Northern Arizona University.	
Sara Burton, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.	
Greg Christopher, Xavier University.	
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.	
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)	
Eric Wood, University of Mississippi.	
Christina Wombacher, Arizona State University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guest(s) in Attendance:	
Samantha Barany, College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America.	

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Aug. 20, 2025, Meeting

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NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
John Bugner, Championships and Alliances.
Kristin 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.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Amanda Conklin, Greg, Johnson, Tracy McClendon and Lynda Tealer.