



# ***PRECHAMPIONSHIP 2025-26 MANUAL***

# NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

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### THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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September 2025

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# Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2025-26 academic year, the Association will sponsor 92 national championships – 43 for men, 47 for women and two for both men and women. Of the men's championships, four are National Collegiate Championships, 13 are Division I championships, 12 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. Of the women's championships, eight are National Collegiate Championships, 12 are Division I championships, 13 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. The combined men's and women's championships are National Collegiate Championships.

The Prechampionship Manual will serve as a resource for institutions to prepare for the championship. This manual is divided into three sections: General Administrative Guidelines, Sport-Specific Information and Appendixes.

Sections one through nine apply to policies applicable to all 92 championships, while the remaining sections are sport specific.

## Section 1.1 Definitions

**Prechampionship Manual.** Resource for institutions to prepare for the championship.

**Administrative Meeting.** Prechampionship meeting for coaches and/or administrators.

**Appendixes.** Any supplemental documents to be provided and distributed through the various resources.

**Championship Manager.** The NCAA staff member(s) responsible for the operational oversight of the championship.

**Games Committee.** The committee assigned to supervise the conduct of each championship session at a specific site. For finals sites, the games committee is typically the NCAA national committee.

**NCAA National Committee.** The sport committee with direct oversight responsibilities for the championship.

**Non-predetermined Sites.** Those sites that are selected to host at the time of the participant/team selections announcement.

**Playing Rules.** The rules under which the competition will be conducted.

**Predetermined Sites.** Those sites that are selected to host before the participant/team selections announcement.

**Preliminary Rounds.** The rounds of the championship before the final or championship round.

**Regional Alignment.** The geographic location of institutions or regional advisory committees.

**Schedule of Events.** Official event schedule – includes all required activities (e.g., practices, banquets).

**Selection Criteria.** Policies and procedures in place to guide the team selection process.

**Site Selection Criteria.** Policies and procedures in place to guide the site selection process.

**Squad Size.** In any championship in which a squad limit has been established by the governing sport committee or by the bylaws, the number of eligible student-athletes in competitive uniform eligible to participate at the start of competition.

**Tournament Physician.** The physician designated by the host institution/conference to serve as the chief medical advisor for the championship event(s) to be hosted at the host venue.

# Section 2 • Championship Core Statement

The championships and alliances staff strives to administer competition in a fair, safe, equitable and sportsmanlike manner so that the experience of the student-athlete is paramount.

This is attained by:

**Ensuring** student-athletes' optimal experience.

**Executing** championship events reflecting appropriate quality and values to/for stakeholders – student-athletes, coaches, administrators, member institutions, sport committees, fans, broadcast partners and corporate champions/partners.

**Coordinating** all aspects of the championship in an efficient, effective manner through common operating policies and practices, using internal and external resources.

**Integrating** championships with broadcast and corporate relationships in a manner that maintains the integrity of the championship.

**Assuring** effective management of the business aspects of the operation.

**Enhancing** the assets of the NCAA and their value by collaborating with internal and external expertise to achieve heightened exposure (e.g., community programs, fan events, banquets, anniversaries).

## Section 3 • Conduct

### Section 3.1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

*[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20.2.4, 31.2.1.7.1, 31.2.1.7.1.2 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaws 7.3.1.5 and 18.2.1 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Division II Championships Committee Policy and Bylaws 31.2.1.5, 31.2.1.5.2, and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]*

Only student-athletes eligible under Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 may compete in NCAA championships. Member institutions are required to certify the eligibility of their student-athletes before the beginning of each academic year and to withhold ineligible student-athletes from all intercollegiate competition.

Member institutions are reminded to notify the NCAA national office before the selection date for each championship of any student-athlete who may have participated in regular-season competition but subsequently is determined to be ineligible or unavailable for NCAA championship competition.

#### DISCOVERY OF INELIGIBILITY OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE AFTER SELECTION

If an institution fails to report an ineligible student-athlete and the omission is not discovered until after the institution is selected to participate in the championship, necessitating the institution's withdrawal from the championship, that withdrawal shall be considered as one of the years of ineligibility, provided another institution participates in the championship in place of the disqualified institution. If the discovery of the ineligible student-athlete occurs so near the beginning of the championship that the governing sport committee does not have a reasonable period of time to replace the disqualified institution in the bracket, that fact shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of years the disqualified institution shall be ineligible to participate.

### Section 3.2 Drug Testing

As part of preparation and planning to participate in championship events, member institutions are reminded and encouraged to review all applicable policy and legislative requirements pertaining to banned substances, drug testing and related eligibility requirements with their student-athletes. Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with legislation and may be determined to be ineligible as a result thereof. Only student-athletes who have consented in writing to such testing are initially eligible for these championships; and thereafter, student-athletes who are tested shall remain eligible only if they test negative.

