

AGENDA  
Women's Basketball Coaches Association  
Board of Directors Meeting

10 – 11:30 a.m. ET, Tuesday, December 9, 2025

[Zoom Link](#)

1. Call to order, welcome and announcements. Jose Fernandez, President.
2. Roll call. Danielle Donehew.
3. By-Law Amendment regarding voting director eligibility [Supplement A]. Joni Taylor. Jack Watford.
4. Reminder of BOD annual contribution [WBCA Member Services Fund](#). Fernandez.
5. Consent agenda. Fernandez.
  - a. Approval of minutes from June 11, 2025 meeting [Supplement B].
  - b. Approval of Linda Logan as a public sector member to fill the vacancy of Rob Higgins [Supplement C].
6. Reports for premeeting review [Supplement D]. Fernandez.
  - a. Membership.
  - b. Convention.
  - c. Recommendation for future conventions strategy.
  - d. Board of Directors meeting strategy.
  - e. Reminder for ballots for awards—Carol Eckman Integrity in Coaching and Betty F. Jaynes Lifetime Achievement. DECEMBER 12, 2025 to [dtrujillo@wbca.org](mailto:dtrujillo@wbca.org)
7. Learfield Discussion. Donehew
8. WBCA Challenge (Las Vegas) and Showcase (Orlando) recaps and recommendation. Donehew.
9. Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. Donehew.
10. Adjournment.

***WBCA Mission Statement***

*The WBCA leads, serves and unites coaches of women's basketball for the good of our game and those who play it.*

SUPPLEMENT A

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WBCA BYLAWS

PROPOSAL 2026-01

A Proposal to Amend WBCA Bylaws

Relating to forfeiture of term by a director; amending subsection 4.5.4; specifying that a director who no longer qualifies to serve in the position to which they were selected, at the pleasure of the board, may continue to serve until they reach their limit of service; qualifying the amendment as non-controversial; providing an effective date.

Be It Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association:

Part 1. Subsection 4.5.4, WBCA Bylaws, is amended to read:

4.5.4 FORFEITURE OF TERM. – A director forfeits the remainder of their term of service if:

(a) They resign from their position.

(b) They cease to be a member in good standing.

(c) They no longer qualify to serve in the position to which they were selected. At the pleasure of the board of directors, such a director may continue to serve in the position they hold until

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WBCA BYLAWS

1 the director reaches their limit of service ~~their successor~~  
2 ~~is selected.~~

3 (d) They are removed by the board of directors.

4 PART 2. Per subsection 10.1.2, the board of directors by  
5 unanimous vote adopts this proposal as non-controversial, which  
6 means that each and every board member believes the amendment is  
7 not adverse to and would be widely accepted by the membership.

8 PART 3. Per the provisions of subsection 10.1.2, this  
9 amendment takes conditional effect upon adoption.

10 # # #

## WBCA STAFF ANALYSIS

**PROPOSAL:** 2026-01  
**SHORT TITLE:** A Proposal to Amend Bylaw 4.5.4 Relating to the Board of Directors  
**SPONSOR:** WBCA Executive Committee

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### INTENT

It is the intent of this proposal to allow the board of directors, if it so chooses, to ask a director who no longer qualifies for his/her current position to remain in that position until he/she has reached his/her limit of service.

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### RATIONALE

The board selects its members based on their knowledge, experience, expertise and professional relationships. A director does not suddenly lose his/her knowledge, experience, expertise and professional relationships if he/she ceases to be employed in a job that qualified him/her to serve in the position to which he/she was selected.

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### IMPACT

The board of directors will be allowed to retain a director who no longer qualifies for the position he/she holds until the director reaches his/her limit of service.

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### SUMMARY

The amendment allows the board of directors to ask a director who ceases to qualify for the position he/she holds to continue to serve in the position. Such a director could continue to serve in his/her position until the director reaches his/her limit of service (term limits). For example, a coach director would be able to continue to serve the remainder of his/her current term and, if eligible for re-election, a subsequent term. A director elected vice president would be able to serve the duration of his/her presidential track (vice president > president > immediate past president).

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
June 11, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association met in regular session in Atlanta, GA on June 11, 2025, duly called at 8:30 a.m. ET. Members of the board and staff were present as noted.

