



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE
JUNE 23-24, 2026, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

a. 2027 NCAA Convention Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.1 – Division II Championships Administration -- Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships -- Establish a Division II Men’s Volleyball Championship.

- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2027 NCAA Convention to establish a Division II Men’s Volleyball Championship and approve the sport-specific legislative changes outlined in Attachment A; further, to establish an NCAA Division II Men’s Volleyball Committee.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate for establishing the committee. The Division II Men’s Volleyball Committee would begin its work immediately to prepare for the first NCAA Division II Men’s Volleyball Championship to occur in spring 2029 in accordance with the National Collegiate championships stability policy that requires a division-specific championship created from an existing National Collegiate championship to be conducted after two National Collegiate championships have occurred. The legislative changes would be effective for the 2028-29 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. The recommendation is based on membership survey results indicating strong support for establishing a Division II-specific championship from the existing National Collegiate championship. Those results indicated that among those whose institutions sponsor men’s volleyball, there is a strong preference for competing in and winning a Division II championship as opposed to a National Collegiate championship. As of the 2025-26 academic year, 36 Division II institutions sponsor men’s volleyball, and that number is expected to reach 44 the following year. The Division II Legislation Committee recommended sport-specific legislation as outlined in the attachment, which the Championships Committee supported.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. \$555,000 (\$543,000 to establish the championship and \$12,000 for the committee). \$15,000 would be allocated in FY28 for initial championship planning expenses and the remaining \$540,000 would be added to the base budget for FY29 in the first year of the championship. (The recommendation to fund the championship requires review by the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, which next meets in August.)
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation will enhance the opportunity for Division II student-athletes in men’s volleyball to compete for a national championship.

b. Noncontroversial legislation -- Various Bylaws -- National Collegiate Sport Committee Composition.

(1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend the National Collegiate sport committees' composition as specified in Attachment B.

(2) Effective date. Aug. 1, 2027.

(3) Rationale. Due to Division I adopting changes in 2025 that gave all sport committees, including National Collegiate sport committees, more authority to determine their composition and duties, a cross-divisional review was requested regarding divisional representation on National Collegiate sport committees. After considering the results of this review, the Championships Committee supports the Management Council adopting noncontroversial legislation to accommodate the changes outlined in Attachment B.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Divisional representation on National Collegiate sport committees.

(1) Recommendation. That the Division II championships policies and procedures be updated outlining the revised policies regarding divisional representation on National Collegiate sport committees that:

- Maintain divisional representation proportional to each division's level of sport sponsorship;
- Allow flexibility for anticipated growth or changes that may affect committee size;
- Consider sport-specific characteristics and unique needs when determining composition; and
- Reaffirm that all divisions should have access to representation when there is at least one member sponsoring the sport.

(2) Effective date. Aug. 1, 2027.

(3) Rationale. In addition to the legislative action above regarding National Collegiate sport committee composition, the Division II Championships Committee reviewed recommendations to revise current policies to further protect divisional representation and oversight thereof related to National Collegiate sport committees.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Division II championships ticket prices.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve an updated ticket pricing model for Division II championships, as specified in Attachment C.
- (2) Effective date. 2026-27 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. The recommended model is the result of a comprehensive, data-driven analysis and establishes a normalized pricing framework for soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, women's volleyball, baseball, and softball. These sport's recommended ticket minimums are set using a consistent, format-based approach tied to tournament round, number of event days, and games per day. Football and basketball are priced outside the group framework to best reflect historically higher demand and price points, while still adhering to the same data-driven pricing principles. All proposed minimums are grounded in historical purchasing behavior, while also creating revenue upside and minimizing disruption to fan expectations.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None to the Division II budget or host institutions.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

c. Women's bowling championship bracket increase.

- (1) Recommendation. Increase the bracket for the Division II Women's Bowling Championship from eight to 10 teams.
- (2) Effective date. 2028 championship.
- (3) Rationale. With the adoption of a Division II Women's Bowling Championship, the Championships Committee previously discussed which championship policy takes precedence when in conflict – the access ratio policy or the automatic qualification (no more than 60% of the bracket) policy. The committee opted for the latter and referred a discussion about increasing the bracket size and its budget impact to the newly established Division II Women's Bowling Committee for review. Because the inaugural championship in 2028 will have five automatic qualifying conferences, adding two teams to the previously approved eight-team bracket will ensure 50% of the bracket is reserved for at-large selection.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None. Previously approved funds (\$300,000) for establishing the championship can absorb this bracket increase.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The increased bracket will provide additional opportunities for student-athletes to compete in the championship.

d. Men's and women's golf championships date formula adjustment.

- (1) Recommendation. Adjust the men's and women's championships date formulas as follows:

Women's golf

- Automatic qualification deadline – Seven days before the practice day of regional competition;
- Selection day – Six days before the practice day of regional competition;
- Regionals – Two weeks prior to the finals (Monday-Wednesday); and
- Finals – Second full week of May (Sunday-Saturday), with competition conducted Monday-Friday.

Men's golf

- Automatic qualification deadline – 12 days before the practice day of regional competition (no change);
- Selection day – 10 days before the practice day of regional competition (no change);
- Regionals – Two weeks prior to finals (Monday-Wednesday); and
- Finals – Third full week of May (Sunday-Saturday), with competition conducted Monday-Friday.

- (2) Effective date. Sept. 1, 2028, for the 2029 championships.