### Section 3.3 Honesty and Sportsmanship

Individuals employed by (or associated with) a member institution to administer, conduct or coach intercollegiate athletics and all participating student-athletes shall act with honesty and sportsmanship at all times so that intercollegiate athletics as a whole, their institutions and they, as individuals, shall represent the honor and dignity of fair play and the generally recognized high standards associated with wholesome competitive sports.

### Section 3•4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies

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#### MISCONDUCT

Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship, that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics. Each games committee shall hold an administrative meeting with the representatives of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct.

#### FAILURE TO ADHERE TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A governing sport committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution for failure of any of its representatives to adhere to the policies and procedures governing the administration of the competition. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to comply with the procedures and deadlines for submitting scores, score sheets, schedules, rosters and entry/march-in forms for qualification and other materials necessary for the efficient administration of the competition. [Click here](#) to see the full misconduct/failure to adhere to policies and procedures online.

### Section 3•5 Sports Wagering Policy

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Sports wagering includes placing, accepting or soliciting a wager (on a staff member's or student-athlete's own behalf or on the behalf of others) of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur or professional team or contest. Examples of sports wagering include, but are not limited to, the use of a bookmaker or parlay card; internet sports wagering; mobile betting; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize.

The current NCAA legislation against sports wagering prohibits NCAA student-athletes, member institutions' athletics staff and non-athletics staff with athletics responsibilities, and conference office staff from participating in sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities concerning intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics practice or competition in a sport in which the NCAA conducts championship competition, in bowl subdivision football and in emerging sports for women.

A wager is any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value.

#### STUDENT-ATHLETES

A student-athlete found in violation of the prohibition against knowingly participating in any sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activity that involves intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics competition shall be ineligible for further intercollegiate competition, subject to appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of eligibility.

#### POSTSEASON

In championships in which a bracket format is used, student-athletes, coaches and administrators may not participate in bracket competitions where there is both a required entry fee and an opportunity to win a prize. Student-athletes and administrators may participate under current NCAA rules in bracket contests where there is no entry fee but a possibility of winning a prize. Some NCAA member schools, however, have chosen to ban student-athletes from participating in these types of bracket contests.

#### HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

It is permissible for NCAA championships to be conducted at locations in states that permit sports wagering.

### Section 3•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

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During the NCAA championships, the student-athlete experience is paramount. NCAA staff and hosts dedicate themselves to planning the best experiences for all involved. As part of our commitment to getting better, following the championship, participants will receive a survey to provide feedback on their experience and input on how championships can be improved for future NCAA student-athletes. Institutional administrators and coaches will receive

an email containing a link to the survey and will be asked to forward the survey to student-athletes. Additionally, this survey will be accessible via QR code found on the back of NCAA-issued championship credentials.

We also understand that sometimes certain circumstances or conditions occurring during the events may require real-time consideration. When this is the case, student-athletes may reach out to their site representative or NCAA national office staff on-site.

## Section 4 • Elite Scholar-Athlete™ Award

The Elite Scholar-Athlete award was created to recognize the true essence of student-athletes by honoring individuals who have reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in their sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among their peers. The award is presented in every sport, every division, and goes to the student-athlete who has the highest cumulative grade-point average of all student-athletes competing at the finals site. One student-athlete per championship will receive the award, and the announcement of the winner will be made at the finals site.

Institutions that wish to nominate a student-athlete must do so through an online nomination process. For more information or to access the online form and submit a nomination, [click here](#).

## Section 5 • Fan Travel

Through support from Marriott International as the Official Hotel Partner of the NCAA, NCAA championships are pleased to provide easy and affordable accommodations for family and fans to follow their favorite student-athlete(s) and team(s) as they participate in NCAA championships competition. Travel arrangements completed through Marriott and NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to [ncaa.com/travel](https://ncaa.com/travel) to search and book online hotel reservations.

## Section 6 • Health and Safety

As part of preparation and planning to host and/or participate in championship events, member institutions are reminded and encouraged to review all applicable health and safety policy and legislative requirements and guidance including, among others, those relating to concussion management, catastrophic injury prevention, inclement weather and independent medical care. These requirements and related information can be found in applicable division manuals, sports playing rules and the materials located on the [Health, Safety & Performance website](#). In addition, a summary of some of the key health and safety considerations related to traveling to championship events can be found in the [NCAA's Guidance for Medical Care and Coverage for Student-Athletes at Away Events](#).

## Section 7 • Logo Policy

*[Reference: Bylaws 12.5.4, 31.1.7 and 31.1.8 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaw 17.1.10 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaw 12.5.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]*

A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the following criteria are met:

1. Athletics equipment (e.g., shoes, helmets, baseball bats and gloves, batting or golf gloves, hockey and lacrosse sticks, goggles and skis) shall bear only the manufacturer's normal label or trademark, as it is used on all such items for sale to the general public; and

2. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform (including numbered racing bibs and warmups) and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, head bands, T-shirts, wrist bands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) shall bear only a single manufacturer's or distributor's normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark), not to exceed 2-1/4 square inches in area (rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel shall not bear a design element similar to the manufacturer's trademark/logo that is in addition to another trademark/logo that is contrary to the size restriction.

## Section 8 • Research

In order to avoid inappropriate and unnecessary participant distraction and disruption of championship events, it is expected any data collection or other research efforts conducted at or during championship events will be coordinated through the national office, with notice and a description of any research proposal to be submitted to the NCAA research staff at least six weeks before the championships event begins.

## Section 9 • Travel Party

Please refer to the NCAA travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. NCAA Travel policies are updated annually and can be found online [here](#). Please reference Appendix A of the travel policies for reimbursable travel party numbers. The travel policies supersede all other documents.

## Section 10 • Division II

### Section 10.1 Division II Philosophy

In addition to the constitution of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, as set forth in Constitution [1](#), members of Division II believe that a well-conducted intercollegiate athletics program, based on sound educational principles and practices, is a proper part of the educational mission of a university or college and that the educational well-being and academic success of the participating student-athlete is of primary concern.

Higher education has lasting importance on an individual's future success. As such, Division II supports the educational mission of college athletics by fostering a balanced approach in which student-athletes learn and develop through their desired academic pursuits, in civic engagement with their communities and in athletics competition. Division II athletics programs also are committed to establishing an inclusive culture in which persons of all backgrounds are respected and given the opportunity to provide input and to participate. Division II members abide by the following principles that help define and distinguish the division: (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(a) Division II colleges and universities are expected to operate their athletics programs with integrity and in a welcoming manner that complies with conference and NCAA rules and regulations. Institutional control is a fundamental principle that supports the institution's educational mission and assumes presidential involvement and oversight; (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(b) Division II members fund their athletics programs in a manner that aligns with the institution's budget and educational mission. This method of funding features a "partial scholarship" model that allows Division II schools to recognize student-athletes for their skills through athletics-based grants, but student-athletes can accept merit-based aid and academic scholarships as well; (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(c) Division II believes in a balanced approach that integrates athletics into the college experience and allows students to focus on their academic pursuits and participate in other campus and community activities. This "Life in the Balance" emphasis facilitates learning through: (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)



(1) **Academics.** Division II offers exceptional teacher-student ratios that provide student-athletes with a quality education in the academic curriculum of their choice. The division structures its eligibility requirements to facilitate student-athletes earning their degrees, which is measured in part by an institution's student-athletes graduating at least at the same rate as the institution's student body; *(Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)*

(2) **Athletics.** Division II supports athletics achievement through highly competitive programs that strive to participate in the division's 25 national championships, which offer the best access ratio among the NCAA's three divisions. Division II also supports a regionalization model in scheduling that reduces time away from campus and keeps athletics participation in perspective within the educational mission; *(Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)*

(3) **Community Engagement.** Division II athletics programs actively engage with their communities to enhance relationships between student-athletes and community members and develop a shared civic experience. Division II promotes engagement at the local, conference and national levels, including at all Division II national championships; and *(Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)*

(4) **Postgraduation Success.** Division II supports a higher education model that shapes student-athletes who graduate with the skills and knowledge to be productive citizens. The balanced approach allows student-athletes to focus on their academic pursuits, their internships, and whatever else it takes to prepare them for life after graduation; *(Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)*

(d) Division II members support the utmost in sportsmanship by committing to a "game environment" initiative that establishes an atmosphere at athletics contests that is both energetic and respectful; and *(Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)*

(e) Division II promotes student-athlete involvement in decision-making through campus, conference and national Student-Athlete Advisory Committees that provide leadership opportunities and offer a representative voice in the division's governance structure. *(Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)*

## Section 10•2 Division II Code of Conduct

### CONDUCT POLICY STATEMENT

The NCAA expects each championship to exhibit an experience that represents the highest level of fair play and good sportsmanship. The NCAA and the NCAA Division II Championships Committee expect that student-athletes, coaches and administrators do their best to ensure participation in intercollegiate athletics promotes character development for all participants, enhances the integrity of higher education and promotes civility; therefore, championship events should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility. These values should be manifest not only in athletics participation, but also in the broad spectrum of activities associated with the championship event. Accordingly, the Championships Committee will take strong action in response to any form of misconduct by student-athletes, coaches and/or administrators during the entire championship. This includes criticism of officials and a misconduct incident at the competition.

Any institution that fails to submit the online form required for the sport administrator and have a complete and accurate signature page on file at the institution before the start of the first competition of the championship will be issued a fine of \$500, with a private letter of reprimand to be sent to the conference commissioner, institutional chancellor/president, institutional athletics director, senior woman administrator, sports information director and compliance director.

### MISCONDUCT

The NCAA Division II Manual Bylaw 18.02.4 defines misconduct as: "... **any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship, that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics.**"

### EXPECTATIONS

Each games committee shall hold a pre-championship meeting with the representatives of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct (as defined in Bylaw 18.02.4). The Division II Championships Code of Conduct is to be part of the championship(s) packet and delivered to all institutional representatives attending the championship(s) events.



## GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

If the act of misconduct occurs during the competition, under normal circumstances, the individual shall be allowed to complete the competition. An administrative hearing shall be held at the conclusion of the day's competition, during a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted or at the conclusion of the championship. However, if the act of misconduct is so flagrant that it obviously violates the principles of fair play and sportsmanship, the games committee may immediately withdraw the student-athlete or institutional representative from the competition and conduct the hearing after this action. Other actions of misconduct shall be dealt with in a timely manner by the governing sport committee.

### EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES, COACHES AND ADMINISTRATORS

- Have on file at the institution an accurate and complete Division II Code of Conduct signature page before the start of the first competition of the championship(s).
- Cooperate and participate in game ceremonies, team meetings, community engagement and championship competition.
- Discuss misconduct and possible consequences with all institutional personnel traveling with the team (official travel party and additional individuals).
- Have an administrator or designee present at all competitions.
- Communicate issues and concerns in a honest and timely manner with NCAA staff.
- Follow team, university and NCAA guidelines throughout all championship-related activities.
- Be respectful of other participants, spectators, coaches, administrators and other individuals at the championship(s) site.
- Abide by federal, state and local laws and regulations and facility requirements throughout the championship event.
- Display acceptable behavior on and off the playing field to ensure a positive experience for all participants.

### POSSIBLE PENALTIES FOR MISCONDUCT

In accordance with Division II Championships Committee policy, the governing sport committee (or the games committee authorized to act for it) may impose any one or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of an institution guilty of misconduct that occurs incident to, enroute to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice. The penalties include, but are not limited to:

- a. Public or private reprimand of the individual;
- b. Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the NCAA championship(s) involved;
- c. Banishment of the individual from participation in one or more subsequent championships of the sport involved;
- d. Cancellation of payment of the Association's travel guarantee to the institution for the individual involved;
- e. Banishment of the institution from participation in one or more future championships in which its team in that sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;
- f. Disqualification of an institution for a period of time from serving as host institution for one or more
- g. NCAA championships;
- h. Cancellation of all or a portion of the honorarium for hosting an NCAA championship(s); and
- i. Financial or other penalties different from (a) through (g) above, but only if they have prior approval of the Championships Committee.

All correspondence regarding a violation of the Code of Conduct will be sent to the chancellor/president of the institution, with a copy to the director of athletics and person(s) involved.

Participation in an NCAA championship is an accomplishment and it is expected that individuals and teams are committed to ensuring that the championship is a positive experience for all participants, fans and volunteers. Participation in these championship events is a privilege for the student-athletes, coaches and administrators and should be treated as such.

### Section 10•3 On-Site Administrator at Team Championships

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All team sports require that a designated individual be identified from each institution participating in the championship as the on-site administrator. This person may be any individual from that school with no on-site responsibilities. The role of the on-site administrator is to be present at the competition site and attend all events that are mandated for the team (e.g., travel from institution to and from the championship site, teleconferences/videoconferences, prechampionship meetings, practices, competition and community engagement, where applicable).

If no one is sent or identified, the site representative is to notify the NCAA championship manager and Division II Championships Committee liaison to administer a fine of \$500, with a private letter of reprimand to be sent to the conference commissioner, university chancellor/president university director of athletics, senior woman administrator, sports information director and compliance director. The NCAA championship manager will administer the fine and letter of reprimand to the institution(s).

This policy applies to the following sports: baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball.

### Section 10•4 Make Game Day Yours

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Division II promotes a game environment that is respectful and engaging for everyone through the Make Game Day Yours initiative. The initiative aims to create a positive game environment at Division II contests and promotes excellent customer service among hosts to both teams' fans, student-athletes, coaches and game officials.

Championship hosts should keep in mind the importance of safety, responsiveness and dignity in order to achieve a positive experience. We ask that each participant and fan be personally accountable for their actions and do their part to ensure this event is a positive reflection of Make Game Day Yours.

### Section 10•5 Religious Conflicts

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*[Reference: Division II Championships Committee Policy.]*

**Institutional Policy.** If a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, it shall inform the NCAA national office before Sept. 1 of each academic year in order for it or one of its student-athletes to be excused from competing on that day. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution. (*Revised: 1/12/99, 1/8/01, 1/9/01*)

**Individual Championships.** In individual championships, an athlete must compete according to the institution's policy regarding Sunday competition (i.e., if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the athlete shall compete Sunday if required by the schedule).

