

AGENDA

Women's Basketball Coaches Association Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. MST, Thursday, April 2, 2026
Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor, Hyatt Regency, Phoenix, Arizona

1. Greetings, welcome, roll call. Jose Fernandez.
2. 2026 Phoenix Convention update. Mary Ellen Gillespie.
 - a. Registration.
 - b. Schedule.
 - c. Sponsors.
 - d. Business Meetings.
3. Consent agenda. Fernandez.
 - a. Approval of minutes from December 9, 2025 meeting [Supplement A].
 - b. Approval of 2026-2027 meeting calendar [Supplement B].
4. Business reports. Danielle Donehew.
 - a. Business agreements [Supplement C].
 - b. WBCA events [Supplement D].
5. August 19 – 20, 2026 meeting will focus on strategy. Donehew.
6. Recognition of departing board members. Donehew.
7. Selection of new board members [Supplement E]. Joni Taylor.
8. Amendment to bylaws relating to composition of the board of directors [Supplement F]. Jack Watford.
9. Adjournment.

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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.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
December 9, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association met in regular session via videoconference on December 9, 2025, duly called at 10 am ET. Members of the board and staff were present as noted.

Board Members Present

Katherine Auguste, head coach, Colorado College
Courtney Banghart, head coach, University of North Carolina (past president)
Danelle Bishop, head coach, Cal Poly Pomona University
Kelly Black-Holmes, vice president & associate general counsel, litigation, Warner Bros. Discovery
Tony Bozzella, head coach, Seton Hall University
Carol Callan, president, FIBA Americas (ex officio, nonvoting)
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
Linda Logan, CEO & President, Greater Columbus Sports Commission
Danielle O'Banion, head coach, Loyola University
Cheytoria Penny, Assoc. Director, Campus Life, Emory University (treasurer)
Julie Roe Lach, commissioner, Horizon Conference
Carissa Sain, head coach, Illinois Tech
Karen Self, head coach, Seton Catholic Prep High School
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 Reffling, executive assistant
Jack Watford, director of communications

Board Members Absent

Kelly Barsky, director of athletics, UC Santa Barbara
Shawn Chaffin, head coach, Indiana University East
Jose Fernandez, head coach, Dallas Wings (president)
Teri Moren, head coach, University of Indiana
Mike Neighbors, assistant coach, LA Sparks

WELCOME

Taylor welcomed all to the meeting and called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF BYLAW AMENDMENT

The proposed non-controversial amendment to bylaw 4.5.4 relating to the board of directors having the ability 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 was presented to the board by the executive committee for approval.

MOTION: Slifer moved to approve the amendment to bylaw 4.5.4. Sain seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda, containing the meeting minutes from the June 11, 2025, board meeting and the approval of the appointment of Linda Logan as a public service member to fill the vacancy of Rob Higgins, was presented and the floor was opened for discussion. With no discussion or abstentions, the vote carried unanimously.

INTERNAL OPERATIONS

Membership numbers and convention registrations for 2026 are strong.

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.

Due to the changing nature of the coaching profession and the time constraints coaches are finding themselves under, the WBCA offered to update the way in which it conducts business with the board, recommending quarterly meetings. While one more meeting than the current format, the length of meetings will change and have shorter agendas that allow for constructive discussion.

LEARFIELD DISCUSSION

Donehew reminded the board that the WBCA contract with Learfield to sell sponsorship rights will be expiring in June 2026. The WBCA staff and the executive committee would like to seek alternative solutions due to lack of promised deliverables.

MOTION: Smith moved for WBCA to provide notice to Learfield to conclude relationship as MMR partner. Slifer seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

WBCA EVENTS

Donehew provided a recap for the WBCA Challenge and WBCA Showcase events held in November. She also provided budget estimates and recommendations on how to move forward with both events, noting that there is a substantial cost to these events, and a conservative road to profitability could be several years down the road. The WBCA Challenge presents too many unknowns at this point to hold a vote. Donehew and staff will continue to gather information and present to the executive committee.