- (3) Rationale. The current date formulas present challenges for programs with coaches who oversee both men's and women's golf teams. They also present challenges related to course availability, particularly for men's regionals conducted Thursday through Saturday, as many facilities have greater availability earlier in the week (Monday through Wednesday). The proposed date formula aims to address these concerns by aligning both men's and women's regionals to a Monday-Wednesday format, scheduled two weeks prior to their respective championships. The women's finals would remain in the second full week of May but shift to a Monday-Friday competition window, while the men's finals would continue in the third full week of May. This structure provides greater consistency, improves course availability, and allows for more manageable travel and preparation timelines.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. The recommended modifications should positively impact future budgets. Course fees are generally less expensive for weekday play opposed to weekend play. This proposed date formula would not incur more costs than the current formula.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation is expected to improve the student-athlete experience by reducing travel strain on their coaches, and in turn allowing adequate time for practice rounds and preparation. Additionally, the revised format allows coaches who oversee both men's and women's golf programs to attend each team's regional competition from the practice round to completion, supporting a more consistent and equitable experience for student-athletes across both programs.

e. Men's and women's soccer – nullification for failing to properly serve a games suspension.

- (1) Recommendation. Apply nullification in the event a coach or student-athlete fails to serve a game suspension earned through card accumulation. This penalty would be in addition to the upgraded suspension penalties outlined in the playing rules.

- (2) Effective date. 2026 championship.

- (3) Rationale. While the playing rules provide upgraded game suspension penalties for failing to properly serve game suspensions from card accumulation, there is currently no impact at the time of selections for teams that may fail to serve card accumulation suspensions during the regular season. The committee believes it is appropriate to apply some form of penalty at the time of selections, and that the current nullification process is an adequate penalty.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes on a team that plays ineligible players due to card accumulation will have their NPI impacted at selections which may change seeding or inclusion in the tournament.

f. In-region, nonconference opponent requirement.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the in-region, nonconference opponent requirements by sport listed below.

Sport	Minimum in-region, nonconference opponent requirement
Baseball	6
Men's Basketball	1
Women's Basketball	1
Field Hockey	1
Football	1 nonconference contest (no in-region requirement)
Men's Lacrosse	1
Women's Lacrosse	1
Men's Soccer	2
Women's Soccer	2
Softball	6

Men's Tennis	1
Women's Tennis	1
Women's Volleyball	2

Note: Women's rowing is exempt from this requirement due to its current sponsorship and geographic distribution. No conferences currently meet the six-team requirement to officially sponsor the sport. Additionally, rowing is not using NPI for selections due to its unique needs.

- (2) Effective date. 2027-28 academic year. (Note: The committee agreed that contracts signed prior to the effective date would be considered favorably through a waiver process.)
- (3) Rationale. The Championships Committee during its February meeting determined that some level of in-region, nonconference opponent commitment is important and asked sport committees for feedback regarding their preferred number. Based on that feedback, the Championships Committee supports the recommendations listed in the chart.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Regan McAthie welcomed the group and previewed key agenda items and reviewed the schedule of presenters and guests.
- 2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its May 7 videoconference as presented.
- 3. **Committee updates.**
 - a. **Management Council/Executive Board summary of actions.** The committee reviewed highlights from the Management Council and Executive Board meetings in April as information.
 - b. **Membership Committee.** The committee received an update from the Membership Committee that included Azusa Pacific's application to transition to Division III and West Florida's application to Division I being accepted. In addition, the merger between Ursuline and Gannon was completed and as of now does not impact either's Division II status. The Membership Committee, during its upcoming meeting in July, will continue reviewing minimum requirements for a conference and will likely determine a final policy recommendation/legislative change to streamline the process and realign the deadlines for applications. The committee also will be discussing minimum contest and participant requirements for acrobatics and tumbling.

c. Nominating Committee.

(1) Sport committee appointments. The Championships Committee approved the following sport committee appointments, effective Sept. 1 unless otherwise specified:

- **NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee** (July 1 vacancy) – **James Rice**, head women's basketball coach, Benedict College, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Men's Golf Committee** – **E. Lee Coble**, assistant athletics director for student-athlete academic support/head golf coach, Virginia Union University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
- **NCAA Division II Women's Golf Committee** – **Andrew Bonner**, associate athletics director for operations and communications, Montana State University Billings, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Women's Lacrosse Committee** (immediate vacancy) – **Abby Wiley**, head women's lacrosse coach/associate director of athletics/senior woman administrator, Wingate University, South Atlantic Conference.
- **NCAA Men's and Women's Skiing Committee** – **Andy Keller**, head Nordic ski coach, Northern Michigan University, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Men's Soccer Committee** – **Jim Glovach**, associate athletics director for compliance, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Softball Committee** (immediate vacancy) – **JaeLynn Ellison**, senior associate athletics director/senior woman administrator, William Jewell College, Great Lakes Valley Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee** – **Chris Bizot**, head tennis coach, The University of Texas at Tyler, Lone Star Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee** – **Pamela Donnelly**, senior associate athletics director/senior woman administrator/deputy Title IX coordinator, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California Collegiate Athletic Association.

(2) Playing rules committee appointments. The Championships Committee approved the following playing rules committee appointments, effective Sept. unless otherwise specified.