# Division II Men's Lacrosse

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# Section 1 • General Administration

## Section 1.1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information

### Dante Jones

Coordinator, Championships and Alliances  
P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222  
317-556-7358 / [djones@ncaa.org](mailto:djones@ncaa.org)

## Section 1.2 National Committee

Current members of the committee are:

### NORTH REGION

#### Brian Novotny

Head Men's Lacrosse Coach  
Seton Hill University

### NORTH REGION

#### Danny McCabe

Director of Athletics  
Adelphi University

### SOUTH REGION

#### Chris Barrett, chair

Head Men's Lacrosse Coach  
Belmont Abbey College

### SOUTH REGION

#### Joe Reich

Director of Athletics  
Wingate University

For additional information about the men's lacrosse championship, contact:

### Dante Jones

Coordinator, Championships and Alliances  
NCAA  
317-556-7358 / [djones@ncaa.org](mailto:djones@ncaa.org)

### Chris Barrett, chair

Head Men's Lacrosse Coach  
Belmont Abbey College  
864-838-0034 / [christopherbarrett@bac.edu](mailto:christopherbarrett@bac.edu)

## Section 1.3 Regional Advisory Committees

NAME	INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE
<b>NORTH REGION</b>		
Danny McCabe	Adelphi	NE10
Brian Novotny	Seton Hill	G-MAC
Jim DeCarlo	Chestnut Hill	CACC
Dan Mara	CACC	CACC
Sam Ashton	Lake Erie	G-MAC
Bill Dunn	Molloy	ECC
Ryan MacSpadyen	Mercy	ECC
Guy Bourdon	Assumption	NE-10

## DIVISION II MEN'S LACROSSE

NAME	INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE
<b>SOUTH REGION</b>		
Chris Barrett	Belmont Abbey	Conference Carolinas
Joe Reich	Wingate	SAC
Joey Higginbotham	Mount Olive	Conference Carolinas
Cody Wainscott	UIndy	GLVC
Scott Stark	Maryville	GLVC
Jason Lange	Montevallo	PBC
Troy Moyer	Colorado Mesa	RMAC
Albert Mitchell	Anderson	SAC
John Jez	Embry-Riddle	SSC
Jen Mercurio	Florida Tech	SSC

## Section 1•4 Important Dates

Wednesday, April 15	First published rankings
Wednesday, April 22	Second published rankings
Friday, April 24	Bid materials due
Wednesday, April 29	Third published rankings
Sunday, May 3	Selections
Wednesday, May 6	Opening Round
Sunday, May 10	First Round
Wednesday, May 13	Quarterfinals
Sunday, May 17	Semifinals

### CHAMPIONSHIP DATE

Sunday, May 24, 2026	Scott Stadium, Charlottesville, Virginia
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### FUTURE DATES

Sunday, May 30, 2027	Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Sunday, May 28, 2028	Gillette Stadium, Foxborough, Massachusetts

## Section 1•5 Equipment

In accordance with Bylaw 12.5.4, athletics equipment (e.g., shoes, gloves, helmets, sticks) may bear only the manufacturer's normal label or trademark as it is used on all such items for sale to the general public. Failure to comply with this regulation may jeopardize a student-athlete's eligibility.

## Section 1•6 Rules

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Per NCAA Bylaw 17.30, member institutions shall conduct all of their intercollegiate competition in accordance with the playing rules of the Association in all sports for which the NCAA develops playing rules, including men's lacrosse. The governing sports committee will not consider any results for selection purposes from games not played in accordance with the NCAA rules book ([ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/LC24.pdf](http://ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/LC24.pdf)).

The NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules will be followed in all tournament games. Questions regarding the interpretation of rules should be addressed to Willie Scroggs, Secretary-Rules Editor, Men's Lacrosse, P.O. Box 2126 Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27515; email: [williescroggs@unc.edu](mailto:williescroggs@unc.edu).

## Section 1•7 Uniforms

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The Men's Lacrosse Committee shall determine the home team. The home team shall wear its white or light-colored jerseys. However, this rule may be waived if both coaches agree to do so before the game. When jersey colors are not sufficiently contrasting, the home team shall change its jerseys.

Student-athletes competing in each championship shall wear exclusively the official uniform of their institutions in competition and during related ceremonies. This applies to warm-up uniforms as well as uniforms for competition.

### LOGOS

[Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.](#)



# Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

## Section 2•1 Championship Format

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### START TIME

**4 p.m. Sunday, May 24, 2026** – Scott Stadium, Charlottesville, Virginia

### TRAVEL PARTY

Division II teams located within 600 miles of their competition site are required to use ground transportation. Teams located outside 600 miles may use air transportation. All air transportation must be arranged through Short's Travel Management.

The official traveling party for the Division II Men's Lacrosse Championship is 34. Please refer to the NCAA Travel and Per Diem Policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. This information can be found online at [ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information](https://ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information).

## Section 2•2 Team Transportation Contact Information

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### SHORT'S TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

- Phone number: 866-655-9215
- Email: [ncaaalo@shortstravel.com](mailto:ncaaalo@shortstravel.com)

### NCAA TRAVEL GROUP

- Phone number: 317-917-6751
- Email: [travel@ncaa.org](mailto:travel@ncaa.org)
- Website: [ncaa.com/travel](https://ncaa.com/travel)

## Section 2•3 Results

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### SCORE REPORTING

The score-reporting and stats-reporting processes are now combined for Division II men's lacrosse. Schools will submit all schedule and results to the NCAA statistics site ([web1.ncaa.org/stats/StatsSrv/login](https://web1.ncaa.org/stats/StatsSrv/login)), and this information will then be imported into the score-reporting system for use by the sports committees. Specific instructions and reporting deadlines will be communicated to SIDs in a preseason memo distributed by the media coordination and statistics staff. For questions regarding the reporting process, please contact Nick Moeller at ([nmoeller@ncaa.org](mailto:nmoeller@ncaa.org) or 317-917-6390).

Copies of results will be obtained off the NCAA website, as posted by the host institution's sports information director. These results must be posted on the day of the event and shall include at a minimum: (1) score by periods; (2) first and last name for all goal scorers for each team, along with their total goals for the game; (3) total shots for each team; (4) first and last name of all goalies who play; (5) total saves for each goalie for each team and (6) announced attendance. A computer-generated box score will suffice as long as it includes all information listed. If the form does not, such information shall be added manually to the sports information director's web report.

### STAT CREW

All host sites should use Stat Crew programs to submit statistics for postseason contests. At the end of each game or day of competition, a packed file from each preliminary/championship contest must be sent to [ncaastats@ncaa.org](mailto:ncaastats@ncaa.org) and Nick Moeller ([nmoeller@ncaa.org](mailto:nmoeller@ncaa.org)) at the NCAA national office. These files should be sent immediately following each contest or day of competition.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Nick Moeller.

## REGIONAL RANKINGS

Published regional rankings will be released on [ncaa.com](http://ncaa.com) the last three weeks of the regular season on:

- Wednesday, April 15
- Wednesday, April 22
- Wednesday, April 29

## Section 2•4 Selection Information

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### ALLOCATION OF BERTHS

The NCAA Division II Men's Lacrosse Championship provides for a 18-team single-elimination tournament. Pairings for the championship are determined by regional alignments; eight teams from the North region and ten teams from the South region will be selected.

### AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

Champions of all qualifying conferences will receive automatic qualification for the NCAA Division II Men's Lacrosse Championship.

### AT-LARGE SELECTION

Four teams from the North region and four teams from the South region will be selected for the championship. To be considered during the at-large selection process, a team must have an overall won-lost record of .500 or better versus Division II opponents. An institution must play a minimum of 10 games during the traditional season against Division II opponents to be considered for selection.

### SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS

*[Reference: Selection of Participants in the Division II General Section and Bylaws 31.01.2, 31.01.3, 31.02.4 and 31.3 in the NCAA Manual.]*

## Section 2•5 Selection Criteria

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**Required Selection Criteria.** The following required criteria shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition [Bylaw 31.3.3; Criteria for Selection of Participants]:

- Availability of student-athletes.
- Application of nullification.
- Division II in-region winning percentage.
- Division II winning percentage.
- Division II strength of schedule (opponents' average winning percentage and opponents' opponents' average winning percentage).
- Division II head-to-head competition.
- Results versus Division II common opponents.

### Additional Selection Criteria:

- In-region strength of schedule (opponents' average winning percentage and opponents' opponents' average winning percentage).
- In-region Ratings Percentage Index (RPI).
- Performance Indicator (PI). Refer to [Appendix C](#).

Additionally, input is provided by regional advisory committees for consideration by the Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee. A Division II governing sports committee must contact a regional advisory committee before making its final selection of teams if the committee selection differs from the regional advisory committee's. Coaches' polls and/or any other outside polls or rankings are not used by the Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee for selection purposes. All Division II games, including provisional and conference tournament games, will be used for selections.

### Section 2•6 Site Selection

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Any institution interested in hosting a preliminary round of the 2026 Division II Men's Lacrosse Championship must submit a proposed budget, respond to sport-specific questions, ensure that the institution's key contacts and facility information are complete and current in the Championships Bid and Profile System. Please note that in order to submit a bid, you must first locate the desired championship in the "Championships Available for Bidding" section and select "Start Bid."

All member institutions can regularly and easily access their profiles by visiting [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org). For profile issues, user access or to reset a password, please email [championshipbid@ncaa.org](mailto:championshipbid@ncaa.org) or contact the respective championship manager.

The Championships Committee has prioritized the following site-selection criteria for all championships:

1. Complete bid;
2. Quality and availability of the facility and other necessary accommodations;
3. Geographical location (which may include such factors as rotation of sites, weather, accessibility and transportation costs);
4. Seeding; and
5. Attendance history, hosting history and revenue potential, which shall be considered necessary to assure fiscal responsibility.

For institutions submitting a bid to host preliminary round contests without lights at their facility, games must start no later than 2 p.m. local time.

#### CHAMPIONSHIP BID AND HOST PROFILE PORTAL

The Championships Bid and Host Profile portal can be accessed at [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org). The deadline to submit all bid materials for this championship is Friday, April 24, 2026.

In addition to projected ticket sales (if applicable) and game expenses, prospective hosts should include the following when completing a proposed budget:

- Committee/site representative lodging.
- Game officials lodging.
- State and city taxes/fees.
- Ticket and facility fees.