MOTION: Banghart moved to continue the WBCA Showcase with 8 teams in 2026, a new MMR partner, and a potential schedule change to secure more linear windows with ESPN. O'Banion seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

Donehew informed the board of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame upcoming staff change and its desire to find a solution for running the business. The WBHOF has approached the WBCA to manage the Hall. The WBCA executive committee has approved the exploration of this business opportunity.

MOTION: Jackson moved for WBCA staff to continue formal exploration of the WBCA taking over the management of and eventual absorption of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. Hill seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Regular session was closed at 11:57 am ET.

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WBCA 2026 – 2027 MEETING SCHEDULE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting or Call	Day	Date	Time *	Committee or BOD
Conference Call	Tuesday	June 9, 2026	10:30 a.m. – Noon	Finance Committee
Atlanta, GA Meeting	Wednesday-Thursday	August 19-20, 2026	8 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Board of Directors
Conference Call	Tuesday	September 15, 2026	10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Board of Directors
Conference Call	Monday	October 19, 2026	10:30 a.m. – Noon	Finance Committee
Conference Call	Tuesday	October 27, 2026	10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Executive Committee
Conference Call	Tuesday	December 8, 2026	10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Executive Committee
Conference Call	Tuesday	January 19, 2027	10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Board of Directors
Conference Call	Tuesday	January 26, 2027	10:30 a.m. – Noon	Finance Committee
Conference Call	Tuesday	February 9, 2027	10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Executive Committee
Conference Call	Tuesday	March 2, 2027	10:30 a.m. – Noon	Finance Committee
Conference Call	Tuesday	March 23, 2027	10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Executive Committee (if needed)
Final Four	Columbus, OH	Friday, April 2 / National Semi-Finals	Sunday, April 4 / National Championship Game	
Columbus, OH Meeting	Thursday	April 1, 2027	6 – 7:30 p.m.	Board of Directors
Atlanta, GA Meeting	Tuesday - Wednesday	June 15-16, 2027	8 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Board of Directors

* Unless indicated, all times Eastern.



SUPPLEMENT C

TO: WBCA Board of Directors

FROM: Danielle Donehew, Executive Director

RE: Business Agreements

DATE: April 2, 2026

Learfield:

As per your vote in December, I have informed Learfield of our intent to not extend an agreement when our contract expires in June 2026. We have officially launched an MMR selection bid process. We have received several bids with initial interviews taking place mid-April. The WBCA Finance Committee will make a recommendation to the board on the preferred MMR partner.

Financial Manager/Investment Partner:

The WBCA investment policy states the WBCA will evaluate its current financial management firm and conduct an analysis and RFP process to ensure the finances of the WBCA are being invested wisely and with the best opportunity to grow its assets. Mary Ellen Gillespie will be leading this process and the WBCA Finance Committee will spend the first half of 2026 analyzing and researching proposals and interviewing finalists. The RFP process has begun, with bids due by May 1, 2026. The goal will be to have the identified successful company introduced to the Board of Directors for approval in its August 2026 meeting.

NCAA Agreement:

The NCAA agreement extension has been signed (term now through 2028). This is a grant of \$1.3M annually and the WBCA will hold the WBCA Convention in the Final Four city in 2027 (Columbus, OH) and 2028 (Indianapolis, IN) and this is a combined NCAA DI, DII, DIII championship.



SUPPLEMENT D

TO: WBCA Board of Directors

FROM: Danielle Donehew, Executive Director

RE: WBCA Enterprises, LLC.

DATE: April 2, 2026

The 3x3 Collegiate Championship

A new entity, The 3x3 Collegiate Championship, LLC, has been created. It is owned by three parties: (1) Boardwalk Sports Event Management, LLC; (2) Leola Street, LLC; and (3) WBCA Enterprises, LLC. The board members are Rich Ensor, Carol Callan, and Danielle Donehew. The WBCA Finance Committee approved an initial investment by the WBCA of \$5,000 and I have signed the agreement on behalf of the WBCA to own 1/3 of the entity.