Board Members Present

Katherine Augustine, head coach, Colorado College  
Courtney Banghart, head coach, University of North Carolina (past president)  
Kelly Black-Holmes, vice president & associate general counsel, litigation, Warner Bros. Discovery  
Danelle Bishop, head coach, Cal Poly Pomona University  
Tony Bozzella, head coach, Seton Hall University  
Carol Callan, president, FIBA Americas (ex officio, nonvoting)  
Shawn Chaffin, former head coach, Waldorf University  
Jose Fernandez, head coach, University of South Florida (president)  
Rob Higgins, Executive Director, Tampa Bay Sports Commission  
Gene Hill, head coach, Georgia State University  
Liz Hollingworth, FAR, University of Iowa (ex officio, nonvoting)  
Lynn Holzman, vice president, women's basketball, NCAA (ex officio, nonvoting)  
Misha Jackson, head coach, Emory University  
Romeo Lagmay, head coach, Taft College  
Teri Moren, head coach, University of Indiana  
Danielle O'Banion, head coach, Loyola University  
Cheytoria Penny, Assoc. Director, Campus Life, Emory University (treasurer)  
Carissa Sain, head coach, Illinois Tech  
Dave Slifer, head coach, University of Central Missouri  
Charmin Smith, head coach, UC Berkeley  
Joni Taylor, head coach, Texas A&M University (vice president)  
Cleve Wright, head coach, Gannon University  
Steve Yang, assistant coach, Stephen F Austin University

WBCA Staff in Attendance

Danielle Donehew, executive director (secretary; ex officio)  
Mary Ellen Gillespie, deputy director  
Dana Refling, executive assistant  
Daniella Trujillo, director of operations  
Jack Watford, director of communications

Board Members Absent

Kelly Barsky, director of athletics, UC Santa Barbara  
Mike Neighbors, assistant coach, LA Sparks  
Julie Roe Lach, commissioner, Horizon Conference  
Karen Self, head coach, Seton Catholic Prep High School

## WELCOME

Fernandez welcomed all to the meeting and called the meeting to order. As his first order of business as the WBCA president, he outlined his priorities for his term –

Priority 1: increase membership. Priority 2: strengthen convention. Priority 3: provide feedback for NCAA. Priority 4: provide feedback for DI recruiting calendar. Priority 5: review communication to members. Priority 6: drive revenue for WBCA events. Priority 7: membership awareness of what we do as a board. Priority 8: WBCA awards process and coaches missing deadlines.

## APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

**The consent agenda, containing the meeting minutes from the April 4, 2025, board meeting, the appointment of nominating committee members, and the year-to-date financials, was presented and the floor was opened for discussion.**

**MOTION: Hill moved to approve the consent agenda. Chaffin seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.**

## INTERNAL OPERATIONS

Penny put forward the 2025-26 proposed budget, noting that it has been reviewed and approved by the WBCA Finance Committee. Unlike last year, the revenue numbers are better predicted due to a signed restricted grant with the NCAA and a signed sponsorship agreement with Learfield. Discussion was had around WBCA employment and need for recruitment efforts for international and high school members. Holzman reminded the board that NCAA restricted grant is tied to certain restrictions, including WBCA conducting its convention at the site of the Women's Final Four each year.

**MOTION: Penny moved to approve the proposed 2025-26 budget. Slifer seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.**

Watford explained to the board the need to review the current board operations due to the changing nature of the coaching profession. He put forth a motion for the board to authorize the Executive Committee to study the issues and report its findings and recommendations to the board by the Summer 2027 meeting. Issues to be reviewed include the number of board meetings per year, in-person vs virtual meetings, coach qualifications to serve on the board, and continuance of term if a coach loses their job.

**MOTION: Taylor moved to approve the Executive Committee moving forward to study the board operations as described any related issues that might arise and report back to the board by the Summer 2027 meeting. Smith seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.**

Fernandez notified the board that the date for the Summer 2026 meeting has been decided and is Wednesday, June 17, 2026.

Watford presented the current communication strategy to the board and its challenges, then offered a proposal to improve communications to WBCA members. The board suggested a secondary person be copied on all emails sent to head coaches, in addition to also capturing a personal email for all members.

Smith provided information to the board about a program her team participates in called Race for Change that promotes social justice on campus and in the local community.

## WORKING SESSIONS

Donehew reminded the board with about current revenue streams, including membership dues, convention registrations, the Learfield MMR agreement, the NCAA restricted grant agreement, the ESPN broadcast agreement for WBCA events, and the WBCA events in Orlando and Las Vegas.

She provided opportunities for new revenue streams including increasing membership, increasing convention registrations, increasing corporate partner sales, having teams contribute for their participation in WBCA events, and coaching clinics.

