

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AUGUST 20, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Update on the development of the NCAA Division I women's basketball performance fund. The NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee and the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee received an update from the governance and finance staffs on the timeline and recent governance activities on the development of a women's basketball performance fund. The Division I Board of Directors introduced a proposal into the current legislative cycle to create the performance fund at its August meeting. It is anticipated that the Division I membership will vote on the proposal to establish the women's basketball fund at the January 2025 NCAA Convention. A question-and-answer document is being developed to assist the membership with its understanding of the proposal and its application. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee and the Women's Basketball Committee continue to support their position that this fund is not impacted by any future legal settlements. Both committees will continue to receive updates as work continues on this important initiative.
- 2. Update from the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update from the summer meeting of the Women's Basketball Committee. The Women's Basketball Committee approved Indianapolis as the host site for the next joint women's basketball championships event in 2028 for all three divisions. The Women's Basketball Committee also approved the 68-team bracket to include 31 Automatic Qualifiers and 37 At-Large teams and the various changes to quadrants and team sheets using the recommended ranges based on data analysis for women's basketball. It was also noted that the Women's Basketball Committee will now reveal publicly the entire 68-team seed list, in seed order, as a part of the Selection Sunday show. Previously only the Top 4 seeds were revealed in seed order. The Women's Basketball Committee also discussed various operational items related to the championship, including bench size, access to the championship postgame ceremony, selection criteria. Women's Basketball Committee will review a bracketing simulation with the 2024 championship teams and their new conference affiliations for 2025. The goal of the simulation is to preview the bracketing process for the 2025 championship with the new conference alignment. The Women's Basketball Committee also discussed challenges during first and second rounds related to nonpredetermined sites (e.g., hotel, facility availability, common cities with the men's basketball). The Women's Basketball Committee discussed proactive work that is underway to ease some of these challenges by requesting facility and hotel availability now, providing host education opportunities and proactively

having conversations with potential common cities with men's basketball such as Raleigh in 2025. The Women's Basketball Committee affirmed their commitment to review the First Four, First and Second Round format after the 2025 championship and directed the NCAA staff to survey membership and other key stakeholders. The Women's Basketball Committee will review feedback at fall meeting.

- 3. Update from the 2024 NCAA College Basketball Academy for women's basketball. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update on the academy that was conducted July 27-29, 2024, in Rock Hill, South Carolina. There were 585 high school and two-year college prospective student-athletes and 245 Division I schools (513 coaches) in attendance at this year's event. The participants engaged in skill instruction, competition and educational sessions, which encompassed Name, Image and Likeness recruiting rules, academics, sports wagering and health and well-being. Postevent survey feedback provided by participants, chaperones and college coaches indicated a high level of satisfaction with this year's event.
- 4. Review of the National Letter of Intent spring signing dates for women's basketball. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee was asked to provide feedback regarding the National Letter of Intent's regular spring signing dates. Currently the regular signing period begins the first Wednesday in April following the Final Four. The dates have not been examined recently and changes may be warranted due to the increase in transfer activity. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee referred this topic to the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee Legislation Subcommittee and requested the Women's Basketball Coaches Association solicit feedback from its membership.

5. NCAA Division I legislative update.

a. Adopted October 2024 pilot legislative proposals originating from the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee.

<u>Proposal No. 2024-45 Recruiting – Complimentary Admissions – Postseason Conference Tournament</u>. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee amended Proposal No. 2024-45 to permit a conference to provide nominal expenses to prospective student-athletes (e.g., transportation, meals) in conjunction with complimentary admissions to a postseason conference tournament and adopted the proposal, as amended.

Proposal No. 2024-50 Playing and Practice Seasons – Basketball – First Permissible Contest Date and 22-Week Playing Season. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee adopted Proposal No. 2024-50, which specifies that an institution shall not play its first regular-season contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition prior to the Monday of the 22nd week prior to the Division I Women's Basketball Championship game.

- b. Report from the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee

 Legislation Subcommittee July 22, 2024, videoconference. The Women's Basketball

 Oversight Committee reviewed the report from the most recent meeting of the

 Legislation Committee.
- c. Status update on the notification of transfer window proposal for women's basketball (Proposal No. 2024-46 Recruiting Notification of Transfer Windows Reduce from 45 Days to 30 Days Basketball and Football). The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received a status update on this proposal that would reduce the notification of transfer window from 45 days to 30 days and would open the window the day after the end of the second round of the championship. The Division I Council is slated to vote on this proposal at its October meeting.
- d. <u>Feedback request on scenarios related to nonscholarship student-athletes and access to the NCAA Transfer Portal once the windows close</u>. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee was asked to provide feedback on scenarios where nonscholarship student-athletes are informed they no longer have a spot on a team after the Transfer Portal windows close. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee referred this topic to the Legislation Subcommittee to review.
- e. Feedback request on a potential blanket waiver related to required days off and travel days. The NCAA Division I Committee on Legislative Relief requested feedback from all standing committees on a potential blanket waiver that would allow a travel day to be used as a student-athlete's day off, provided certain criteria were met. Such relief is being requested mainly due to conference realignment resulting in longer travel surrounding away-from-home competitions. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee was generally supportive of the waiver as a short-term solution and asked the Legislation Subcommittee to consider the long-term legislative solution at its next meeting.
- 6. Review of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee Administrative Subcommittee June 17, 2024, videoconference report and Women's Basketball Oversight Committee June 24-25 in-person meeting report. Due to time constraints, the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee will review and approve these reports at its next meeting.

7. Future meeting schedule.

- a. September 4 joint Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Committees' videoconference.
- b. October 7-8 in-person meeting, Indianapolis, Indian

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c. December 5 videoconference.

Committee Chair: Kelly Barsky, University of California, Santa Barbara

Committee Vice Chair: Terry Gawlik, University of Idaho

Staff Liaisons: Meredith Cleaver, Championships and Alliances

Lynn Holzman, Championships and Alliances Binh T. Nguyen, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee Videoconference August 20, 2024

Attendees:

Val Ackerman, Big East Conference.

Kelly Barsky, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Amanda Braun, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (nonvoting member).

Danielle Donehew, Women's Basketball Coaches Association (nonvoting member).

Terry Gawlik, University of Idaho

Brent Jones, Troy University

Lindy La Rocque, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Ed McLaughlin, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Julie Roe Lach, Horizon League

Jill Shields, Kansas State University

Drew Speraw, Western Athletic Conference.

Brooke Wyckoff, Florida State University.

Absentees:

Patricia Anumgba, Towson State University (nonvoting member).

Ketra Armstrong, University of Michigan (nonvoting member).

Jacqueline Blackett, Columbia University – Barnard College.

Kennedy Todd-Williams, University of Mississippi.

Guest(s) in Attendance:

Jill Bodensteiner, St. Joseph's University

Liz Darger, Brigham Young University.

Lizzie Gomez, Southland Conference

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Meredith Cleaver, Lynn Holzman and Binh Nguyen.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Connor Bush, Jessie Carmack, Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Dan Gavit, McKinzie Green, Khadian Kelly, Dee Kennedy, Katie Koenig, Karen Metzger, Courtney Moore, Susan Peal, Amy Reis, Jenn Samble, Rachel Seewald, Jared Tidemann and Meghan Wright.