



**REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I  
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
MAY 8, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee sponsored NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2025-2 for June pilot legislative cycle.** The NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Committees' recently introduced Proposal No. 2025-2 (Playing and Practice Seasons – Basketball – Maximum Number of Contests and Qualifying Regular-Season Multiple-Team Event Requirements) into the June 2025, Division I pilot legislative process to specify that an institution shall limit its total regular-season playing schedule with outside competition to 32 contests and to eliminate the legislated requirements for an institution to participate in a qualifying regular-season multiple-team event. On April 24, the Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Committees amended the proposal to eliminate the in-season foreign competition legislation in basketball.

On May 6 and May 8, respectively, the Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Committees took action to adopt Proposal No. 2025-2 as amended, effective August 1, 2026, for the 2026-27 basketball season. The proposal, pending NCAA Division I Council review, will be considered final after the conclusion of the council's June 24-25 meeting.

For the 2025-26 season, the maximum contest limit in men's and women's basketball is one of the following:

- a. Twenty-eight contests and one qualifying regular-season multiple-team event that does not exceed three contests per team;
- b. Twenty-nine contests and one qualifying regular-season multiple-team event that does not exceed two contests per team; or
- c. Twenty-nine contests and no participation in a qualifying regular-season multiple-team event.

Finally, in February 2025, a blanket waiver was issued for the 2025-26 basketball season providing relief of the MTE criteria specifying that participation in the event is limited, by conference to one team per conference and, by institution, to not more than once in the same event in any four years provided the remaining requirements of the MTE legislation are met. The blanket waiver was in place for the 2024-25 season and upon the recommendation of the Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Committees, was extended to the 2025-26 basketball season. The blanket waiver announcement is available [here](#).

2. **Referral from the NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group.** The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update on the work of the NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group and the referral for the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee to submit its desired composition in the new Division I governance structure. In 2024, NCAA Division I Board of Directors began discussing organization and priorities. Feedback from throughout the Division I membership and affiliate organizations indicated that the 10-year-old decision-making structure was not meeting needs and expectations. The board concluded that the current structure needs to be revised as it cannot keep up with threats and challenges. In January 2025, the board appointed a working group to develop a new way of making decisions in Division I. The Decision-Making Working Group developed a draft conceptual framework that maintains a single, national organization, which the board and working group concluded is crucial for the collective success of the membership and student-athletes. The working group framework reinforces the tie between college athletics and the academy, protects athletics opportunities and provides a sustainable environment for the board, working group and broader Division I membership priorities. The working group will meet June 12 to 13, to finalize its recommendations and the board anticipates acting on the recommendations on June 23.
3. **Review of Proposal No. 2025-1 Playing and Practice Seasons – Women's Basketball – Preseason Practice Scrimmages/Exhibition Contests.** The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee discussed Proposal No. 2025-1 Playing and Practice Seasons – Women's Basketball – Preseason Practice Scrimmages/Exhibition Contests, which permits, in women's basketball, institutions to play up to two preseason practice scrimmages and/or exhibition contests (or one of each) against four-year collegiate institutions before the first permissible contest date. The contests are permitted provided the contests do not occur at a prospective student-athlete's educational institution or a facility that is regularly used by student-athletes for practice or competition. In addition, the legislation eliminates 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 the prospective student-athletes in conjunction with such a scrimmage. The council adopted this proposal as expedited legislation at its April 2025 meeting. The council requested the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee engage in further discussion on preseason practice scrimmages and exhibition contests against two-year institutions, as originally proposed by Proposal No. 2025-1 before the council amended it. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee agreed to take no further action at this time to amend the adopted legislation to permit contests against two-year institutions and supported this concept's inclusion in a larger review of NCAA Division I two-year college legislation.
4. **Growth of Division I women's basketball.** The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an initial recap on this year's Division I championship and associated communications strategy for the 2024-25 season. Specifically, the Women's Basketball

Oversight Committee discussed the social media and communication objectives and the tactics used to highlight key aspects of the tournament. Video views and social media posts, impressions, engagements, link clicks and video views were up this season compared to last year. The communications strategy was also successful due to proactive efforts on key topics such as officiating and regional formats. Lastly, championship attendance, viewership and broadcast ratings saw record highs and continued the positive momentum from last year. It was noted that the Division I Women's Basketball Committee, in its role overseeing the championship, will engage in a comprehensive championship review and recap during its next few scheduled meetings.

5. **Update from the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee.** The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update from the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee. The Women's Basketball Committee meets next on May 21, and will conduct a joint videoconference with the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee on June 4. The Women's Basketball Committee will meet again June 17, to continue the recap of this past championship, discuss preparations for the 2026 championship, preliminary round format review, future site selection processes, team selection principles and procedures and other future considerations.
6. **Update from the NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee.** The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update from the most recent meeting of the NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee, which occurred on May 6 to 8, 2025. Specifically, the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee was updated on recommended changes for the 2025-26 season. All rule proposals must still be approved by the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel before becoming official. The panel is scheduled to discuss women's basketball rule change recommendations June 10. The following news article provides a summary of the recommended changes ([link](#)).
7. **NCAA enforcement update.** The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update on enforcement activities impacting women's basketball. Specifically, the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee discussed agent involvement with student-athletes and tampering. The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee was also updated on Division I coaches' attendance at certified events for April 2025.
8. **NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Student-Athlete Engagement Group.** Due to time constraints, the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee will address this agenda item at a future meeting.
9. **Update on the 2025 Women's Basketball Invitation Tournament.** Due to time constraints, the Women's Basketball Oversight Committee will address this agenda item at a future meeting.

- 10. NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee February 24 meeting report and March 25 meeting report.** The Women's Basketball Oversight Committee reviewed and approved its February 24 and March 25 meeting reports.

*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 May 8, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
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.	
Danielle Donehew, Women's Basketball Coaches Association (nonvoting member).	
Terry Gawlik, University of Idaho.	
Julie Roe Lach, Horizon League.	
Ed McLaughlin, Virginia Commonwealth University.	
Jill Shields, Kansas State University.	
Drew Speraw, Western Athletic Conference.	
Brooke Wyckoff, Florida State University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Patricia Anumba, Towson State University (nonvoting member).	
Amanda Braun, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (nonvoting member).	
Brent Jones, Troy University.	
Lindy La Rocque, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.	
Kennedy Todd-Williams, University of Mississippi.	
<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, Connor Bush, Jessie Carmack, Jenn Fraser, Khadian Harrison, Ken Huber, Kelsi Mahoney, Courtney Moore, Massillon Myers, Rachel Seewald, Andy Supergan and Jared Tidemann.	