



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I STRATEGIC VISION AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
JUNE 16, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

a. Establish National Collegiate Championships in Acrobatics and Tumbling.

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division I Council introduce legislation to add women's acrobatics and tumbling as an NCAA National Collegiate Championship; further, to establish a women's acrobatics and tumbling committee.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate. The women's acrobatics and tumbling committee would begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first NCAA National Collegiate Championship in spring 2027.
- (3) Rationale. Acrobatics and tumbling has been an emerging sport in all three divisions since 2020. In spring of 2025, based on unofficial data during a staff review, 44 NCAA member institutions met minimum sports-sponsorship requirements, putting the sport above the legislatively required threshold of 40 varsity programs to be considered for National Collegiate Championship status. The number of schools participating in the 2024-25 academic year will be verified through official NCAA Sports-Sponsorship and Participation data, which will be finalized by the NCAA research staff in summer 2025. Additionally, 46 programs indicated sponsoring acrobatics and tumbling during the 2024-25 academic year, which demonstrates additional participation. It is anticipated that the announcement of sponsoring an NCAA championship would continue to drive membership interest in the sport. After consultation with various committees in the NCAA governance structure and a financial and championship examination of projected costs to establish a new national collegiate championship, the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics agreed acrobatics and tumbling should be added as an NCAA championship. The sport has continued to grow in the collegiate space and has received continued interest in the youth/K-12 level from related sports. Acrobatics and tumbling has a diverse recruiting pool of student-athletes competing in gymnastics, cheerleading, diving, dance and weightlifting, among other sports. The sport attracts a wide variety of athletes from socioeconomic and racial backgrounds. This pool has created more participation opportunities for women with over 1,100 student-athletes competing in 2023-24 across all three divisions. The sport also has a high percentage of women coaches and officials. The Committee on Women's Athletics strongly recommends all three divisions to sponsor and adopt the sport as a National Collegiate Championship.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. A budget estimate of up to \$2 million to establish the sport committee and fund the championship annually is based on several factors including the total number of participants and other travel party members, the total length of competition and estimates for game expenses (event operations, officials fees, etc.). The budget estimate will be reevaluated once the sport committee is established, and it makes a final determination on championship structure. This figure includes assumptions for direct and host operational expenses, broadcast, team travel, committee expenses, and championship staffing and travel.

[Note: The budget is contingent upon approval by the NCAA Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee, Board of Governors and the appropriate divisional governance committees during their July/August 2025 meetings and must account for the net asset impact of all consolidated future initiatives.]

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Provides a new championship opportunity to women athletes in all three divisions and elevates their current varsity programs to the NCAA championship level.

b. Establish National Collegiate Championships in Stunt.

- (1) Recommendation. That council introduce legislation to add women's stunt as an NCAA National Collegiate Championship; further, to establish a women's stunt committee.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate. The women's stunt committee would begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first NCAA National Collegiate Championship in spring 2027.
- (3) Rationale. Stunt has been an emerging sport in Division I and Division II since August 2023, and Division III since August 2024. In spring of 2025, based on unofficial data during a staff review, 41 NCAA member institutions met minimum sports-sponsorship requirements, putting the sport above the legislatively required threshold of 40 varsity programs to be considered for National Collegiate Championship status. The number of schools participating in the 2024-25 academic year will be verified through official NCAA Sports Sponsorship and Participation data, which will be finalized by the NCAA research staff in summer 2025. Additionally, while 40 programs indicated sponsoring stunt prior to the 2024-25 academic year, at least 45 sponsored the sport, demonstrating additional growth opportunities for future years. It is anticipated that the announcement of sponsoring an NCAA championship would continue to drive membership interest in the sport.

After consultation with various committees in the NCAA governance structure and a financial and championship examination of projected costs to establish a new national collegiate championship, Committee on Women's Athletics agreed stunt should be added as an NCAA championship. As the newest emerging sport, stunt has grown rapidly both in the collegiate space and in the youth/K-12 level with increased stunt competition opportunities around the country. Stunt has a high number of student-athletes from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds and ethnicities competing on teams at NCAA schools, which has created more participation opportunities for women within the NCAA. In 2023-24, a total of 704 student-athletes competed in stunt in Divisions I and II (it was not yet an emerging sport in Division III). The 2024-25 athlete participation numbers will be updated in summer 2025. The sport also has a high percentage of women coaches and officials.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. A budget estimate of up to \$1.9 million to establish the sport committee and fund the championship annually is based on several factors including the total number of participants and other travel party members, the total length of competition and estimates for game expenses (event operations, officials fees, etc.). The budget estimate will be reevaluated once the sport committee is established and it makes a final determination on championship structure. This figure includes assumptions for direct and host operational expenses, broadcast, team travel, committee expenses, and championship staffing and travel.

