

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S LACROSSE COMMITTEE November 26, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE

KEY ITEMS.

• **2026 championship host**. (See Action Item 2.)

ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
 - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items.
 - 2026 championship host.
 - a. <u>Recommendation</u>. The NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Committee requests approval for Northwestern University to be host of the 2026 NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship and for the competition to be played at Northwestern Medicine Field at Martin Stadium.
 - b. Effective date. Jan. 15, 2025.
 - c. <u>Rationale</u>. The committee requests approval to move the site of the 2026 women's lacrosse championship to Northwestern due to the original 2026 selected host, Gillette Stadium, not being able to host. Gillette Stadium is unable to host due to being selected as a host site for the 2026 FIFA World Cup. The committee has thoroughly reviewed the bid materials submitted by Northwestern and noted that the facility meets the minimum specifications to host this championship as outlined in the bid materials. The committee is also confident with the hotel options presented and that there are several suitable options that meet minimum requirements for the teams and officials. The committee is confident that the host institution is able to host this championship and place an emphasis not only on the student-athlete experience, but also an enhanced fan experience.
 - d. <u>Estimated budget impact</u>. The committee expects the budget for 2026 to be in range of a typical championship host and will work with Northwestern throughout the planning process on all budget items.
 - e. <u>Student-athlete impact.</u> The committee is confident that selecting an experienced, enthusiastic host will provide a world-class championship experience to the four advancing teams to the finals site.

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INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

• None.

None.

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
November 26, 2024, Videoconference
Attendees:
Derek Cowherd, University of Louisville.
Samanta Eustace, Mercer University.
Cathy Reese, University of Maryland-College Park
Bonnie Rosen, Temple University
Lindsey Thomas, University of Florida.
Absentees:
Suzette McQueen, Kent State University.
Guests in Attendance:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:
Caleb Kolby, Linda Godby.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance: