

# REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE JANUARY 14, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

#### **ACTION ITEMS.**

None.

### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. NCAA vice president of women's basketball update. The NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an informational update on strategic initiatives and priorities related to women's basketball. Specifically, the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee reviewed and discussed the NCAA women's basketball strategic positioning that addresses the vision, value and commitment to women's basketball. The primary focus of the strategic positioning centers around the game, the championships and the brand to build on the student-athlete experience, the coaches and engagement with the women's basketball community. The oversight committee also received updates on the status of the 2025 Division I Women's Basketball Championship regionals and Final Four ticket sales, NCAA corporate champions and partners sponsorship updates and On Location fan hospitality experience sales. Additionally, the oversight committee received updates specific to other areas of interest surrounding the Division I Women's Basketball Championship, including but not limited to, security and inclusion plans. Finally, the oversight committee received a hiring update on the director of basketball administration, which is a newly created position recommended by the July 2024 internal basketball review. The director of basketball administration will oversee strategic alignment of quantitative key performance indicators, provide strategic financial guidance to senior management of the basketball business unit and lead preparation and support for the men's and women's basketball committees, among other responsibilities.
- 2. Update from the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update from the vice chair of the Division I Women's Basketball Committee. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee was updated on key topics from the most recent meeting. Specifically, the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee was updated on preparations for the 2025 Division I Women's Basketball Championship including regional round planning meetings and nonpredetermined site bid process for First Four, first and second rounds. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee also received a championship policy update noting that male practice players will be permitted to participate during the 2025 women's basketball championship, consistent with the application of male practice player legislation during the regular season. The membership will be provided with an educational document to provide clarification on the updated championship policy.

### 3. NCAA Division I legislative update.

- <u>Update on Proposal No. 2024-12 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Preseason Practice Scrimmages/Exhibition Contests -- Men's Basketball</u>. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update on the men's basketball proposal related to amending legislation specific to practice scrimmages and exhibition contests. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee recommended the importance of receiving feedback from the Women's Basketball Student-Athlete Engagement Group and the Sports Science Institute to inform discussions at future meetings. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee plans to introduce a legislative proposal into the June pilot legislative cycle.
- 4. Women's Basketball Coaches Association update. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update on key priorities and initiatives from the Women's Basketball Coaches Association. The WBCA hosted its inaugural showcase event in Orlando, Florida, in November. The showcase hosted a multiple-team event and two neutral site contests. In addition to the Orlando showcase event, the WBCA plans on hosting an additional event in Las Vegas, Nevada, in 2025. The 2025 WBCA Convention will be held in Tampa Bay, Florida, concurrent with the 2025 Women's Final Four. The WBCA highlighted programming focused on developing the next generation of women's basketball head coaches.
- 5. Approval of the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee December 5, videoconference meeting report. The oversight committee reviewed and approved its December 5, 2024, report.
- **6. NCAA research update.** Due to time constraints, the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee will receive this update at its February meeting.
- 7. Future meeting schedule.

• February 24, 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 January 14, 2025, Videoconference

### **Attendees:**

Val Ackerman, Big East Conference.

Ketra Armstrong, University of Michigan (nonvoting member).

Kelly Barsky, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Jacqueline Blackett, Columbia University – Barnard College.

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).

Kennedy Todd-Williams, University of Mississippi.

### **Guest(s)** in Attendance:

Mary Ellen Gillespie, Women's Basketball Coaches Association.

### NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Meredith Cleaver, Lynn Holzman and Binh Nguyen.

## Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Lynne Andrew, Connor Bush, Jenn Fraser, Khadian Kelly, Kelsi Mahoney, Courtney Moore, Massillon Myers, Rick Nixon, Amy Reis, Rachel Seewald and Jared Tidemann.