- **NCAA Divisions II and III Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Rules Committee** – **Roland Whiting**, director of track and field/cross

county operations/head men's and women's track coach, Lincoln University (Pennsylvania), Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

- **NCAA Divisions II and III Women's Volleyball Rules Committee – Megan Sanger**, associate commissioner for conference programming and compliance/senior woman administrator, South Atlantic Conference.
- d. **Divisions II and III Playing Rules Oversight Panel.** The committee reviewed reports from the panel's recent meetings as information.
 - e. **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** Sean Belzer updated the committee on the SAAC's April meeting and previewed its July meeting that includes the annual summit with the Division II Management Council.
4. **Budget review.** As it does every meeting, the committee reviewed whether the agenda includes any items with a potential budget impact and noted those items accordingly.
- a. **Budget-to-actuals.** The committee reviewed championships budget-to-actuals for the 2025-26 fiscal year through May, noting that not all expenses from spring championships have been finalized.
 - b. **Division II long-range budget.** The committee revisited the long-range budget allocation for championships and the various funding sources that includes a new "true-up" process that more accurately allocates dollars to budget lines.
 - c. **2027-30 triennial budget requests.** The committee continued deliberating requests for the 2027-30 budget cycle by reviewing both the general items that apply to all sports (e.g., officials fees, streaming enhancements, signage, banquets) as well as specific requests from Division II sport committees [See Attachment D]. The committee revisited items for which it had requested additional information as well. The committee will finalize recommendations during its August and September meetings for the Division II Management Council and Executive Board to formally consider in the fall.
5. **Sport committee reports.**
- a. **Men's basketball.** The committee reviewed the men's basketball committee's annual meeting report as information.
 - b. **Women's basketball.** The committee reviewed the women's basketball committee's annual meeting report as information. One item of note is the 2028 championship game will be played as part of the joint championship with the Women's Final Four at the James T. Morris Arena on the campus of Indiana University Indianapolis.
 - c. **Men's and women's basketball.** The Championships Committee reviewed the basketball committees' joint meeting reports as information, noting that the committees support continuing the joint championship format and will be developing bid specifications accordingly for the next cycle.

d. **Women's bowling.**

- **Bracket expansion.** The Championships Committee supported the women's bowling committee's recommendation to increase the championship bracket size from eight to 10 teams effective with the 2028 championship. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2c.)

e. **Men's golf.**

- **2028 finals site.** The committee approved Maryville University of Saint Louis and the St. Louis Sports Commission to host the 2028 Division II Men's Golf Championships at the Persimmon Woods Golf Club.

f. **Women's golf.**

- **2028 finals site.** The committee approved Findlay University to host the 2028 Division II Women's Golf Championships at the Nemacolin Country Club in Farmington, PA.

g. **Men's and women's golf.**

- **Championship date formula.** The committee supported the golf committees' proposal to adjust the championships date formulas, as specified. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2d.)

h. **Men's and women's soccer.**

- **Nullification for failing to properly serve a game suspension.** The committee supported the recommendation from the soccer committees to apply nullification in the event a coach or student-athlete fails to serve a game suspension earned through card accumulation. The soccer committees reasoned that while the playing rules provide upgraded game suspension penalties for failing to properly serve game suspensions from card accumulation, there is currently no impact at the time of selections for teams that may fail to serve card accumulation suspensions during the regular season. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2e.)

i. **Men's and women's swimming and diving.** The committee reviewed the report from the swimming and diving committee's annual meeting as information.

j. **Men's wrestling.**

- (1) **2028 super regional sites.** The committee approved the following regional sites for the 2028 Division II Men's Wrestling Championships.

Super Region	Host	Facility
One	Fairmont State	Feaster Center
Two	UNC - Pembroke	English E. Jones Center
Three	Glenville State	Waco Center
Four	Central Missouri	Jerry M. Hughes Athletics Center

Five	UW - Parkside	De Simone Arena
Six	Colorado Mesa	Brownson Arena

(2) 2026-27 super regional alignment. The committee approved the recommendation to place two newly sponsoring institutions (Northeastern University and University of Jamestown) into super regions as noted in Attachment E.

- k. **Supplemental sport committee reports.** The committee reviewed additional reports from sport committees that required no action to be taken.

6. Additional discussion items.

- a. **Division II championship ticket prices.** The committee during its February meeting was briefed regarding the data-informed review of championships ticket prices being conducted and asked to review a potential standardized pricing model to compare with the minimum pricing approach that had been proposed for 2026-27. The committee subsequently reviewed and appreciated the consistency of the standardized pricing model and agreed to forward that as its preference for the Division II Management Council to consider during its April meeting. After reviewing positive feedback from the council, the committee during this meeting agreed to adopt the model specified in Nonlegislative Action Item 2b.
- b. **NPI implementation.** The committee reviewed and approved NPI dial recommendations from sport committees for men's and women's basketball as reflected in the [NPI Division II Weights, FAQ and Guide](#). The committee also reviewed the established NPI education and implementation timeline.
- c. **Potential Division II Men's Volleyball Championship.** Based on results from a membership survey to determine interest in establishing a Division II Men's Volleyball Championship, the committee formally recommended that the Management Council sponsor legislation for the 2027 Convention. (See Legislative Action Item 1a). The first championship would take place in spring 2029 if adopted by the membership.
- d. **National Collegiate sport committee review.** The committee received an update regarding the composition and duties of sport committees that oversee and administer National Collegiate championships. The review was initiated because of changes to the Division I governance structure that provide sport committees greater autonomy of the legislation and policies that affect the sport and championship. After discussion, the committee supported the Management Council adopting noncontroversial legislation to accommodate the recommended changes to National Collegiate sport committee composition as specified in Legislative Action Item 1b. The committee also approved recommended updates to the committee's policies and procedures regarding divisional representation on National Collegiate sport committees as specified in Nonlegislative Action Item 2a.