The board then broke out into four groups to brainstorm additional ideas and then each group presented their ideas for WBCA consideration over the next two years.

Donehew discussed the WBCA Challenge, noting that the WBCA is working with a company to provide funding of \$50k for each of the four teams to participate. That amount is small compared to what other events are currently paying. The Las Vegas Aces will be handling ticket sales and the Challenge will be held at their facility. The agreement with the Aces is a 50/50 arrangement, leading to a more favorable position for the WBCA. The goal is to provide a WNBA-like experience for the players.

The WBCA Showcase will be in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year in 2025. WBCA is taking a different strategy this year to increase ticket sales and will be hiring a full-time staffer to sell tickets, as well as memberships and convention registrations. The WBCA Showcase will include DII and DIII games this year, and will again be held at ESPN Wide World of Sports at Disney. At Disney, the WBCA is renting and is financially 100% responsible. Donehew has received lots of interest from DI, DII, and DIII teams for this event for future years. As a result, she asked the board for their thoughts on charging teams to participate in the WBCA events in Orlando like teams do for other events to help offset the costs the WBCA incurs (ie. \$9k for officials per game, \$12k for broadcast per game, \$250k for building rental).

Sain reported that DIII typically pays around net \$2k – \$3k per team, as they typically pay a package price that is all inclusive. However, the DIII board members acknowledged the WBCA Showcase experience is better than what they typically are purchasing. They would prefer to play two games on consecutive days. Broadcasted games would also be a selling point. From a hotel perspective, a DIII school utilizes 12 rooms total when they travel, and many parents travel to watch the games.

Wright suggested that DII will contribute for the officials, but most likely nothing else. They typically pay \$1000 for officials. The current hotel rate in Orlando is too high. For the Sunshine Conference teams, it might be a selling point to ask the conference to make a neutral site game at Disney that is being broadcast on ESPN+. A hotel stay most likely could not be required. Game needs to count – must be within your region. More thought needs to be given to future DII participation outside of the existing contracts.

Chaffin brought up the NAIA's desire to play neutral site events under a non-regional model. He suggested the need to lower the overhead to match the value the schools are receiving. Any NAIA team would need to play two games.

Bozzella noted the current date (weekend before Thanksgiving) is not ideal for DI. He also suggested looking at other events and their costs for a price comparison which may provide a selling point. Fernandez noted that there are two other Florida 3-game events that weekend which is charged by flat fee (\$40k-\$45k) or per player, neither of which provide NIL. Banghart offered that the competition is more important than how inexpensive it is. Bozzella mentioned that ESPN+ is a much more attractive

streaming service than what is offered by other events. Holzman suggested looking at other venues based on future conference championship games to give teams the experience.

#### DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Gillespie shared with the board at a high level an opportunity for WBCA to generate revenue through a development strategy.

#### FUTURE WBCA CONVENTIONS

As discussed at the April meeting, WBCA is contracted to hold its annual convention in conjunction with the NCAA Women's Final Four while in agreement with the NCAA. In order to determine where to hold conventions after that point, Watford reviewed the survey data collected by the WBCA from its membership following convention, noting the participants in the survey by and large did not want to change the date or location. Gillespie presented the process the WBCA went through and the results received from HelmsBriscoe on possible alternative dates and locations. Donehew shared with the board the recently received extension for the grant from the NCAA that would provide annual funding (contingent upon WBCA holding the convention at the site of the WFF) through 2028.

**MOTION: Bozzella moved to accept the NCAA Agreement and continue holding the annual convention in conjunction with the NCAA Women's Final Four. Lagmay seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.**

#### PHOENIX CONVENTION

Gillespie informed the board of the current plans for the 2026 Convention in Phoenix, noting in particular the number of hotels that will be used, the distance from hotels to convention center and arena, and the shorter programming times due to the time zones and tip offs. Business meetings for DI, DII, DIII, and Two Year to be held on Friday at 12:30 pm with the hopes of securing a sponsor to provide lunch. High School and NAIA business meetings will be held on Saturday. Board meeting will be held from 6-7:30 pm on Thursday.

Regular session was closed at 3:20 pm.

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**Linda Shetina Logan, CSEE, ECI**  
**CEO & President, Greater Columbus Sports Commission**

Linda Shetina Logan has served as the CEO & President of the Greater Columbus Sports Commission (Sports Commission) since its inception in June 2002. A trailblazer in the sports tourism industry, Linda has led the Sports Commission to book close to 600 new sporting events that have generated more than \$625 million in visitor spending establishing Columbus as a top sports destination.