Columbus and Louisville are being considered as host sites for the first year of the event with a goal of a 16-team field. Invitations will be sent at the WBCA Convention (or before) to head coaches of the top 16 teams as listed on the WBCA Coaches Poll. When someone declines, the next school on the list will be invited. The dates for the event are tentatively, Saturday, June 20 through Monday, June 22, 2026. There will be an entry fee for participating schools of approximately \$10,000/\$15,000 for 4 athletes and 1 staff member to represent each school.

2026 WBCA Showcase (Orlando)

At the December board meeting, the full board supported moving forward with the WBCA Showcase (Orlando) with entry fees (\$30k) for participating teams. We have 4 teams signed up for the 2026 event: Alabama, FSU, Purdue, and Texas Tech. We are looking for up to 8 teams.

2026 WBCA Challenge (Las Vegas)

At the December board meeting, the full board did not support moving forward with the WBCA Challenge (Las Vegas) without a financial guarantee from the Las Vegas Aces, given the large financial loss in the first year. I never received a proposal from the Aces.

I tried to move the event to Indianapolis and worked with Julie Roe Lach from the Pacers Sports and Entertainment group. After multiple calls and sharing of our operational plans, the Pacers S&E group could not take on the event this year. They are very interested in working with us in the future, specifically an event in November 2027 leading up to the WFF 2028 in Indy.

I did call Iowa, Baylor, and Texas to let them know we were disappointed this was not able to work and thanked them for their willingness to play in a WBCA event.

**Report of the
WBCA Board of Directors Nominating Committee
Oct. 1, 2025, Videoconference**

The Nominating Committee of the WBCA Board of Directors convened via videoconference on Oct. 1, 2025, with Joni Taylor, WBCA vice president, presiding.

Proceedings

1. **Call to order.** Taylor called the meeting to order.

2. **NCAA Division I coach director openings.** The committee considered candidates for open positions currently held by Gene Hill (Georgia State) and Charmin Smith (California, Berkeley). Hill is eligible for and is seeking re-election. Smith is term limited and is not eligible for re-election. Other applicants for these open positions are Dan Burt (Duquesne), Krista Gerlich (Texas Tech), Colleen Mullen (Albany), Samantha Quigley Smith (SIU Edwardsville) and Brandon Schneider (Kansas).

ACTION

- The committee nominated **Gene Hill** (Georgia State) for re-election to a second term in the open position he currently holds.

 - The committee nominated **Diane Richardson** (Temple) for election to the open position currently held by Charmin Smith (California). Smith is completing the final year of her second term and is not eligible for re-election.
3. **NCAA Division II coach director opening.** The committee considered candidates for the open position currently held by Dave Slifer (Central Missouri). Slifer is eligible for and is seeking re-election. Other applicants for the open position are Kari Kerkhoff (McKendree), Karla Nelson (Minnesota State Moorhead) and Brenda Nichols (Western New Mexico).

ACTION

- The committee nominated **Dave Slifer** (Central Missouri) for re-election to a second term in the open position he currently holds.

4. **NCAA Division III coach director opening.** The committee considered candidates for the open position currently held by Carissa Sain (Illinois Tech). Sain is eligible for and is seeking re-election. There are no other candidates for this open position.

ACTION

- The committee nominated **Carissa Sain** (Illinois Tech) for re-election to a second term in the open position she currently holds.
5. **Two-Year College and Scholastic coach director openings.** The committee agreed to meet again by videoconference on Oct. 22, 2025, to consider candidates for these open positions. The committee instructed staff NOT to advertise the Scholastic coach director opening to the membership as incumbent Karen Self (Seton Catholic Prep, Arizona) was elected in May 2025 to fill the remaining year of Kathy Stoudt's term of service, has not yet served a full year in the position, and is eligible for election to a full three-year term of her own.
 4. **Adjournment.** Taylor adjourned the meeting.

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**Report of the
WBCA Board of Directors Nominating Committee
Oct. 22, 2025, Videoconference**

The Nominating Committee of the WBCA Board of Directors convened via videoconference on Oct. 22, 2025, with Jack Watford, WBCA director of communications and governance, presiding for Joni Taylor, WBCA vice president, who was unable to attend.