The committee also offered supportive feedback on a concept to permit National Collegiate sport committees to recommend divisional appointments subject to approval by Division II/III Championships Committee. Nominations would still be submitted through the NCAA committee administration process. National Collegiate committees would review nominations and make recommendations for vacancies, subject to the divisional representation policy. Division II/III recommendations would go directly to the respective Championships Committee for approval (e.g., the DII/DIII Nominating Committee would no longer be involved in the process). The Division II Nominating Committee also supported this approach.

- e. **Regionalization/bracketing review.** The committee continued its extensive review of regionalization and bracketing principles. During its February meeting, the committee reaffirmed its support for the stated principles and asked staff to keep preparing/testing brackets across all Division II team sports for consideration and continued refinement of the process. Accordingly, staff conducted tests in two sports – women's soccer and volleyball – using the bracketing principles.

As a reminder, the bracketing principles the committee previously agreed upon are:

- The host institution should remain the No. 1 seed at the site, even if not ultimately the highest-ranked team at the site;
- In baseball and softball, which are double elimination tournaments, the conference matchup analysis should focus solely on the first contest played;
- Teams should cross no more than two time zones; and
- Competitive balance should remain a principle, but last in the order (e.g., avoiding first-round conference matchups and minimizing flights will take priority).

Staff walked the committee through its mock bracketing exercise to demonstrate the process for committee visibility and asked for feedback on key questions that have arisen during testing.

That feedback included continuing to support awarding the top seed in each region the right to host, even if a higher NPI ranked, out of region team is moved into their region. The committee also agreed that in instances where a higher ranked team is moved into a region, the host will no longer be the No. 1 seed but will retain the right to host. In addition, the committee agreed that in cases where a No. 1 seed is moved out of its region because it is unable to host, that team would retain its No. 1 seed wherever it is moved, which is a change from the first principle bulleted above.

Other points on which the committee agreed were to, for the purposes of applying the time zone principle, consider institutions in Alaska and Hawaii as being in the Pacific time zone for increased flexibility, and, limit the avoiding conference matchups principle to the actual

first round of the championship rather than as the first competition for each participating team (i.e., teams with byes would not be guaranteed to not face a conference opponent).

The committee also discussed, albeit inconclusively, how competitive balance among the sites should be applied during the bracketing process, noting that while it is likely feasible to protect the top eight seeds until the quarterfinal rounds, competitive balance across all sites may conflict with the higher priority principles (i.e., minimize the number of flights and teams not crossing more than two time zones).

Staff will continue building mock-bracketing samples that incorporate committee feedback for consideration at future meetings.

- f. **In-region, nonconference opponent requirement feedback.** The committee continued weighing whether some level of nonconference competition across all sports should be required by reviewing feedback the committee requested from sport committees regarding their preferred number (it must be at least one) and the date the requirement should be effective. Based on that feedback and further committee discussion, the committee recommended the requirements specified in Nonlegislative Action Item 2f.
- g. **Review of winter championship misconduct issues.** The committee noted there were four misconduct cases from the winter championships, two in men's basketball and two in men's wrestling. Staff provided an overview of the situations and the sport committees' decisions to issue private reprimands in all four instances. The Championships Committee supported those decisions as being appropriate.
- h. **Automatic qualification recommendations.** The committee approved AQ recommendations for 2026-27 for baseball, men's basketball, women's basketball, field hockey, football, men's golf, women's golf, men's lacrosse, women's lacrosse, men's soccer, women's soccer, softball, men's tennis, women's tennis, and women's volleyball as specified in Attachment F.
- i. **Championships education.** The committee reviewed a potential championships education plan via the Division II University platform for the membership regarding selections and other championship information given the adoption of NPI (i.e., the current team sport selection module is irrelevant now). The committee agreed to retain the modules regarding regionalization and sport-specific education from championship managers, and to sunset modules regarding championships selection for team and individual sports. As for potential future education, the committee supported developing education on the new Division II and Division III playing rules process, providing additional NPI education, utilizing the new committee member orientation module, and adding championship-specific modules.

7. Staff updates.

- a. **Legal.** The committee heard from the NCAA's legal counsel regarding litigation affecting the NCAA overall and Division II in particular.

- b. **Winter and spring championships social media and ESPN+ update.** Staff provided an overview of the winter and spring championship social media analytics as well as the ESPN+ viewership numbers from basketball.
- c. **Hudl/NCAA.com streaming analytics.** Staff provided an overview of the broadcast analytics from the championships streamed on ncaa.com and the Hudl partnership.
- d. **Community engagement.** Jill Willson joined the meeting via videoconference and summarized the successful events that took place during the winter and spring championships.
- e. **Division II Connection.** Ms. Willson also updated the committee on the ongoing success of the Division II Connection program that has been expanded to include connections with faculty athletics representatives and athletic trainers.

8. **Committee operations.**

- a. **2026-27 sport assignments.** Committee members reviewed their sport assignments for the coming year and noted those who are interested in filling vacancies (including those for the PROP liaison and the appeals subcommittee) should notify staff by August 1.
- b. **Committee chair election.** The committee elected Terry Beattie from West Chester to succeed Regan McAthie as chair for 2026-27 when Ms. McAthie's term on the committee ends Aug. 31.
- c. **Recognition of outgoing members.** Committee members expressed their sincere gratitude to outgoing members Neil Duval and Cade Smith for their contributions during their terms on the committee. While the committee will have one more videoconference in August before their terms officially expire at the end of that month, the committee wanted to acknowledge their impact in person. The committee also acknowledged the enormous impact that Regan McAthie has made as chair during her term and thanked her for her service as well.

9. **Future meetings and videoconferences.**

- Thursday, August 6, 2-4 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
- Sept. 14-15 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis)
- Feb. 16-17, 2027 (meeting via videoconference).
- June 29-30, 2027 (meeting via videoconference).

