



**NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Oversight Committee
Individual Championship Blanket Waiver
Question and Answer Document**

During its June 2026 meeting, the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Oversight Committee granted permanence to the fall individual championship piloted during the 2024-25 and 2025-26 academic years. As a result, the NCAA will conduct an individual (singles and doubles) championship in the fall, followed by a team championship in the spring. During the pilot program, a blanket waiver was approved to permit student-athletes to participate in both an individual championship opportunity (fall) and a team championship opportunity (spring). Following the approval of a permanent individual championship, the Tennis Oversight Committee approved a blanket waiver extending the blanket waiver approved during the pilot program for the 2026-27 academic year. The following question-and-answer document provides additional guidance on the application of the blanket waiver.

Question No. 1: Are legislative changes necessary following the approval of a tennis individual championship?

Answer: Yes. The Tennis Oversight Committee will assess the necessary legislative changes and introduce a legislative proposal at an appropriate time.

Question No. 2: Does the blanket waiver extend the playing and practice season in tennis?

Answer: No. The tennis playing and practice season remains 144 days, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days), and which may exclude only required off-days and official vacation, holiday and final examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur. Playing and practice seasons are declared on a team, not individual-by-individual, basis.

Question No. 3: Does the blanket waiver change the first permissible date of practice in the fall?

Answer: No. Per NCAA Bylaw 17.26.2, a member institution shall not commence practice sessions in tennis prior to September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.

Question No. 4: Does the blanket waiver change the first permissible date of competition (meet or practice meet) with outside competition?

Answer: No. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (meet or practice meet) with outside competition prior to September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.

Question No. 5: Does the blanket waiver allow institutions to exempt participation in the Division I tennis individual championship and the tennis team championship from the Bylaw 17 maximum date of competition limitations?

Answer: Yes. For the duration of the blanket waiver, participation in a tennis individual (fall) and team championship (spring) may be considered exempt competition in a season-ending event pursuant to Bylaw 17.26.5.3.

Question No. 6: When must institutions conclude the fall segment of the tennis playing and practice season?

Answer: Pursuant to Bylaw 17.26.4, a member institution shall conclude all practice and competition (meets and practice meets) in tennis by the conclusion of the NCAA tennis championships in the institution's division.

Question No. 7: May student-athletes who qualify for the tennis individual championship continue to engage in countable athletically related activities without such days counting against the institution's declared playing season limitation?

Answer: Yes. Student-athletes who qualify for the tennis individual championship and squad members considered necessary for effective practice by the individual(s) preparing for the tennis individual championship pursuant to Bylaw 17.1.9-(c) may continue to engage in countable athletically related activities without counting such practice against the institution's declared playing season limitation.

Question No. 8: When must an institution conclude all practice and competition in the playing and practice season?

Answer: Pursuant to Bylaw 17.26.4, a member institution shall conclude all practice and competition in tennis by the conclusion of the spring NCAA (team) championship.

Question No. 9: Is the seven-day discretionary period after the championship segment (Bylaw 17.1.7.12.7) required following the conclusion of the fall championship segment?

Answer: No.

Question No. 10: Does the blanket waiver exempt an individual conference championship from the Bylaw 17 maximum date of competition limitations?

Answer: No. There is no automatic conference qualifier for the individual tennis championship at this time. Conferences may, but are not required, to host a conference championship. As such, conference championships for singles and doubles must be included in the Bylaw 17 maximum date of competition legislation.

Question No. 11: Does the blanket waiver allow student-athletes to participate in multiple post-season events without such events counting against the Bylaw 17 maximum date of competition limitation?

Answer: The intent of the blanket waiver is to permit each student-athlete to participate in one individual post-season event and one team post-season event. For example, a student-athlete who qualifies for the individual tennis championship may participate in that NCAA championship and participate with their team in a spring team national invitational event and exempt both from the maximum number of dates of competition.

Question No. 12: Is tennis considered within the championship segment for purposes of Bylaw 17.1.7.6 (required day off – civic engagement)?

Answer: No.

Question No. 13: Are dates of competition considered for selection for the individual tennis championship considered for purposes of a withholding condition associated with a student-athlete reinstatement decision?

Answer: No. Dates of competition must be among those considered for team selection to the NCAA championship (i.e., dates of competition after January 1).