Committee/site representative's per diem, mileage and luggage fees will be paid by the NCAA. Game officials will be reimbursed via the ArbiterPay system for their game fees, per diem, mileage and luggage fees.

## GAME TIMES

- Opening Round: 4 p.m. Eastern time
- First Round: 1 p.m. Eastern time
- Quarterfinal Round: 4 p.m. Eastern time
- Semifinal Round: 1 p.m. Eastern time

These game times may not be deviated from unless approved by the NCAA Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee. The only reasons the committee may deviate from these established game times are for the hosting of another NCAA championship and/or commencement ceremonies.

## FACILITY PROFILE

Institutions interested in hosting preliminary-round competition of the Division II Men's Lacrosse Championship must add (or ensure accuracy of) facility information for the applicable competition venue. This information is located at [championships.ncaa.org](http://championships.ncaa.org). Any supporting information (e.g., facility diagram, pictures) may be uploaded and attached to that facility's profile.

## KEY CONTACTS

Each institution should list and then maintain its key contacts associated with each sport and the institution. P.O. boxes are not considered an acceptable mailing address. Individuals can be added via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal at [championships.ncaa.org](http://championships.ncaa.org).

## SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Based on a review of current and future championships competition venues, discussions with safety and security experts, and their own expertise and knowledge, the NCAA has established a Safety and Security Advisory Group (SSAG) to develop a compilation of Best Practices for NCAA championships. We urge each competition venue to take these Best Practices into account when developing its safety and security program. As part of your bid, please submit a safety and security plan for your venue, which would be inclusive of the NCAA Championships Safety and Security Team contact information form, located in Appendix A of the Best Practices document.

The best practices for venue safety and security along with the safety and security contact form is located at: [ncaa.org/sites/default/files/Best\\_Practices\\_for\\_Venue\\_Safety\\_and\\_Security.pdf](http://ncaa.org/sites/default/files/Best_Practices_for_Venue_Safety_and_Security.pdf).

## FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

*[Reference: Bylaw 31.4 in the NCAA Manual.]*

A final financial report from each championship site must be submitted via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal under the "budget" tab not later than 60 days after the event.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

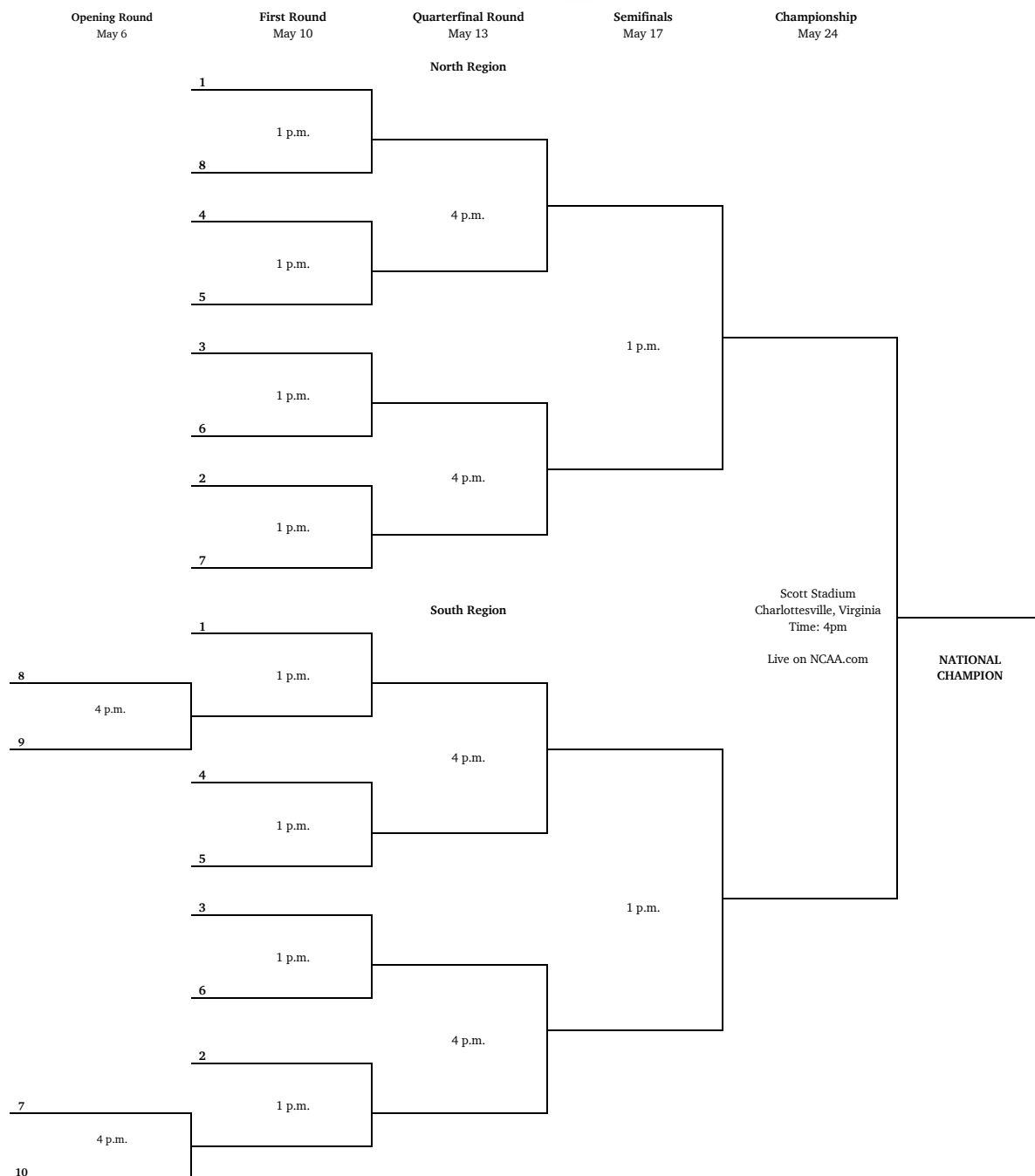
If you have any questions regarding the bid process, please contact the championship manager Dante Jones at [djones@ncaa.org](mailto:djones@ncaa.org) or email us at [championshipbid@ncaa.org](mailto:championshipbid@ncaa.org).