Committee Chair:	Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul
Staff Liaison(s):	Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances
	Micaela Kapsalis, Championships and Alliances
	Chelsea Hooks, Division II Governance and Member Services

Division II Championships Committee June 23-24, 2026, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Sean Belzer, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Ben Cherry, California State University, San Marcos (Management Council chair).	
Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.	
Neil Duval, Saint Anselm College.	
Rebekah Gasner, Montana State University Billings.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Ahleasha McNeal, Lincoln Memorial University.	
Emma Neal, Maryville University of Saint Louis.	
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University (Management Council vice chair).	
Christina Paone, Walsh University.	
Jay Poerner, Lone Star Conference.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
Stan Wagon, University of Central Oklahoma.	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor (via videoconference).	
Jill Willson, Double L Consulting (via videoconference).	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Chelsea Hooks, Micaela Kapsalis and Karen Kirsch.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Lynne Andrew, Mitchell Bailey, Eric Breece, Donisha Carter, Zach Christopher, Lindsey Eldred, Nate Flannery, Terri Steeb Gronau, Ty Halpin, Leslie Havens, Cara Hubert, Maritza Jones (via videoconference), Jordan Lysiak, Maya McEwen, Katie Mucci, Angela Red, Jennifer Roe (via videoconference), Mikayla Rudolph, CJ Sowards, Liz Suscha (via videoconference), and Jared Tidemann.	

Men's Volleyball

Sport Specific Review –
Legislation Committee
Recommendation



Men's Volleyball Playing and Practice Season



- Align men's volleyball with all other spring sports, other than track and field -- championship and nonchampionship segments.

	Championship	Nonchampionship
Practice	January 10 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.	September 7 or the institution's fourth day of classes.
Competition	February 1.	September 7 or the institution's fourth day of classes.
Conclusion	Division II Men's Volleyball Championship.	November 15.

Men's Volleyball Playing and Practice Season – Cont'd



- Out-of-season and nonchampionship segment athletically related activities:
 - Weight training, conditioning and/or team activities on September 7 or the institution's fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
 - Nonchampionship segment -- CARA during a 45-consecutive day period.
- Discretionary exemptions.

National Collegiate Championship Committee Review

1

Background

- In August 2025, the Division I Board of Directors approved governance changes to simplify the structure, increase student-athlete representation, and give sport-specific committees more authority.
- Acknowledging the impact on sports sponsored at the National Collegiate Championship level, the Division I Decision-Making Working Group included a recommendation that a cross-divisional review be conducted of the current composition standards and duties of the National Collegiate Championship committees.
- This work began in late-February with an internal group of NCAA staff from both the governance and member services and championships staff representing all three divisions.

2

Data and Resources

The following resources were used in conducting the review:



- Division I Decision-Making Working Group Report.
- Current composition for all NCC.
- Sport sponsorship data by division.
- Current NCC committee duties and Division I Sport Oversight Committee duties.
- NCC committee liaisons
- Coordination with staff supporting filling committee vacancies and the Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact.

3

National Collegiate Championships

Men	Men and Women	Women's
• Fencing • Gymnastics • Volleyball (I and II) • Water Polo	• Rifle • Skiing	• Acrobatics and Tumbling • Beach Volleyball • Bowling* • Fencing • Flag Football* • Gymnastics • Ice Hockey (I and II) • Stunt • Water Polo • Wrestling*

*Effective 2027-28, Flag Football (if adopted January 2027), Bowling (I and III) and Women's Wrestling (I and II).

4

Summary of Legislative Recommendations

Summary of Legislative Recommendations.

- Committees may include nonvoting members as determined by the committee (e.g., coaches association representative, secretary rules editor and national coordinator of officials).
- Add a Division I student-athlete as a non-voting member.
- Guarantee Division I autonomy conference representation when the conference sponsors a sport at the conference level which will count within the existing Division I representation requirements.

5

Nonvoting Members

To include nonvoting members as determined by the committee (e.g., coaches association representative, secretary rules editor and national coordinator of officials).

- Considerations:
 - Nonvoting members will not be included in:
 - Selection of teams and individuals;
 - Selection of nonpredetermined sites;
 - Bracket and field determinations (e.g., assignment of seeds, pairings, field/draw assignment);
 - Institutional and individual eligibility questions concerning championship selections; and
 - Misconduct and failure to adhere to policies and procedures.
 - Committee budgets will not be modified based on the addition of nonvoting members.

6

Division I Student-Athlete Participation

Adding a Division I student-athlete as a non-voting member.

- Considerations:
 - Division II and III student-athletes have representation on their respective championships and other governance committees within their governance structure.
 - Aligns with current Division I student-athlete on sport oversight committees.
 - Committees are always expected to engage with their divisional SAACs on legislative issues.
 - Committees are encouraged to engage with divisional SAACs on championship administrative issues that serve and contribute to the student-athlete championship experience.
 - Committees have the ability to use NCAA research/Teamworks or other survey mechanisms for broader sport-specific student-athlete feedback.

7

Division I Autonomy Conference Representation

To specifying that when a Division I autonomy conference sponsors a sport at the conference level, representation on the committee must be guaranteed and will count within existing the divisional representation requirements.

- Considerations:
 - The guaranteed autonomy seat will be included as one of the existing seats for Division I representation and is not intended to be an additional seat or take a seat designated for Division II or III representation.
 - When an autonomy conference sponsorship is new, the guaranteed appointment will occur at the next opportunity of attrition on the committee of a Division I member.

