



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S LACROSSE COMMITTEE
JUNE 25, 2024, MEETING**

KEY ITEM.

- **Automatic qualification.** The NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Committee recommends that all 10 eligible conferences receive one automatic qualification spot for the 2025 NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Championship.

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Automatic qualification.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 10 conferences receive one AQ spot for the 2025 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. 2025 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 for sixteen 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. This is one more conference than last season, as the NEC now meets AQ status.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. The cost of the additional opening round game.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. More student-athletes are guaranteed postseason access with the addition of the Northeast Conference automatic qualifier status. (See Action Item 2-b below.)

b. Additional opening-round games.

- (1) Recommendation. With the addition of the NEC as an AQ conference, it is necessary to add an opening-round game.

(2) Effective date. 2025 championship

(3) Rationale. Previously the championship had a 16-team bracket with nine AQs and eight at-large selections for a total of 17 teams. With the addition of the NEC as an AQ conference, the number of AQ's increases to 10. The request for another opening-round game would result in a bracket with two opening-round games that would feed into the 16-team bracket. The four lowest-ranked automatic-qualifying teams as determined by the committee, regardless of conference RPI, will compete in the opening-round games to determine the final two AQ spots in the championship bracket.

(4) Estimated budget impact. Estimated cost at approximately \$62,000 which includes team travel, per diem and game expenses.

(5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation allows for another AQ conference to send a team to the national tournament.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2023 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2023 annual meeting report.
2. **Rules committee update.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee met in June and the membership comment period closed June 24. Most changes are around video review. The committee discussed requiring opening-round hosts to have the capabilities of video review but took no action at this time as they feel this has not been adopted by enough conferences yet. The committee will review this annually and provide adequate lead time if it becomes a requirement.
3. **Selection criteria.** The committee agreed that no changes are needed to the selection criteria at this time. The committee would like to continue to look at the proposed SAFE Model but feel it needs more review at this time. The committee will also continue the ESPN reveal ranking and include a press release on ncaa.com and social media.
4. **2024 Championship review.**
 - a. **Preliminary rounds.** The committee reviewed the surveys and noted areas for improvement. Staff will work on these areas when managing hosting bids.
 - b. **Championship site.** The committee reviewed the team hotels and feels they were well suited for the championship.
 - c. **Banquet.** The committee confirmed not having a banquet for the upcoming year (2025 championship) as this past year teams really enjoyed creating their own experiences and not having to rush around on a schedule. The committee would like to continue to substitute gear in place of the banquet.

- d. **Schedule.** The committee received a report from staff regarding media press conferences and the adjustments that were made from the previous year. The adjustment to move to virtual press conferences this year went well and appreciated by teams. Attendance was low for these virtual sessions, so it has been determined to no longer do official press conferences on the off day (Sunday) but instead allow the ability to request interviews directly through the schools.
 - e. **Broadcast.** The committee received an update from the NCAA broadcast liaison regarding ratings for the entire tournament. Viewing was down a bit due to the rain delay and not compelling games.
 - f. **Officiating.** The quality of officials was exceptional at the championships. It was commented that black nets and optic yellow balls may aide in people (fans, officials, participants) tracking the ball. The committee will seek feedback at coaches convention on this subject.
- 5. **2025 Championship review.**
 - 6. **Divisional championships recap.** The Divisions I, II and III Men's Lacrosse Committees met to recap the student-athlete experience in Philadelphia. Overall, they felt it was a wonderful experience with no major adjustments needed for next year.
 - 7. **2025 Automatic Qualifiers.** The NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Committee recommends that all ten eligible conferences receive one automatic qualification sport for the 2025 NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Championship. This is one more AQ than the season before due to the NEC gaining back AQ status.
 - 8. **2025 annual meeting dates.** The committee would like to continue to look at combining the annual meeting with the championship site visit. They feel it saves not only on costs but also time.
 - 9. **Future championships bid review.** The committee reviewed quarter-final and final site bids for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 academic years and look to finalize recommendations by the end of July.
 - 10. **Election of the chair.** The committee approved that Matt Colagiovanni continue to serve as chair for the 2024-25 academic year.

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 June 25, 2024, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Matthew Colagiovanni, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick.	
Danie Daluisio, The Ohio State University.	
Nick Gannon, Drexel University.	
Randy Mearns, St. Bonaventure University.	
Absentees:	
Joe Breschi, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.	
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:	
Tommy Barrett, Nick Moeller and Andy Supergan.	