



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S LACROSSE COMMITTEE  
JULY 12, 2023, ANNUAL MEETING VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**KEY ITEMS.**

- **Bracket expansion.** The Division II Women's Lacrosse Committee continues to discuss future budget requests and the desire to expand the bracket. (See Informational Item 6.)
- **Joint championships in 2025 and 2026.** The committee also continues to desire having the 2025 and 2026 joint championship decision reconsidered. (See Informational Item 15.)

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **2022 annual meeting report.** The committee approved the 2022 annual meeting report as submitted.
2. **2023 championship review.**
  - a. **Selection timeline.** The committee discussed the selection timeline for 2023 and agreed that it was sufficient. The committee emphasized ensuring conferences are aware of the selection timeline for their championship games and communicating that information sooner rather than later. The committee also noted that the 2024 selection timeline is being adjusted to align with the Division II Festival timeline.
  - b. **Selection show.** The committee discussed the selection show in 2023 and felt the production was sufficient.
  - c. **Hotels.** The committee discussed the team hotel for the finals and reiterated the need for the teams to continue to have meeting rooms at the hotel. The committee discussed ensuring all rounds of the championship have a great hotel experience and will continue to reiterate that to future hosts. The committee also discussed the need to emphasize the importance of hotels meeting championship standards during the preliminary rounds.
  - d. **Broadcasting/streaming.** The committee was pleased with the broadcasting of the national championship and was pleased that all preliminary-round hosts streamed the games.
  - e. **Survey review.** The committee reviewed the survey results and discussed them throughout the various sections of the agenda.
  - f. **Practice times.** The committee discussed the need to ensure having the same amount of practice time at preliminary-round sites and the championship site. The committee will consider extending the practice time at the championship site to allow more time for teams

to get acclimated to the championship field and make that time allotment consistent for the entire tournament.

- g.** Game times. The committee approved moving the championship game time at the finals site from 2 p.m. local time to noon local time.
- h.** Weather concerns. The 2023 championship semifinals encountered one weather delay before the start of the second game on Friday. The committee discussed strategies to ensure being able to provide an equitable championship experience during weather delays.
- i.** Officials. The committee discussed the officiating assignment process, noting the need to continue improving the process and enhancing the relationship with the national coordinator of officials.
- j.** Preliminary sites. The committee discussed requiring EMS and hospitality for officials at all preliminary-round sites.
- k.** Equipment. The committee discussed effectiveness of equipment used at the finals site.

**3. 2023 championship.**

- a.** 2023 committee timeline. The committee affirmed the timeline for 2023 worked well and will hope to use a similar timeline in 2024.
- b.** Banquet. The committee supports continuing to examine the best way to honor student-athletes, whether it's through gifts or a banquet. The committee is open to considering alternatives with host institutions.
- c.** Locker rooms. The committee noted the need to emphasize with hosts during prep calls and site visits that each team's locker room spaces must be as equitable as possible.

**4. Selection criteria.** The committee discussed the three additional selection criteria that have been used the past three years, noting its desire to continue using those criteria for the next three-year cycle.

**5. Under consideration ranking.** The committee expressed concern with the under consideration ranking because the preliminary bids are due two days after the first ranking that is in alphabetical order.

**6. Bracket size.** The committee noted the need for an increased bracket size as women's lacrosse continues to grow in sponsorship. The committee noted the budget request submitted and is waiting for a decision to be communicated.

7. **Automatic qualification.** The committee discussed automatic qualifiers tied to potential bracket expansion.
8. **Team bench size/travel party/squad size.** The committee was pleased with the outcome of changes made to bench size for Division II during the 2022-23 academic year.
9. **NCAA patches.** The committee desires to see all student-athletes who qualify for the championship receive NCAA Blue-Disc patches for preliminary rounds in addition to the championship finals site.
10. **Regional advisory committees (RAC).** The committee reviewed the RAC rosters and made note of vacancies. The committee asked staff to re-emphasize on the RAC training webinar that RAC members are expected to serve as site representatives.
11. **Committee roster.** The committee noted an immediate vacancy in the Midwest Region with Shannon McHale no longer being eligible. The committee thanked Ms. McHale's many contributions to the committee and the championship. The committee also re-elected Doug DeBiase, associate commissioner of the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference, as chair of committee for the 2023-24 year.
12. **Division II update.** NCAA Associate Director of Division II, Ryan Jones, provided an update from the NCAA Convention and other ongoing Division II initiatives. The committee was supportive of all potential initiatives discussed on the call.
13. **Discussion with Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA).** The committee engaged with IWLCA Executive Director Liz Robertshaw regarding goals of the IWLCA membership for the championship. The groups are in agreement regarding bracket expansion and squad/travel/bench size. The IWLCA also sent a representative to the Division II championship who reported that it was a good student-athlete experience, which the committee appreciated. The committee is determined to continue growing the relationship with the IWLCA and is proud of the strides made to date.
14. **Discussion with the national coordinator of officials.** The committee met with Melissa Coyne, the national coordinator of officials, to discuss the postseason pool of officials, postseason assignments, evaluation, and educational materials posted to the RQ+ platform.
15. **2025 and 2026 Joint championship.** The committee continued to emphasize its desire to reconsider the decision to not include the Division II and Division III Women's Lacrosse Championships in Gillette Stadium in 2025 and 2026. The committee continues to believe that conducting the Divisions II and III championship games at nearby campus sites does not offer the optimal experience for a joint championship.
16. **Future championships.** The committee discussed the desire to consider future joint championships with Division I and/or Division III Women's Lacrosse in the 2027-2028 bid cycle.

**17. Anniversary gifts.** The committee discussed ways to incorporate celebrating past Division II women's lacrosse national champions.

**18. Lacrosse manuals review.** The committee reviewed the various manuals for lacrosse and instructed staff to make the appropriate updates.

*Committee Chair:* Doug DeBiase, Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Ryan Rea, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Women's Lacrosse Committee July 12, 2023, Annual Meeting via Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Doug DeBiase, Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.	
Dawn Sachs, Mercy College.	
Jennifer Rushton, Young Harris College.	
Shannon McHale, Colorado Mesa University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>	
Ryan Rea, Championships and Alliances.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Ryan Jones and Karen Kirsch.	