



**REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I  
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 24, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- **Legislative Items.**
  - **NCAA Division I Bylaw 17.4.3.2 Playing and Practice Seasons – Preseason Practice Scrimmages/Exhibition Contests – Women's Basketball.**
    - (1) Recommendation. That the Division I Council adopt expedited legislation during its April meeting to modify Bylaw 17.4.3.2, in women's basketball, to permit an institution to play up to two preseason practice scrimmages and/or exhibition contests (or one of each) against any collegiate institution prior to the first permissible contest date, provided the contests do not occur at a prospective student-athlete's educational institution or a facility that is regularly used by prospective student-athletes for practice or competition. Further, to eliminate the requirements that a preseason practice scrimmage must be conducted in privacy and without publicity or official scoring and that no class time shall be missed by women's basketball student-athletes in conjunction with such a scrimmage.
    - (2) Effective date. Immediate.
    - (3) Rationale. Currently, an institution may compete against another NCAA Division I team in a public exhibition game when following specific waiver criteria. Such publicized exhibition games have been positively received by the membership. Further, the proposal would allow student-athletes to prepare for regular-season competition in a game environment rather than behind closed doors. The determination of whether preseason scrimmages and exhibitions are closed or open to the public should be an institutional decision. Allowing competition against any collegiate opponent allows for the most flexibility, especially for Division I institutions located in remote locations. This request is for expedited legislation to give adequate notice for events to occur in fall 2025.
    - (4) Estimated budget impact. Minimal.
    - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative action.**
  - **Bylaw 17.4.5.2 Playing and Practice Seasons – Number of Contests – Maximum Limitations – Institutional – Qualifying Regular-Season Multiple-Team Event and Maximum Number of Contests – Women's Basketball.**

- (1) Action. The NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the June 2025 Division I pilot legislative process to limit an institution's total regular-season playing schedule with outside competition to 31 contests and eliminate the qualifying regular-season multiple-team event requirements.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. The opportunities to participate in multiple-team events have historically served college basketball well. However, the current multiple-team event criteria are challenging due to conference realignment and other concerns. Thus, a comprehensive review was conducted to determine what, if any, multiple-team event requirements should remain. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee developed several guiding principles to help it arrive at this proposal. Any legislation should: (1) Be enforceable; (2) Be legally defensible; (3) Be straightforward and easy to understand and to implement; and (4) Promote high-level quality nonconference contests. The oversight committee believes this concept meets all four guiding principles. In addition, the oversight committee supports the implementation of this legislation for the 2025-26 season so that all teams have the opportunity to compete in 31 contests.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Varies based on institutional decision-making.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Provides all women's basketball student-athletes the same number of regular season contests.

*\*Please see the March 25 joint report for an amendment to this proposal.*

2. **NCAA research update.** The oversight committee received an update regarding the data from the NCAA Transfer Portal for all sports and then specific to women's basketball. The data was specific to receipt of athletics at the next school, the percentage of women's basketball student-athletes who entered the transfer portal and enrollment status of those student-athletes. The oversight committee also received an update regarding the trends in Division I graduation rates in women's basketball. The data highlighted the continued academic success of women's basketball student-athletes.

**Approved interim policy and legislative priorities for the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee.** The oversight committee received an update on the interim policy and legislative priorities for the oversight committee, which were approved by the NCAA Division I Council Coordination Committee. The oversight committee will prioritize its work on the following items for the upcoming spring and summer:

- a. Legislative proposal for maximum contest limitations and discuss whether to extend the current multiple-team event blanket waiver;
  - b. Review of the preseason exhibition contests/practice scrimmages legislation;
  - c. Comprehensive review of Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons);
  - d. Evaluation of the Division I women's basketball recruiting calendar; and
  - e. Activation of regular-season basketball initiatives.
3. **2024-25 communications strategy for women's basketball.** The oversight committee received an overview of the communications strategy for this spring's championship. Specifically, strategies will be used to drive the following message priorities through earned and digital media:
  - a. Division I women's basketball is thriving, and the tournament is a premier U.S. sporting event.
  - b. The NCAA and member schools' investment in women's basketball is paying off.
  - c. Women's basketball performance funds.
  - d. Highlight the student-athlete championship experience.

The staff will develop and deploy tournament success strategies and use tactics ahead of and throughout the tournament, including the use of influential voices, onsite support at each round of the championship and media monitoring and rapid response efforts.
4. **NCAA enforcement update.** Due to time constraints, the oversight committee will address this agenda item at a future meeting.
5. **Update on the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Student-Athlete Engagement Group.** Due to time constraints, the oversight committee will address this agenda item at a future meeting.
6. **Update from the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee.** Due to time constraints, the oversight committee will address this agenda item at a future meeting.
7. **Update on the 2025 Women's Basketball Invitation Tournament.** Due to time constraints, the oversight committee will address this agenda item at a future meeting.
8. **2024-25 NCAA Division I women's basketball social media tour update.** Due to time constraints, the oversight committee will address this agenda item at a future meeting.

9. **Update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.** The oversight committee received an update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.
10. **Agenda items for future collaboration and communication with the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee.** Due to time constraints, the oversight committee will address this agenda item at a future meeting.
11. **Approval of the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee January 14, videoconference meeting report.** The oversight committee reviewed and approved its January 14, 2025, report.
12. **Future meeting schedule.**
  - May 8, 2025, videoconference.

*Committee Chair:* Kelly Barsky, University of California, Santa Barbara  
*Committee Vice Chair:* Terry Gawlik, University of Idaho  
*Staff Liaisons:* Meredith Cleaver, Women's Basketball  
Lynn Holzman, Women's Basketball  
Binh T. Nguyen, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee February 24, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Val Ackerman, Big East Conference.	
Ketra Armstrong, University of Michigan (nonvoting member).	
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.	
Ed McLaughlin, Virginia Commonwealth University.	
Julie Roe Lach, Horizon League.	
Jill Shields, Kansas State University.	
Drew Speraw, Western Athletic Conference.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Patricia Anumba, Towson State University (nonvoting member).	
Jacqueline Blackett, Columbia University – Barnard College.	
Lindy La Rocque, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.	
Kennedy Todd-Williams, University of Mississippi.	
Brooke Wyckoff, Florida State University.	

<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Meredith Cleaver, Lynn Holzman and Binh Nguyen.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Lynne Andrew, Lydia Bell, Jessie Carmack, Jenn Fraser, Haydyn Gibson, Khadian Harrison, Ken Huber, Gina Lehe, Kelsi Mahoney, Courtney Moore, Massillon Myers, Amy Reis, Rachel Seewald, Andy Supergan and Jared Tidemann.