[Note: The budget is contingent upon approval by the Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee, Board of Governors and the appropriate divisional governance committees during their July/August 2025 meetings and must account for the net asset impact of all consolidated future initiatives.]

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Provides a new championship opportunity to women athletes in all three divisions and elevates their current varsity programs to the NCAA championship level.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Review of Division II and Division III institutions reclassifying to Division I.** The NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee reviewed information from each institution in year three (Division II) and year four (Division III) of the reclassification process and recommends that the NCAA Division I Board of Directors approve active Division I status for the following institutions beginning August 1, 2025:

- (1) East Texas A&M University;
- (2) Lindenwood University;
- (3) Stonehill College;
- (4) Queens University of Charlotte;
- (5) University of Southern Indiana; and
- (6) University of St. Thomas (Minnesota) (Division III).

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review of March 31, 2025, Report of the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee reviewed and approved the report as submitted.
2. **NCAA Division I Governance Update.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee received an update on Division I governance-related topics.
3. **Legal Update.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee received an update from staff that included information on the legal landscape.
4. **Membership.**
 - a. **Review and approval of tuition-inflation memo for minimum financial aid.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee completed its annual review and approval of the minimum aggregate tuition figure for institutional financial aid requirements outlined in Figure 20-1 and NCAA Division I Bylaw 20.9.3.2-(b).
 - b. **Review of single-sport applications.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee reviewed and approved the following applications from Division I Single-Sport Conferences:
 - (1) Atlantic Hockey America (formerly the Atlantic Hockey Association) – Men’s ice hockey; and
 - (2) Atlantic Hockey America (formerly College Hockey America) – Women’s ice hockey.

- c. **Review of membership applications.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee reviewed and approved an application from an NCAA Division II institution to begin the Division I reclassification process.
 - University of New Haven was accepted into the Division II to Division I reclassification process beginning August 1, 2025.
 - d. **Review of Division I reclassifying institution's annual reports in Year One and Year Two.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee reviewed information from each institution in Year One and Year Two and took the following action:
 - (1) Le Moyne College was advanced to Year Three of the Division II to Division I process.
 - (2) Mercyhurst University was advanced to Year Two of the Division II to Division I process.
 - (3) University of West Georgia was advanced to Year Two of the Division II to Division I process.
 - e. **Discussion of new reclassification benchmarks.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee discussed notice, timelines, and potential implementation of new requirements for current Year One and Year Two institutions reclassifying from NCAA Division II. The committee determined that financial exit benchmarks will be determined based on the most recently available data when an institution begins Year Two of the process. Further, the committee received an update on the implementation of the first year of the academic review being included in the process.
 - f. **Discussion on Division I schools reclassifying to Division II or Division III.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee had an initial conversation on a potential process for Division I schools seeking to reclassify to Division II or Division III. The committee will continue discussions at a future meeting.
5. **NCAA Sports Science Institute Update.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee received an update from staff on recent educational initiatives and programming on current issues, including a recent summit on athletic performance technology, modernization efforts on injury surveillance data collection methods, and efforts to address current and future challenges to recruitment and retention of athletic trainers.
6. **Association-wide Committee Reports.** The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee reviewed the following reports:

- a. NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics April and May meeting reports.
- b. NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports February report.
- c. NCAA Gender Equity Task Force May meeting report.
- d. NCAA Honors Committee May report.
- e. NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee May meeting report.
- f. NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests and NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics joint May meeting report.
- g. NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee May meeting report.
- h. NCAA Walter Byers Scholarship Committee April meeting report.

7. Review of Future Meeting Schedule.

Committee Chair: Tim Coffey, Longwood University
Staff Liaisons: Troy Arthur, Academic and Membership Affairs
Geoff Bentzel, Division I Governance
Jenn Samble, Academic and Membership Affairs
Angela Tressel, Academic and Membership Affairs
Jerry Vaughn, Academic and Membership Affairs

| NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee June 16, 2025, Meeting | |
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| Attendees: | |
| Nicole Arrighi, Tennessee State University. | |
| Jason Cable, Alabama State University. | |
| Timothy Coffey, Longwood University | |
| Lisa Liotta, Canisius University. | |
| Quinn Millerd, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. | |
| Jennifer Phillips, James Madison University. | |
| Jennifer Strawley, Elon University. | |
| Kristin Williams, Mid-American Conference. | |
| Absentees: | |
| John Currie, Wake Forest University. | |
| Robin Harris, The Ivy League. | |
| NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance: | |
| Troy Arthur, Geoff Bentzel, Jenn Samble, Angela Tressel, and Jerry Vaughn. | |
| Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance: | |
| Leilani Hubbard, Gretchen Miron, Anne Rohlman, and Jared Tidemann. | |