8

Autonomy Conference Sponsorship



Women's Gymnastics – ACC, Big 10, Big 12, SEC



Men's Gymnastics – Big 10



Fencing – ACC



Beach – *Big 12 is entering year two of the two year waiting period for the 2026-27 academic year.

9

Action

- The Division II Championships Committee **recommends** noncontroversial legislation, effective August 1, 2027, to amend the composition of the National Collegiate Championship Committees, as specified.
- The Division II Championships Committee **does not recommend** noncontroversial legislation.

10

National Collegiate Committee Duties

Division I Cabinet Policy Recommendation.

- The Division I Cabinet will consider a policy change to the current committee duties to allow them to have the final authority on specified championship administration duties.
 - For example:
 - Changes to championship policies and procedures.
 - Authority for championship administration.
 - Championship predetermined site selection.
 - Championship site selection principles.
 - Squad size and bench/sideline limits.
 - Assignment of officials.
 - Approval of AQ conferences.
 - Format of competition.
 - AQ policies and requirements, waivers.

11

Recommendation – Divisional Representation

Divisions I, II and III Policy Recommendation. Recommend that policies for filling National Collegiate Championship Committee vacancies be updated to consider the following when filling committee vacancies:

- Maintain divisional representation proportional to each division's level of sport sponsorship.
- Allow flexibility for anticipated growth or changes that may affect committee size.
- Consider sport-specific characteristics and unique needs when determining composition.
- All divisions should have access to representation, regardless of the level divisional sponsorship when there is at least one member sponsoring.

12

Action

- The Division II Championships Committee **recommends** updating Division II Championships Committee policies and procedures related to divisional representation on National Collegiate Championship committees, effective August 1, 2027, as specified.
- The Division II Championships Committee **does not recommend** policy changes related to divisional representation on National Collegiate Championship committees.

13

Committee Vacancies - Feedback

- **Concept for Feedback:** Permit National Collegiate Committees to recommend divisional appointments subject to approval by Division II/III Championships Committee.
 - Nominations would still be submitted through the NCAA committee administration process.
 - National Collegiate Committees would review nominations and make recommendations for vacancies, subject to the divisional representation policy.
 - Division II/III recommendations would go directly to the respective Championships Committee for approval (e.g., DII/DIII Nominating Committee would not be involved in the process).

14



Executive summary

- **In efforts to generate more revenue and more accurately price DII / DIII events**, we have created specific recommendations for 2026-27 minimum ticket prices
- We created a **normalized pricing framework for Soccer, Lacrosse, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Baseball and Softball**
 - These sport's recommended ticket minimums are set using a **consistent, format-based approach tied to tournament round, number of event days, and games per day**
- **Football and Basketball are priced outside the group framework** to best reflect historically higher demand and price points, while still adhering to the same data-driven pricing principles
- Fan-aligned execution: All proposed minimums are **grounded in historical purchasing behavior, while also creating revenue upside and minimizing disruption to fan expectations**

Rationale for minimum single and all-session proposed prices for Soccer, Lacrosse, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Softball and Baseball



Minimum ticket pricing proposal:
\$15 Single Session, \$25 All-Session

Rationale:

1. **Current pricing baseline:** The weighted average ticket price across these sports in the 2024–25 seasons ranges from approximately **\$8–\$11**
2. **Data-informed minimums:** Proposed minimum prices are grounded in **historical weighted averages and observed highest prices paid**, ensuring alignment with consumer willingness to pay
3. **Single-session events:** **A \$15 single-session minimum** is proposed for events with only one session, reflecting the full-value nature of a standalone game day
4. **Multi-day / multi-game events:** **\$15 single-session** and **\$25 all-session** structure is proposed for events spanning **multiple days or games** to best capture total event value
 - The **\$25 all-session price represents ~17% \$30**, which would be the price of two single-session tickets
5. **Revenue upside with limited fan impact:** This strategy increases DII ticket revenue while remaining aligned with current fan purchasing behavior

We recommend the following minimum ticket prices for Football, Men's & Women's Basketball



Sport	Round	New Minimum Ticket Price Proposed (\$)
Football	First, Second Round, Quarterfinals and Semifinals	\$20
Basketball	Regionals	\$16 for a single session \$38 for all-session

We recommend \$16 for Men's and Women's Basketball single sessions, and \$38 for all – session tickets



Minimum ticket pricing proposal:

\$16 Single Session

\$38 for DII Regionals

Rationale:

- 1. Anchored in current behavior:** Weighted average single-session prices for Regionals are clustered around **\$14–\$15**, indicating fans are already purchasing at or near the proposed **\$16 minimum**
- 2. Premium all-session Regionals:** Regional all-session tickets span **three days of competition**, a premium offering with demonstrated demand and willingness to pay (with maximum ticket prices paid at \$50 – 52)
 - The proposed **\$38 all-session price** for DII Regionals represents approximately **80% of the implied value of three \$16 single-session tickets**

