

**SUPPLEMENT NO. 1
DIII CHAMPS COMM 06/26**

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE
MAY 14, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- **Sport and playing rules committee appointments.**

- a. Recommendation. Approve the following sport committee and playing rules committee appointments.

(1) Sport committee appointments.

- **NCAA Division III Baseball Committee** – **Patrick Haumesser**, assistant director of athletics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference (based on the Division III Management Council waiving Bylaw 21.9.1.3).
- **NCAA Division III Women’s Golf Committee** – **Shelby DeVore** (Southeast Region), head women’s golf coach, Trinity University (Texas), Southern Athletic Association; and **Stephanie Moorberg** (West Region), head men’s and women’s golf coach, University of Dallas, Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division III Women’s Lacrosse Committee** – **Ashley Durepo** (Region I), head women’s lacrosse coach, University of Southern Maine, Little East Conference.
- **NCAA Division III Men’s Tennis Committee** – **Scott Greve**, (Region VI), head men’s and women’s tennis coach, Anderson University (Indiana), Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s Track and Field and Cross Country Committee** – **Suzanne Venet**, (immediate vacancy in Region VI/Great Lakes Region), associate athletics director/senior woman administrator, University of Mount Union, Ohio Athletic Conference.

- **NCAA Division III Women’s Volleyball Committee** – **Brittany DeHaven**, (Region V), interim co-director of athletics, Juniata College, Landmark Conference; and **Brienna Laskowski**, (Region VI), head volleyball coach, Maryville College (Tennessee), Collegiate Conference of the South.
- **NCAA Division III Women’s Wrestling Committee** – **Tricia Carver**, associate director of athletics/senior woman administrator, Maine Maritime Academy, North Atlantic Conference; **Peter Di Pol**, head women’s wrestling coach, Bethany College (West Virginia), Presidents’ Athletic Conference; **Joseph Jamison**, director of men’s and women’s wrestling, Ursinus College, Centennial Conference; **Gregory Lott**, director of athletics, Otterbein University, Ohio Athletic Conference; **Joe Norton**, head women’s wrestling coach, North Central College, College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin; and **Eric Van Kley**, vice president of athletics, Central College (Iowa), American Rivers Conference.

(2) **Playing rules committee appointments.**

- **NCAA Divisions II and III Men’s and Women’s Soccer Rules Committee** – **Jason Murphy**, head soccer coach, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Divisions II and III Men’s and Women’s Track and Field and Cross Country Rules Committee** – **Christopher Popovici**, head men’s and women’s track and field coach, State University of New York at Geneseo, Empire 8.

- b. Effective date. Sept. 1, 2026, unless otherwise specified.
- c. Rationale. The appointments have been vetted and recommended by the Division III Nominating Committee, and the appointees meet specified eligibility requirements.
- d. Estimated budget impact. None.
- e. Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Opening remarks and review of schedule and agenda.** Division III Championships Committee Chair Shannon Howley welcomed the group and introduced the committee’s newest member, Erienne Roberts, the interim director of athletics at the University of Chicago.
2. **Recent Championships Committee reports.** The committee approved the report from its March 31 videoconference as presented.

3. **Championships tracking document.** The committee reviewed an updated version of this document that tracks progress made during the last year and previews key focus items for 2026.
4. **Division III Nominating Committee report.** The Championships Committee supported the recommended sport and playing rules committee appointments as specified in Action Item 2.
5. **Governance and member services update.**
 - **Coastal Lacrosse Conference waiver request.** The committee considered and ultimately approved the request for the single-sport Coastal Lacrosse Conference to transition its AQ to the multisport Coast-to-Coast Conference (C2C). The request is because two members of the single-sport conference are departing for a different multisport conference next year, leaving the Coastal Lacrosse Conference with only four members, all of which are core members of the C2C. Had all six members transitioned to the C2C, a waiver would not have been necessary, as the committee adopted a directive in 2019 allowing such a single-sport transition so long as all members made the move. In approving the waiver, the committee did advise staff to contact the C2C regarding the consequences should additional roster attrition occur that could cause the conference to lose its AQ in lacrosse immediately. In other words, the committee wants the C2C to be fully aware of the potential consequences of accepting the waiver rather than maintaining the single-sport status for lacrosse.
6. **Championships topics.**
 - a. **Championships ticketing review update.** 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 III Management Council to consider during its April meeting. The council also supported the standardized approach. Accordingly, the Championships Committee approved the pricing model outlined in the Attachment.
 - b. **NCAA Power Index (NPI) update.** Staff updated the committee on an established internal working group charged with determining the appropriate tools and resources sport committees need to evaluate NPI dials in addition to educational resources for the membership. Sport committees are working in conjunction with the agreed-upon timeline to make dial adjustments – by June for fall and winter sports and by August for spring sports. This working group will determine not only the necessary resources for sport committees but also work on educational materials for the membership to better understand the NPI. The committee offered feedback regarding what to include and emphasize in these efforts.

