



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S LACROSSE COMMITTEE
JULY 28, 2025, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Automatic qualification.**

(1) Recommendation. That the following 10 conferences receive one AQ spot for the 2026 NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Championship: America East Conference, Atlantic 10 Conference, ASUN Conference, Big East Conference, Big Ten Conference, Coastal Athletic Association, The Ivy League, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Northeast Conference and the Patriot League.

(2) Effective date. 2026 championship.

(3) Rationale. All 10 eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification with eight additional at-large teams. However, given the championship bracket allows 16 teams, two opening-round games are required to comply with NCAA Bylaw 31.3.4.7.1. The four lowest-ranked automatic-qualifying teams as determined by the committee, regardless of conference RPI, will compete in an opening-round game to determine the final two AQ spots in the championship bracket.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Continue to guarantee student-athletes access to the championships.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. 2024 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2024 annual meeting report.
- 2. Rules committee update.** 2025-26 is non-rules change year. The committee discussed and supports using optic yellow balls and black nets for the 2026-27 season. David Sideman was hired to replace Willie Scroggs, whose term is expiring September 1, 2026. Mr. Sideman will be working with Mr. Scroggs for the 2025-26 season as a shadow year.

3. 2025 championship review.

- a. **Selection criteria.** The committee agreed that no changes are needed to the selection criteria at this time and noted that several sport committees use KPI as a secondary criteria. The committee will continue to engage the coaches association on ideas regarding selection criteria.
 - b. **Bracket review.** The committee emphasized the need to address and potentially submit recommendations once the new committee structure is formed regarding:
 - Bracket expansion.
 - Seed the entire bracket or other enhancements to seeding.
 - c. **Rosters.** The committee looks forward to allowing all student-athletes on the team roster to be able to play in the game. The committee will look to address this once the new structure is formed.
 - d. **Surveys.** The committee reviewed the surveys and noted areas for hotel improvement. Staff will continue to focus on these areas when managing hosting bids. The committee believes the issues were primarily due to the joint championship and most likely will have been addressed by the time the championship returns in 2028.
 - e. **2025 championship awards presentation.** The committee reviewed the 2025 championship awards presentation and noted that this should be a point of emphasis for future championships.
 - f. **Practice field setup.** Directional signage would be helpful for teams.
 - g. **Locker rooms.** The split locker room is not ideal due to no sound barriers.
 - h. **Schedule.** The committee reviewed the challenges of the 2025 schedule and agreed that it worked but was not ideal due to joint women's championship.
 - i. **Preliminary rounds.** Navy's attendance was exceptional, and Hofstra continues to be a solid host.
4. **Broadcast updates.** Viewership was up 7 percent with an average of 567k viewers for finals. Game On Journey to the Championship stories were a success, featuring three of the four teams that made it to the championship (Cornell, Syracuse and Maryland). ESPN would like to continue and expand coverage between semifinal games with talent on site.
5. **2026 Automatic Qualifiers.** The NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Committee recommends that all ten eligible conferences receive one automatic qualification sport for the 2026 NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Championship.

6. **Future sites review.** Brown University and Hofstra University will be hosting the quarterfinals May 16-17, 2026. The University of Virginia will host the men's championships May 23-25, 2026.
7. **2026 championship site visit review.** The committee is looking forward to bringing the championship back to a campus and agrees that the University of Virginia will be a great host.
8. **Bid cycle sport specific bid specifications.** Staff will be updating bid specifications for the next bid cycle.
9. **Election of the chair.** The committee chose to not elect a chair until the new oversight committee structure is in place.

Committee Chair: Matthew Colagiovanni, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick.

Staff Liaison(s): Ryan Tressel, Championships and Alliances.

Division I Men's Lacrosse Committee July 28, 2025, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Matthew Colagiovanni, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick (virtual).	
Danie Daluisio, The Ohio State University.	
Nick Gannon, Drexel University.	
Absentees:	
Jamie Mullin, Syracuse University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:	
Leslie Havens, Championships and Alliances.	
Ryan Tressel, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Will Hopkins, Jarom McLiver and Nick Moller.	