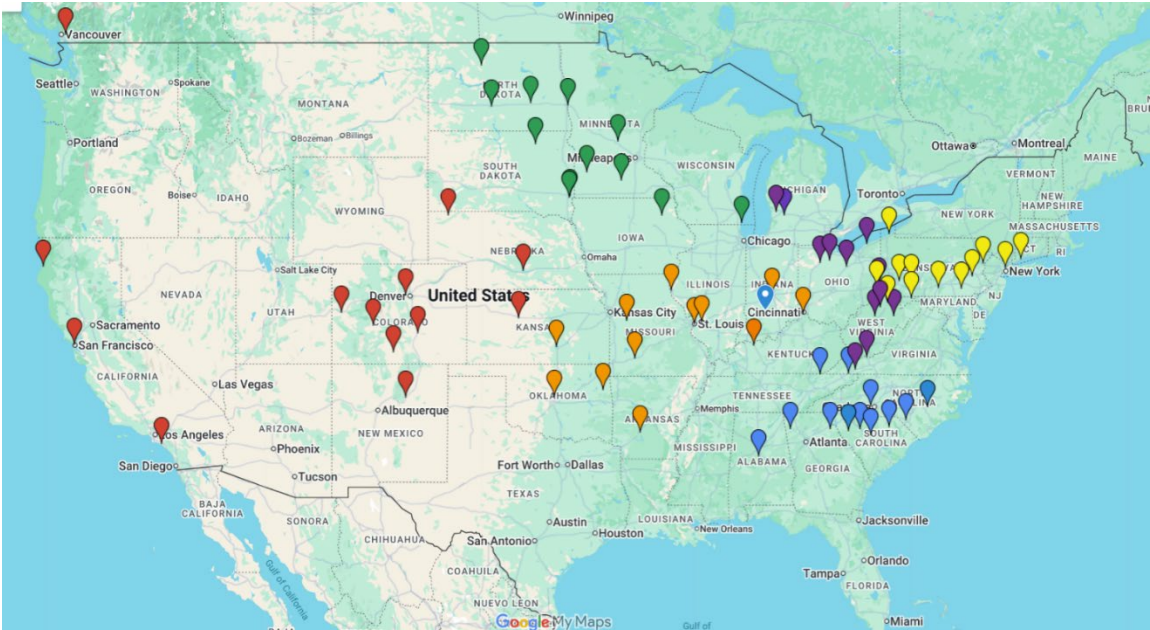
Sport	Description	Budgetary Impact
General - All DII Championships	Provide patches to all members of the travel party (currently squad size only)	\$ 6,700
General - All DII Championships	Amend trophy allocation to award in a celebratory moment and create consistency across sports	\$ 27,000
General - All DII Championships	Increase officiating fees 5%	\$ 38,000
General - All DII Championships	Signage increase for all sports (20%)	\$ 46,000
General - All DII Championships	Reduce mileage for flights for officials from 500 to 400, except football 1st/2nd rounds	\$ 50,000
General - All DII Championships	Increase officiating fees 7%	\$ 53,000
General - All DII Championships	Provide participant medallions to all members of the travel party (currently squad size only)	\$ 54,000
General - All DII Championships	Reduce mileage for flights for officials from 500 to 400	\$ 91,000
General - All DII Championships	Increase budget for banquets (or substitute) from \$50 to \$75	\$ 140,000
General - All DII Championships	Increase value of participant gifts from \$85 to \$110	\$ 140,000
General - DII Individual-Team Sport Championships	Amend the number of NAs included in travel party based on SAs participating	\$ 167,000
General - Various DII Championships	Base budget enhanced game presentation costs (banquet videos, intro videos)	\$ 87,000
General - Various DII Championships	Streaming costs (more cameras, track enhancements, etc)	\$ 416,000
Baseball	Increase the number of officials at 4-team regionals from four to five	\$ 26,000
Baseball	Increase the size of the bracket by two teams and add to the appropriate region(s)	\$ 128,000
Baseball	Increase travel party from 30 to 32	\$ 207,000
Baseball	Increase the size of the bracket by four teams and add to the appropriate region(s)	\$ 254,000
Football	Eight-person crews, no alternates at all rounds	\$ 3,930
Football	Increase the squad size from 58 to 66 for all rounds and official travel party from 70 to 78 for the first-round, second-round, and quarterfinal-round, and from 80 to 88 for the semifinal-round and the championship game	\$ 368,000
M Swimming and Diving	Increase the participant cap for the men's swimming field to align with the women (+30)	\$ 86,000
Men's Golf	Increase regional officials from 5 to 6 to adjust for larger field sizes	\$ 7,000
Men's Golf	Increase the travel party for regionals from 7 to 8 to accommodate substitutions and an assistant coach	\$ 24,000

Sport	Description	Budgetary Impact
Men's Golf	Due to increased costs of travel the current per diem does not cover travel expenses	\$ 659,000
Men's Lacrosse	Increase travel party from 34 to 37.	\$ 56,000
Men's Soccer	Assign officials by match at the finals site, paying a per match fee	\$ 2,000
Men's Soccer	Increase the size of the bracket by two teams and add to the appropriate super region, according to access ratio	\$ 87,000
Men's Soccer	Increase the size of the bracket by four teams and add to the appropriate super region, according to access ratio	\$ 173,000
Men's Soccer	Increase the size of the bracket by six teams and add to the appropriate region, according to access ratio	\$ 262,000
Men's Wrestling	Add another day for Super Regional competition (one to two days)	\$ 48,000
Men's Wrestling	Increase number of qualifiers for finals by 20 wrestlers	\$ 57,000
MW Basketball	Move to a three weekend format (two games per weekend).	\$ 107,000
MW Cross Country	Increase game expense budget to require and pay for videoboards at regionals	\$ 60,000
MW Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field	Select individuals to serve as competition managers for the throws, jumps and running events at the championship	\$ 20,000
MW Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field	Additional cameras for long jump/triple jump events	\$ 22,000
MW Indoor Track & Field	Extend the indoor championship to 3 days from 2 days of competition	\$ 159,000
MW Indoor Track & Field	Increase the number of combined events (heptathlon and pentathlon) athletes in the championship	\$ 14,000
MW Indoor Track & Field	Increase the set field sizes from 18 in individual events to 20 in each.	\$ 132,000
MW Outdoor Track & Field	Increase the number of combined events (heptathlon and Decathlon) athletes in the championship	\$ 33,000
MW Outdoor Track & Field	Extend the championship to 4 days from 3 days of competition	\$ 230,000
MW Outdoor Track & Field	Add a first-round prelim competition (East and West) to the championship	\$ 468,000
MW Swimming and Diving	Adjust the diving qualification meet from Tuesday of championship week to Monday.	\$ 97,000
Softball	Establish a national coordinator of officials for softball to align with DI/DIII	\$ 13,000