7. FY27-FY28 budget planning.

- **Budget initiatives.** The committee reviewed in more detail the requests from sport committees in preparation for making final recommendations during its June meeting. The committee paid particular attention to requests that would impact access ratios and championships date formulas. The committee noted additional information from sport committees on various items that would help inform final recommendations in June. Those recommendations will go to the Division III Strategic Planning and Finance Committee for initial consideration before the Management and Presidents Councils make their final decisions this summer.

8. Sport committee reports.

a. Football.

- **Noisemaker policy.** The Championships Committee considered but did not act on the recommendation to eliminate the noisemaker restriction requirement to host a preliminary-round game. The football committee reasons that doing so would create an updated positive experience for home and visiting football student-athletes, but the Championships Committee acknowledged that other sports have noisemaker policies and this would likely be something that impacts more than just football. Further, the Championships Committee suggested that restrictions for certain types of noisemakers (e.g., those with electronic amplification) would be necessary. Accordingly, staff will explore the impacts and the football committee will provide an updated recommendation to revisit at a later date.

b. Men's and women's tennis.

- **Streaming requirement to host preliminary rounds.** The Championships Committee revisited the recommendation to include men's and women's tennis in the Division III streaming requirements to host preliminary-round competition. The committee first heard this request during its February meeting and asked for more details on the streaming specifications for hosts. This request also is included in the overall budget requests. The committee asked that more information be provided on what institutions already are doing along these lines in order to better understand whether requiring streaming would be a burden on the membership. The committee will discuss the matter further in June.

c. Men's wrestling.

- **Regional alignment.** The Championships Committee approved the recommendations to move New York University and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy into Region II; move Shenandoah University and place Chatham College (Pennsylvania) into Region III;

move Case Western Reserve University and place Lynchburg University (Virginia) into Region IV; move Westminster College and place Wittenberg University into Region V; move Illinois Wesleyan University into Region VII; and remove New Jersey City University from the regional list due to the school's closure. The changes balance geographic proximity within regions, as well as championship access based on the number of institutions in a region.

9. Coaches Connect program. Staff updated the committee on development of a survey seeking feedback on the recently created Coaches Connect program, results from which are expected by the committee's June meeting. Anticipating positive feedback, the committee agreed in concept to add field hockey, men's ice hockey and men's volleyball to the program for 2026-27. The rationale for those sports aligns with how the first three sports were selected and lays the groundwork for year three to add like sports by season.

10. Future meeting/videoconference dates.

- a. June 15-16 (meeting via videoconference).
- b. August 11, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (videoconference).
- c. September 20-22 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).
- d. November 17, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (videoconference).

Committee Chair: Shannon Howley, Montclair State University

Staff Liaisons: Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division III Championships Committee May 14, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Renee Bostic, State University of New York at New Paltz.	
Bethany Dannelly, Ohio Athletic Conference.	
Tim Demant, Whitworth University.	
Jason Doviak, Alfred State University.	
Chad Eisele, Hampden-Sydney College.	
Shannon Howley, Montclair State University.	
Lauren Krupnikoff, Simmons University.	
Rob Larson, Luther College (Management Council chair).	
Erienne Roberts, University of Chicago.	
Sara Shoffner, Huntingdon College.	
Ashley Wagner, Notre Dame of Maryland University.	
Absentees:	
Russ Rogers, Stevens Institute of Technology.	
Guests in Attendance:	

Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.

NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
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Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.
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Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
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Kevin Alcox, Raymon Gaddis, Margaret Gaines, Victoria Lipscomb, Louise McCleary, Bill Regan, Liz Suscha and J.P. Williams.
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Executive summary

- To generate **additional revenue and more accurately price DIII events**, we developed updated ticket pricing recommendations for the **2026-2027 season for the DIII Committee**
- Following committee feedback, **we established standardized actual ticket prices** (not just minimums) to **reduce price variability** within the same sport and create a more consistent fan experience
- We **recommend consistent pricing for Field Hockey, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, and Volleyball**, aligned with the structure presented at the February 2026 committee meeting
- We recommend **slightly higher standardized prices for Football, Basketball, and Baseball & Softball**, reflecting historically higher demand while remaining aligned with observed fan purchasing behavior
 - These updates represent a modest increase from the minimums presented in February
- Consistent with purchasing data, **we recommend a standard 70% discount** from adult pricing for student tickets, aligned with observed student purchasing behavior across sports

Overview of standardized ticket price recommendations



Sport	Round	Adult Ticket Price (\$)	Student Ticket Price (\$)
Field Hockey, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Volleyball	Preliminary Rounds	\$15 single session \$25 all-session	\$5 Single Session, \$8 All Session
Football	First / Second Round & Quarterfinals	\$25	\$8
Basketball	Sectionals	\$18 for a single session \$30 all session (DIII)	\$6 for a single session \$9 all session (DIII)
Softball	Regional & Super - Regional	\$15 for single session \$30 for all - session	\$5 for single session \$9 for all - session
Baseball	Regional & Super - Regional		