



**REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
JUNE 26-27, 2023, IN-PERSON MEETING**

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 update regarding the strategic initiatives and other important updates related to women's basketball from the NCAA vice president of women's basketball. It was noted that the NCAA digital and social team received an award from Hashtag Sports for overall social media excellence for its work on the 2022 NCAA Women's Basketball College Road trip. The oversight committee received an update regarding women's basketball staffing resources to ensure alignment with the strategic priorities and operations. A full-time assistant director is in the process of being hired to specifically support the new 32-team postseason invitation tournament that is being launched in spring 2024. In an addition, a contractor has been secured to support this event in its initial year. The oversight committee also received an update on the NCAA business review initiated by NCAA President Charlie Baker and an update on the women's basketball strategic plan goals and priorities noting that future intersection with presidential/leadership strategic priorities will be necessary. Lastly, an internal cross-functional group consisting of 30 departments has been launched to share updates on current and future initiatives related to women's basketball at quarterly meetings. It is expected that this group will enhance the internal collaboration and sharing of information more widely throughout the NCAA.

2. **Update on programming for women's basketball provided by the NCAA leadership development staff.** The oversight committee received an update on the programming for women's basketball that was conducted this past year focused on student-athletes, coaches and administrators. The Above the Rim Summit was held in conjunction with the 2023 Women's Final Four and is being conducted in lieu of the Elite Student-Athlete Symposium. This summit's goal is to prepare women's basketball student-athletes for professional athletics careers. The ARISE Mentoring Program was piloted this past year for three Historically Black colleges and universities and was created to expose student-athletes to professional career opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The program app was launched on February 6, 2022, and will be coupled with mentorship from diverse STEM executives. The Career in Sports Forum was hosted in June 2023 in Indianapolis and included 200 student-athletes, of which 43 were women's basketball student-athletes. This is an annual educational program that brings together selected NCAA student-athletes in all sports and in all divisions to learn about and explore potential careers in sports, particularly college athletics.

The Champion Forum for women's basketball and the Coaches Academy allows for a small group of coaches to spend a calendar year to build upon skills needed to advance in the coaching profession. Lastly, a partnership with the National Association of Athletic Development Directors (NAADD) was recently formed with the NCAA to offer a Foundations of Fundraising programming. With a focus on women and ethnic minorities, the Foundations of Development is designed to educate future leaders (interns, graduate assistants, development associates, etc.) in the field of development in intercollegiate athletics, so that it can be viewed as a viable career option with great advancement opportunity.

3. **Update from the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Student-Athlete Engagement Group.** The oversight committee received an update from student-athletes and NCAA staff who participated in the engagement activity during the 2023 NCAA Division I Women's Final Four. The 2023 pilot program consisted of 17 Division I women's basketball student-athletes, who participated in activities that explored careers in sports and provided behind-the-scenes access to the conduct and operation of the championship and ancillary activities. A survey was conducted among the participating student-athletes on their overall experience and the results were very positive. The oversight committee continues to support this program and encouraged that the program be made permanent. It is expected that this program will be conducted during the 2024 championship in Cleveland, Ohio.
4. **Update on the Division I women's basketball college road trip for the 2023-24 season.** The oversight committee received an update on the purpose and highlights for planned activities for the upcoming season. Specifically, the social media road trip was developed to increase awareness and build brand loyalty in women's basketball prior to the start of the season; to humanize the sport and to showcase diversity and inclusion. For this upcoming season, Autumn Johnson will return as the reporter with a focus on deeper storytelling. Further, content will be primarily shared on TikTok, which is the fastest growing platform for NCAA championships and big game matchups will continue to be targeted in order to share a program's story and success. Lastly, the oversight committee reviewed and provided feedback on the list of the 25 institutions initially identified to take part in the 2023 road trip.
5. **Update and discussion on Division I transfer issues.** The oversight committee received an update on four-year undergraduate transfer portal and waiver activity. Based on the data presented on the timing of entry of women's basketball student-athletes into the Transfer Portal, the oversight committee was generally supportive of shortening the window to close on either April 15 or May 1, while maintaining the current window open date of the day after championship selections. The oversight committee will explore this further to determine if it would like to request a concept be introduced into the next legislative cycle. With regard to waivers of the residency requirement for four-year college transfers, it was noted that a small number of waivers

have been submitted at this time and the majority have been denied. At the direction of the NCAA Division I Board of Directors, changes were made to the 2023-24 NCAA Division I Committee on Legislative Relief Information Standards, Guidelines and Directive to limit the types of transfer waivers that will be considered. The new waiver directives include guidance on physical injury/illness, mental health, exigent circumstance, and education disability. The oversight committee will continue to monitor waiver activity for women's basketball.

6. **Update on the work of the NCAA Division I Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee.** The oversight committee received an update from the Division I Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee related to concepts under consideration by this group. The concepts being reviewed that will impact women's basketball are professional opportunities before enrollment and after enrollment, use of agents and professional draft opportunities. The oversight committee will develop women's basketball specific concepts for future consideration.
7. **Women's Basketball Coaches Association update.** The oversight committee received an update that Coaches Plus has been launched by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association as a collection of documentaries that focus on student-athletes and coaches. In addition, the WBCA is exploring the creation of a multi-team events and nonconference matchups with the primary purpose of growing the game of women's basketball. It is anticipated that these events would begin in 2024.
8. **NCAA Media Rights Update.** The oversight committee received a media rights update.
9. **Officiating update.** Due to time constraints, the oversight committee will address this agenda item at its next meeting.
10. **NCAA College Basketball Academy for women's basketball.** Due to time constraints, the oversight committee will address this agenda item at its next meeting.
11. **Approval of Women's Basketball Oversight Committee April 18 and May 10 videoconference reports.** The oversight committee approved its April 18 and May 10 reports.
12. **Other business.** The oversight committee received an update on the pilot legislative process for sport oversight committees, including the bylaws included in this process and the timeline/deadlines for the various phases of the process.
13. **Future teleconferences.**
 - To be scheduled.

Committee Chair: David Harris, University of Northern Iowa
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 Meeting June 26-27, 2023 |
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| Attendees: |
| Patricia Anumgba, Towson State University (nonvoting member). |
| Ketra Armstrong, University of Michigan (nonvoting member). |
| Kelly Barsky, University of California, Santa Barbara. |
| Jackie Carson, Furman University. |
| Danielle Donehew, Women's Basketball Coaches Association (nonvoting member). |
| David Harris, University of Northern Iowa. |
| Kathy Meehan, St. John's University (New York). |
| Julie Roe Lach, Horizon League. |
| Jill Shields, Kansas State University (nonvoting member). |
| Brooke Wyckoff, Florida State University |
| Absentees: |
| Jamie Boggs, Grand Canyon University. |
| Rich Ensor, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference. |
| Irma Garcia, St. Francis College Brooklyn. |
| Darrice Griffin, University of Georgia. |
| Olivia Summiel, Virginia Tech University. |
| Guest(s) in Attendance: |
| Jeremiah Carter, University of Minnesota |
| NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance: |
| Meredith Cleaver, Lynn Holzman and Binh Nguyen. |
| Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance: |
| Lynne Andrew, Derrick Coles, Brandy Hataway, Mark Hicks, Khadian Kelly, Kelsi Mahoney, Victoria Lipscomb, Ty Medd, Jeremy McCool, DeeDee Merritt, Courtney Moore, Sandy Parrott, Susan Peal, Amy Reis and Rachel Seewald. |