Sport	Description	Budgetary Impact
Women's Golf	Increase individuals from 8 to 9 at the finals for three groups of threesomes and mitigate pace of play concerns.	\$ 4,000
Women's Golf	Increase finals officials from 8 to 10 to more closely aligning the ratio officials at both the Men's and Women's Finals sites	\$ 5,000
Women's Golf	Increase regional officials from 5 to 6 to adjust for larger field sizes	\$ 7,000
Women's Golf	Increase the travel party for regionals from 7 to 8 to accommodate substitutions and an assistant coach	\$ 23,000
Women's Golf	Due to increased costs of travel the current per diem does not cover travel expenses	\$ 524,000
Women's Lacrosse	WLA is asking for an increase of 30 for squad size and 35 for travel party	\$ 153,000
Women's Rowing	Increase the travel party from 21 to 22 to allow for a spare coxswain to be included.	\$ 18,000
Women's Soccer	Assign officials by match at the finals site, paying a per match fee	\$ 2,000
Women's Soccer	Moving to a super region format similar to men's soccer	\$ 43,000
Women's Volleyball	Add a day of rest between the semifinal and final match at regionals and finals.	\$ 131,000

2026-27 Division II Men’s Wrestling Super Regional Model

2026-27 DII Wrestling Super Regional Model											
Super Region One (Yellow on map)		Super Region Two (Blue on map)		Super Region Three (Purple on map)		Super Region Four (Orange on map)		Super Region Five (Green on map)		Super Region Six (Red on map)	
Bridgeport	Ind.	Allen	C.Carolinas	Ashland	GMAC	Central Mo.	MIAA	Augustana	NSIC	Adams State	RMAC
East Stroudsburg	PSAC	Belmont Abbey	C. Carolinas	Bluefield St.	C. Carolinas	Central Okla.	MIAA	Jamestown	NSIC	Cal Poly Humbolt	MPSF
Fairmont St.	MEC	Coker	C. Carolinas	Davenport	GMAC	Drury	GLVC	Mary	NSIC	Chadron State	RMAC
Felician	Ind.	Emmanuel (GA)	C. Carolinas	Davis & Elkins	MEC	UIndy	GLVC	Mankato	NSIC	Colorado Mesa	RMAC
Frostburg St.	MEC	King (TN)	C. Carolinas	Emory & Henry	C. Carolinas	Ky. Wesleyan	GMAC	Moorhead	NSIC	Colorado Mines	RMAC
Gannon	PSAC	Lander	C. Carolinas	Findlay	GMAC	Maryville (MO)	GLVC	Minot State	NSIC	CSU-Pueblo	RMAC
Kutztown	PSAC	Lincoln Memorial	C. Carolinas	Glenville St.	MEC	McKendree	GLVC	Northern State	NSIC	Fort Hays State	MIAA
Millersville	PSAC	Montevallo	C. Carolinas	Grand Valley St.	GLVC	Newman	MIAA	Southwest MN	NSIC	Nebraska-Kearney	MIAA
Pitt.-Johnstown	PSAC	Mount Olive	C. Carolinas	Lake Erie	GMAC	NSU	MIAA	St. Cloud St.	NSIC	New Mexico Highland	RMAC
Seton Hill	PSAC	Newberry	C. Carolinas	Salem	MEC	Ouachita Baptist	MIAA	Sioux Falls	NSIC	San Francisco State	MPSF
Shippensburg	PSAC	Shorter	C. Carolinas	Tiffin	GMAC	Quincy	GLVC	Upper Iowa	GLVC	Simon Fraser	Ind.
Wheeling	MEC	UNC-Pembroke	C.Carolinas	West Liberty	MEC	Thomas More	GMAC	UW-Parkside	NSIC	Western State	RMAC
										Vanguard	MPSF



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE
JUNE 23-24, 2026, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Baseball championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 21 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Men's basketball championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 23 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic

Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

c. Women's basketball championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 23 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

d. Field hockey championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following four conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: East Coast Conference, Northeast-10 Conference, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference and South Atlantic Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

e. Football championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 15 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; and Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

f. Men's golf championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 21 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

g. Women's golf championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 19 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

h. Men's lacrosse championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 10 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: Central Athletic Collegiate Conference; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Peach Belt Conference*; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

*Year two of the three-year grace period.

i. Women's lacrosse championship.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 12 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Sunshine State Conference.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.
- (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

j. Men's soccer championship.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 19 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Sunshine State Conference.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.
- (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

k. Women's soccer championship.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 21 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference;

Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

l. Softball championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 23 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

m. Men's tennis championships.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 14 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: Conference Carolinas; Great Lakes

Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference*; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

*Year one of the three-year grace period.

n. Women's tennis championships.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 19 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

o. Women's volleyball championship.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 23 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2026-27 academic year: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Conference

Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great American Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Mountain East Conference; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Sunshine State Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- None.

Committee Chair: Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul

Staff Liaison(s): Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.

Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.

Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.