Proceedings

1. **Call to order.** Watford called the meeting to order.
2. **Two-Year College coach director opening.** The committee considered candidates for the open position currently held by Romeo Lagmay (Taft), who is term limited and is not eligible for re-election. Other applicants for the open position are Jason Jaramillo (Los Angeles Harbor, California), Andrew Morong (Central Maine), Misty Opat (Cochise, Arizona) and Saudra Proctor (Southeast, Nebraska).

ACTION

- The committee nominated **Misty Opat** (Cochise, Arizona) for election to the open position.
3. **Scholastic coach director opening.** The committee discussed the fact that Karen Self (Seton Catholic Prep, Arizona), who currently holds the open position, was elected in May 2025 to fill the remaining year of Kathy Stoudt's term of service and has not yet served a full year in the position. The committee noted that Self is eligible to serve a full three-year term of her own.

ACTION

- The committee nominated **Karen Self** (Seton Catholic Prep, Arizona) for re-election to a first term of her own in the open position she currently holds.
4. **Next Meeting.** The committee will reaffirm its nominations by email before the April 2, 2026, meeting of the board of directors. It will meet again upon call of the chair only if a nominee becomes ineligible for the position to which they have been nominated, or concerns are raised about a nominee that would necessitate the committee revisit the nomination.
 5. **Adjournment.** Watford adjourned the meeting.

###

WBCA STAFF ANALYSIS

PROPOSAL: 2026-02

TITLE: Composition of the Board of Directors

SPONSOR: WBCA Executive Committee

SUMMARY

Effect of the Proposal:

The proposal:

- Increases the number of DI coach directors on the board from 5 to 6.
- Eliminates the position dedicated to a DI conference commissioner director.
- Increases from 1 to 2 the number of athletics administrator directors and eliminates additional qualifications for their selection.
- Reduces from 3 to 2 the number of public sector directors, renames them as directors at large, and establishes qualifications for their selection.
- Eliminates the conference and institutional restrictions on the board when selecting the DI commissioner director and athletics administrator directors.

Fiscal Impact:

None on the association or its members.

PRESENT SITUATION

- A4 conferences control the governance of D1 athletics. It is strategically important that the WBCA Board of Directors has effective communication lines with the all four A4 conferences due to the new governance structure.
 - Should the board increase the number of D1 coach directors from 5 to 6 so that it can select 1 coach director from each A4 conference without limiting the other 28 conferences to only 1 coach director?
 - If yes, this can be accomplished without increasing the total number of voting directors (which the board has wisely resisted for 11 years) by reducing from 3 to 2 the number of public sector directors. There originally were 2 public sector directors. A 3rd was added when a separate director position for a now-defunct non-coach committee chairperson was eliminated. One of the 3 public sector positions is currently vacant.
- In 2023, the membership voted to support a transition of the board from a representative board to a corporate board and empowered the board to select its own members based on its strategic needs. The one exception is the D1 conference commissioner which is selected by the CCA. The CCA does not know

WBCA Staff Analysis

Proposal 2026-02

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and may not be aligned with the strategic needs of the WBCA. The WBCA has no say in whom the CCA selects as the D1 commissioner director.

- Should the board eliminate a voting director position dedicated to a D1 conference commissioner that is selected by the CCA?
- If yes, this can be accomplished by eliminating the designated D1 commissioner position and increasing the number of athletics administrators from 1 to 2. By further removing provisions relating to collegiate, conference or campus-based administrators, this will allow the board maximum flexibility to select any athletic administrator it chooses — from any level of competition (scholastic to professional), at an educational institution or professional team franchise, or from the office of a conference, national governing body or professional league.

INTENT

It is the intent of this proposal to empower the board of directors to select all voting directors, not all but one, and to address on its roster the political realities of D1 athletics.

RATIONALE

The board needs additional flexibility to address within its roster the political realities in D1 athletics and to strategically select all voting directors so that it can meet the political and business needs of the WBCA and act in the best interests of the association.

