

# REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S LACROSSE COMMITTEE MARCH 12, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE

#### KEY ITEMS.

• Video review during the NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship. The NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Committee requests using video review at preliminary-round sites and the finals site during the championship. (See Action Item 2.)

#### ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
  - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items.
  - Video review during the NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship.
    - a. Recommendation. Allow video review to be used during the Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship. The committee recommends that video review be used by preliminary-round hosts that have the capability and technology to implement it during postseason. This does not mean the institution must use it during the regular season if their conference does not allow it. The committee will work with the NCAA playing rules staff to provide minimum specifications to potential hosts of what is required to have video review available. If a potential preliminary-round host does not have video review capabilities, it would not preclude them from hosting. The committee also recommends contracting and using video-review technology at the finals site of the 2024 championship.
    - b. <u>Effective date</u>. During the 2024 Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship, with selections occurring Sunday, May 5.
    - c. <u>Rationale</u>. The committee believes that video review should be used during the championship to ensure the correct call is applied as much as possible. While it is currently an experimental rule, the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee provided each sport committee the ability to use it during the postseason if desired. Only 20 institutions requested using it during the regular season. The lacrosse committee acknowledges that the timing of the request during mid-season is not ideal, but the committee wants to have a better understanding of which institutions planned to use video-review technology during the 2024 season. Institutions were to have requested the use of this technology from the NCAA playing rules staff by Feb. 9.

Since the women's lacrosse rules committee provided the sport committee the option to have video review available during the postseason, the lacrosse committee believes it would be a disservice to not have the opportunity to be used during the postseason, when the correct decisions are crucial. The committee believes having review available during the championship will help grow the sport and enhance the championship. Additionally, the committee is aware that Division I Men's Lacrosse Committee currently uses video review during its championship and wants to provide an equitable experience when possible. The NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Championship mirrors the same philosophy in its opening round, with allowing the opening-round hosts that have the capability to use the technology, but not requiring it to be eligible to host. Additionally, the women's lacrosse committee conferred with Melissa Coyne, the national coordinator of officials, who expressed confidence that the pool of eligible officials during the championship will have sufficient experience using the technology. Ms. Coyne expressed the sentiment that the officials highly recommend having video review available so they have the ability to ensure the correct call is made. The committee will work with the playing rules staff to provide minimum specifications for hosts on video review technology, and informational guides for coaches to assist on the logistics of the rule. The committee worked with the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association to survey head coaches on their recommendation for video review during postseason. There were 62 respondents out of a possible 124 championship eligible programs. Out of the 62 respondents, 57 coaches supported having video review available during postseason, while three were indifferent, and two were opposed. There were 59 respondents in favor of having video review available at the finals site. Finally, there were 46 respondents supportive of having video review available at preliminary rounds if capable. There were 14 respondents that were only in favor of having video review available at preliminary rounds if it was mandated. Finally, in 2025, the Division I Men's and Women's Lacrosse Championships will be conducted jointly at the same site, meaning video review technology will be readily available for both genders. Accordingly, the committee feels that implementing the recommendation in 2024 makes sense to continue advancing the sport.

- d. <u>Estimated budget impact</u>. Approximately \$10,000, which will be absorbed through the host budget. The \$10,000 includes the fee for the video-review company at the finals site, as well as travel expenses for the video-review personnel. There will be minimal budget impact during preliminary rounds if institutions require additional staff to administer the technology.
- e. <u>Student-athlete impact.</u> Student-athletes will be provided every opportunity to ensure the correct call is made on the field if video-review technology is used. Ultimately, the student-athlete experience is directly tied into the result of the competition and

officiating, and the goal of the committee is to ensure the student-athletes are aware that the technology was available if needed.

Committee Chair: Samantha Eustace, Mercer University, Big South Conference

Staff Liaison(s): Caleb Kolby Championships and Alliances

Linda Godby, Championships and Alliances

# NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Committee March 12, 2024, Videoconference

### **Attendees:**

Bonnie Rosen, Temple University.

Cathy Reese, University of Maryland.

Jessica Grasso, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

Lindsey Thomas, University of Florida.

Samantha Eustace, Mercer University.

Suzette McQueen, Kent State University.

#### **Absentees:**

None.

## **Guests in Attendance:**

None.

### NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:

Caleb Kolby, Championships and Alliances.

## Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Linda Godby, Will Hopkins