

REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
JUNE 16, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- **Noncontroversial Legislation -- NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control and Championships Administration -- National Collegiate Championships -- Separate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships.**
 - (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to establish separate National Collegiate Championships in men's and women's fencing. [Attachment A]
 - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
 - (3) Rationale. Under the current scoring format, institutions that sponsor only women's fencing face a statistical impossibility of winning a national championship. The separation of the two championships would allow for a more equitable championship experience and establish a realistic pathway for all teams to compete for a national championship. Establishing a women's fencing championship will support the growth, development and recognition of women's championships.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Estimated student-athlete impact. Women's fencing student-athletes would have a realistic pathway towards a national championship.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- **Request for Feedback from the Division II Athletics Directors Association, NCAA Division II Coaches Connection, Division II Conference Commissioners Association, Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators, NCAA Division II Championships Committee, NCAA Division II Membership Committee and NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee -- Direct Institutional Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) and Required Reporting.**
 - (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Management Council request the Athletics Directors Association, Coaches Connection groups, Conference Commissioners Association, Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators, Championships Committee, Membership Committee and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee provide feedback related to direct institutional NIL, as specified. [Attachment B]

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. With the adoption of NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2025-21 (name, image and likeness activities -- implementation of House v. NCAA settlement) and the current recruiting landscape in Division II, the committee is requesting feedback on Division II institutions and/or third-party organizations affiliated with Division II institutions entering into NIL agreements with Division II student-athletes and reporting requirements for NIL agreements that are \$600 or more.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. **Discussion regarding the creation of a women's fencing championship.** The NCAA Division II Legislation Committee reviewed Division I Proposal No. 2025-4 (championships and postseason football -- national collegiate championships -- separate men's and women's fencing championships) and recommended noncontroversial legislation to separate the men's and women's fencing championships. The committee noted that separating the men's and women's fencing championships would provide another opportunity for a women's sport to win a national championship. [See Legislative Action Item.]
- 2. **Review of membership feedback questions regarding direct institutional name, image and likeness.** The committee reviewed and approved draft feedback questions specific to direct institutional NIL. Further, the committee directed staff to seek feedback from the Athletics Directors Association, Coaches Connection groups, Conference Commissioners Association, Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators, Championships Committee, Membership Committee and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. The committee will review the feedback during its November 17-18, 2025, meeting. [See Nonlegislative Action Item.]
- 3. **Discussion regarding potential effective dates on concepts developed by the NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group.** The committee reviewed and provided feedback on the potential effective dates for the concepts being discussed by the working group.
- 4. **Recognition of outgoing members.** The committee recognized the service of Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.

5. Future meeting dates.

- a. September 3, 2025, videoconference, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Eastern time.
- b. November 17-18, 2025, videoconference; timing to be determined.
- c. March 10-11, 2026, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
- d. June 16-17, 2026, videoconference; timing to be determined.

Committee Chair: Audra Kedy, Great American Conference
Staff Liaison(s): Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs
Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs
Megan Villanueva, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Legislation Committee June 16, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Ashley Grimm, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Jennifer Mercurio, Florida Institute of Technology.	
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University.	
Santee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.	
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.	
Absentees:	
Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Rachel Denton and Chelsea Hooks.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Maritza Jones and Angela Red.	

Division: II

Proposal Number: NC-2026-21

Title: NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL AND CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- SEPARATE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Convention Year: 2026

Date Submitted: June 12, 2025

Status: Ready for Consideration by Management Council

Effective Date: August 1, 2025

Source: NCAA Division II Management Council (Championships Committee and Legislation Committee).

Category: Noncontroversial

Topical Area: Membership and Institutional Control and Championships Administration

Intent: In men's and women's fencing, to establish separate National Collegiate Championships.

A. Bylaws: Amend 7, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

7 NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control

[7.01 through 7.3 unchanged.]

7.3.2.1 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships. [#] An active member institution in good standing, regardless of division, is eligible for the National Collegiate Championships, if a division championship in the respective sport is not offered in its division. Such an institution is required to meet only the institutional and individual eligibility requirements of its division that govern the sport in question. Separate championships in each division are not sponsored in the following sports:

Women's beach volleyball

Women's bowling

Men's ~~and women's~~ fencing

Women's fencing

Men's gymnastics

Women's gymnastics

Women's ice hockey

Men's and women's rifle

Men's and women's skiing

Men's volleyball

Men's and women's water polo

Women's wrestling

[7.3.2.1.1 through 7.3.2.1.2 unchanged.]

[7.3.3 through 7.3.5 unchanged.]

[7.4 through 7.9 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 18, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

18 Championships Administration

[18.01 through 18.2 unchanged.]

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers ~~94~~⁹² national championships. There are ~~12~~¹³ National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, 25 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See Bylaw 9.3.10 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (~~12~~¹³).

Men (34)	Men and Women (32)	Women (67)
<u>Fencing</u>	<i>Fencing</i>	Beach Volleyball
Gymnastics	Rifle	Bowling
Volleyball (Divisions I and II)	Skiing	<u>Fencing</u>
Water Polo		Gymnastics
		Ice Hockey (Divisions I and II)
		Water Polo
		Wrestling

[18.3.2 unchanged.]

[18.4 through 18.6 unchanged.]

Review History:

- Jun 16, 2025: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.
- Jun 26, 2025: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Championships Committee.

Additional Information:

Under the current scoring format, institutions that sponsor only women's fencing face a statistical impossibility of winning a national championship. The separation of the two championships would allow for a more equitable championship experience and establish a realistic pathway for all teams to compete for a national championship. Establishing a women's fencing championship will support the growth, development and recognition of women's championships.

Direct Institutional Name, Image and Likeness
Questions for Membership Feedback

1. If permissible, would you have an interest in your institution entering into a name, image and likeness (NIL) agreement directly with your student-athletes?
 - a. Why or why not?
 - b. Are there any unintended consequences of permitting an institution to enter into an NIL agreement directly with their student-athletes?
2. Should a third-party organization affiliated with an institution be permitted to enter into NIL agreements directly with student-athletes?
3. Should an outside entity, that would have oversight at a national level, be responsible for assessing the fair market value of NIL agreements entered into between a student-athlete and their institution and/or third-party organization affiliated with the institution?
 - a. What would be the benefit(s) of permitting an outside entity to assess the fair market value of a student-athlete's NIL agreements?
 - b. What would be a perceived consequence of permitting an outside entity to assess the fair market value of a student-athlete's NIL agreement?
4. Should an outside entity, that would have oversight at a national level, be responsible for certifying the validity of NIL agreements entered into between a student-athlete and their institution and/or third-party organization affiliated with the institution?
5. Should a student-athlete be required to report any NIL agreements that are \$600 or more?
 - a. If yes, should reporting be required only by student-athletes that enter into NIL agreements with an institution or a third-party organization affiliated with an institution or should reporting be required by all student-athletes that enter into an NIL agreement?
 - b. Should reporting be done at a national level or should reporting be left to institutional or conference policy?
 - c. Should the responsibility of reporting lie with the institution or with the student-athlete?
6. Should the timeframe of an NIL agreement between an institution and student-athlete be limited to a student-athlete's period of eligibility?
7. Prior to enrollment, should an institution be permitted to enter into NIL agreements with prospective student-athletes?
 - If yes, are there any parameters that should be in place prior to an institution entering into an NIL agreement with prospective student-athletes?