# Appendixes

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# Appendix A • Bracket



\* Host Institution  
 All times are Eastern time.  
 Information subject to change.

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Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship

NORTH REGION

Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (9)

University of Bridgeport	Georgian Court University
Caldwell University	Holy Family University
Chestnut Hill College	Post University
Dominican University New York	Wilmington University (Delaware)
Felician University	

AQ

East Coast Conference (7)

D'Youville College	Molloy University
University of the District of Columbia	Roberts Wesleyan University
Frostburg State University	St. Thomas Aquinas College
Mercy University	

AQ

Great Midwest Athletic Conference (11)

Davenport University	Seton Hill University
Davis & Elkins College	Thomas More University
Lake Erie College	Tiffin University
Malone University	Walsh University
Northwood University	Wheeling University
Point Park University	

AQ

Northeast-10 Conference (9)

Adelphi University	Pace University
American International College	Saint Anselm College
Assumption University	Saint Michael's College
Bentley University	Southern New Hampshire University
Franklin Pierce University	

AQ

**SOUTH REGION****Conference Carolinas (9)**

Barton College  
 Belmont Abbey College  
 Chowan University  
 Emmanuel University (Georgia)  
 Lees-McRae College

University of Mount Olive  
 North Greenville University  
 Shorter University  
 Young Harris College

AQ

**Great Lakes Valley Conference (6)**

University of Indianapolis  
 Lewis University  
 Maryville University of Saint Louis

Quincy University  
 Rockhurst University  
 William Jewell College

AQ

**Peach Belt Conference (5)**

University of Alabama in Huntsville  
 Flagler College  
 Lander University

University of Montevallo  
 Virginia State University

AQ

**Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (6)**

Adams State University  
 Colorado Mesa University  
 Concordia University Irvine

Dominican University of California  
 Northwest Nazarene University  
 Westminster College (Utah)

AQ

**South Atlantic Conference (10)**

Anderson University (South Carolina)  
 Catawba College  
 Coker University  
 Emory & Henry College  
 Lenoir-Rhyne University

Lincoln Memorial University  
 Mars Hill University  
 Newberry College  
 Tusculum University  
 Wingate University

AQ

**Sunshine State Conference (8)**

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Florida)  
 Florida Institute of Technology  
 Florida Southern College  
 Lynn University

Palm Beach Atlantic University  
 Rollins College  
 Saint Leo University  
 University of Tampa

AQ

## Appendix C • Performance Indicator (PI)



### Division II Men's Lacrosse Performance Indicator Scale

#### Performance Indicator (PI)

*Division II games only (with neutral option)*

23	Win on road against a .750 or above team
22	Win neutral site game against a .750 or above team
21	Win at home against a .750 or above team
20	Win on road against a .500-.749 team
19	Win neutral site game against a .500-.749 team
18	Win at home against a .500-.749 team
17	Win on road against a .250-.499 team
16	Win neutral site game against a .250-.499 team
15	Win at home against a .250-.499 team
14	Win on road against a .000-.249 team
13	Win neutral site game against a .000-.249 team
12	Win at home against a .000-.249 team
11	Road loss to .750 or above team
10	Neutral site loss to a .750 or above team
9	Home loss to a .750 or above team
8	Road loss to a .500-.749 team
7	Neutral site loss to a .500-.749 team
6	Home loss to a .500-.749 team
5	Road loss to a .250-.499 team
4	Neutral site loss to a .250-.499 team
3	Home loss to a .250-.499 team
2	Road loss to a .000-.250 team
1	Neutral site loss to a .000-.250 team
0	Home loss to a .000-.250 team

**Total points/total games = PI Value**

*Note: Point values change each time an opponent's record places it in a different winning percentage range.*