Prior to becoming the Sports Commission's CEO Linda was the director of sports marketing for the Greater Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau, now known as Experience Columbus. Linda has organized, staged, and directed hundreds of meetings, concerts, sporting events and conventions, including the NCAA Men's Final Four, Presidential Debates and the United Nation's Summit on Trade. Notably for Columbus, she has led the hosting of the 2015 NHL All-Star Game, the 2021 NCAA Women's Volleyball Championship and the 2018 NCAA Women's Final Four.

A graduate of Ohio University, she currently serves on the boards of the AAA Ohio Auto Club, The Ohio State University Sports & Society Initiatives, Columbus Clippers Baseball Club and the Fairport Harbor Tourism Council. Linda was named 2019 Women WELDing the Way® calendar honoree due to her leadership and development of women. Additionally, she was a past recipient of the Columbus YWCA "Women of Achievement" and was recognized in *Connect SPORTS* magazine's cover story "IX Women Who've Got Game" for making significant contributions to the sports tourism industry.

Linda is also the past national board chair of the Sports Events & Tourism Association (Sports ETA) and leads their women's initiatives. Linda was named to the Columbus Business First Power 100 list in 2023 and 2019, highlighting those who are driving economic and community development conversations across the region.

\*CSEE Certified Sports Executive is accredited by Sports Events & Tourism Association

## **Reports for Pre-Meeting Review**

### **Membership and Convention**

Membership as of Dec. 4, 2025: 3519

Convention Registration as of Dec. 4, 2025: 1348

### **WBCA Future Convention Strategy**

#### **Accepted and Approved by WBCA Executive Committee 10/28/2025**

Conversations are taking place at the governance level regarding transfer portal modifications. Any decision made where transfer portal window days change could potentially impact dead periods, no contact periods, recruiting windows, etc. This makes it challenging to decide on future conventions in 2029, 2030 and 2031. Currently, it is not in the best interest of the WBCA to select firm dates for 2029, 2030, 2031 and the recommendation is to table this discussion until the summer 2026 board meeting.

### **WBCA Executive Committee**

#### **Future Board Meeting Format**

#### **Accepted and Approved by WBCA Executive Committee 10/28/2025**

***Background:*** Given the change in the women's basketball landscape, the pull for coaches and their time is greater. Coaches are being provided more opportunities for involvement with USA Basketball, international recruiting continues to grow, fundraising and NIL responsibilities and pressures consume more of coaches' time than ever. This is significantly reducing the amount of time coaches have for personal, volunteer and professional opportunities. Currently the WBCA board of directors meets three times per year. The organization by-laws require one in person meeting to take place at the WBCA convention. The summer meeting presents challenges given increased summer international recruiting, FIBA and USAB events/camps, Canada GLOBL Jam, etc.

The landscape of the business is also changing and requires deliberate constructive discussion (transfer portal, recruitment shutdowns, etc). Board meetings need to have action-oriented agendas, while being sensitive to directors' employment responsibilities.

***Recommendation:*** The WBCA staff recommends the board of directors meet quarterly at the following times of year. While one more meeting than the current format, the length of meetings will change and have shorter agendas that allow for constructive discussion.

### **March/April**

WBCA board of directors in person meeting in person at the WBCA convention

- Meeting would be 90-120 minutes and include a meal for personal interaction.
- Discussion of convention and pressing issues that need to be addressed at the summer board meeting.

### **June**

WBCA board of directors in person meeting in June in Atlanta

- Day and a half agenda with discussions on strategy, legislation and governance.
- New board member orientation
- Summer 2026 could include rework of mission and vision given the significant changes to the industry and the WBCA must address priorities moving forward.
- Reports from each division of membership. Share biggest challenges facing each level of the game.

### **September**

WBCA virtual meeting

- 60 minutes with follow-up from summer meeting
- Pressing issues prior to season start up

### **December/January**

WBCA virtual meeting

- 60 minutes to discuss any legislation
- Discussion of convention board meeting agenda with any pressing issues that need to be incorporated into convention conversations/special meetings. This allows for appropriate reconciliation of late November WBCA events (Challenge and Showcase) and preparation of information for constructive discussion at convention.

### **Carol Eckman Integrity in Coaching and Betty F. Jaynes Lifetime Achievement Awards**

All voting directors have received ballots from WBCA Director of Operations, Daniella Trujillo. Please submit your votes to Daniella no later than December 12, 2025

[dtrujillo@wbca.org](mailto:dtrujillo@wbca.org)