###

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WBCA BYLAWS

PROPOSAL 2026-02

A Proposal to Amend WBCA Bylaws

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4 Relating to the board of directors; amending section 4.2;
5 increasing from five to six the number of NCAA Division I
6 head coach directors; eliminating the NCAA Division I
7 conference commissioner director; increasing from one to
8 two the number of athletics administrator directors;
9 eliminating additional qualifications for persons
10 selected as athletics administrator directors; reducing
11 from three to two the number of public sector directors;
12 renaming public sector directors as directors at large;
13 establishing qualifications for persons selected as
14 directors at large; amending subsection 4.4.1;
15 eliminating the conference and institution restrictions
16 on the board when selecting the NCAA Division I
17 conference commissioner director and athletics
18 administrator directors; repealing subsection 4.4.2
19 relating to the selection of the NCAA Division I
20 conference commissioner director; determining the

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WBCA BYLAWS

21 amendment to be non-controversial; providing an effective
22 date.

23
24 Be It Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Women's
25 Basketball Coaches Association:

26 **PART 1. Section 4.2, WBCA Bylaws is amended to read:**

27 COMPOSITION. These 25 persons compose ~~comprise~~ the board of
28 directors:

29 (a) The officers of the association, who are a president,
30 vice president, immediate past president, secretary and treasurer.

31 (b) Six ~~Five~~ NCAA Division I head coaches.

32 (c) Three NCAA Division II head coaches.

33 (d) Three NCAA Division III head coaches.

34 (e) One NAIA head coach.

35 (f) One two-year college head coach.

36 (g) One scholastic head coach.

37 (h) One assistant coach.

38 ~~(i) One NCAA Division I conference commissioner.~~

39 (i j) Two ~~One collegiate~~ athletics administrators. ~~This person~~
40 ~~may work for either a conference or an institution and must be~~

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WBCA BYLAWS

41 ~~directly responsible for supervising the conference or~~
42 ~~institution's women's basketball program.~~

43 (j ~~*~~) Two directors at large, each of whom may be any person
44 who meets the qualifications established in section 4.3. ~~Three~~
45 ~~persons from the public sector. Each public sector director should~~
46 ~~have a demonstrated history of success in business, who by virtue~~
47 ~~of their experience, can be expected to bring unique skill, talent~~
48 ~~or relationships to the association. A public sector director~~
49 ~~cannot be, nor for at least five years prior to their selection to~~
50 ~~the board cannot have been, directly associated in any way with the~~
51 ~~sport of women's basketball.~~

52 **PART 2. Subsection 4.4.1, WBCA Bylaws, is amended to read:**

53 Restrictions on Selections. The board of directors cannot:

54 (a) Select a new NCAA Division I head coach director from a
55 conference that has two sitting head coach directors.

56 (b) Select a new NCAA Division II or NCAA Division III head
57 coach director from a conference that has a sitting head coach
58 director.

59 (c) Select a new head coach director from an institution
60 whose assistant coach is a sitting director or vice versa.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WBCA BYLAWS

61 ~~(d) Select a new collegiate athletics administrator director~~
62 ~~from a conference whose commissioner or another athletics~~
63 ~~administrator is a sitting director, or from an institution whose~~
64 ~~head coach or assistant coach is a sitting director, or vice versa.~~

65 (d e) A sitting director who is eligible for re-selection to
66 the position they hold is not a new director and not subject to the
67 restrictions in this subsection.

68 **PART 3. Subsection 4.4.2, WBCA Bylaws, is repealed.**

69 ~~Exception — Commissioner Director. The Collegiate~~
70 ~~Commissioners Association (CCA) selects the NCAA Division I~~
71 ~~conference commissioner director. If the CCA does not select a~~
72 ~~commissioner director, the board of directors may select a second~~
73 ~~collegiate athletics administrator director as defined in Bylaw~~
74 ~~4.3(k) to fill the position.~~

75 **PART 4.** Per subsection 10.1.2, the board of directors by
76 unanimous vote and without abstention determines this proposal is
77 non-controversial, which means that each and every board member
78 present believes the amendment is not harmful or unfavorable to and
79 would be widely accepted by the membership.

80 **PART 5.** Per the provisions of subsection 10.1.2, this
81 amendment takes conditional effect upon adoption. Pending a 90-day

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WBCA BYLAWS

82 membership override opportunity that commences April 3, 2026,

83 adoption shall be final on July 1, 2026.

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