

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III WOMEN'S LACROSSE COMMITTEE MAY 27 AND JUNE 20, 2024, IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETINGS

KEY ITEMS.

1. Future championships sites. The committee is working to finalize sites for the 2025 and 2026 championships, while also working through the current bid cycle for 2027 and 2028. The committee will seek approval of its 2025 and 2026 sites in July/August and then submit its preferred sites for 2027 and 2028 this fall as part of the bid cycle timeline.

ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
 - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items.
 - Conference automatic qualification.
 - (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification to the 2025 NCAA Division III Women's Lacrosse Championship: Atlantic East Conference; Centennial Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Women's Lacrosse Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Women's Lacrosse Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women's & Men's Athletic Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Atlantic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Conference; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; United East Conference; and USA South Athletic Conference.

Projected pool allocations

Pool A – 31

Pool B -1

Pool C - 15

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2024.

- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. The 31 conferences meet requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.2 and have completed the automatic qualification declaration form. AQs and pool allocations may adjust pending 2024-25 alignment changes and sponsorship numbers.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Meeting overview. The 2024 Division III Women's Lacrosse Committee's annual meeting took place in person on May 27, 2024, in Salem, Virginia, the site of the 2024 Division III Women's Lacrosse Championship, and concluded virtually on June 20, 2024.
- **2. Review of the 2023 report**. The committee reviewed and approved the reports from 2022-23 as submitted.
- **3. Governance updates**. The committee met with Bill Regan to review recent actions as well as future goals and initiatives in Division III.
- **4. NCAA Power Index (NPI).** The committee continued its discussion on NPI and established its dials for 2024-25, which will be made public in July. In addition to the dial information being made public, there will be a training webinar for all coaches, administrators, conference commissioners and others interested in learning more about NPI specific to Division III women's lacrosse.
- **5. Review of the 2024 championship.** The committee reviewed all aspects related to the 2023 championship and recognized the work the host did before and throughout the championship. The committee was very pleased with the enhancements made from previous championships and felt the experience continues to improve.
- **6. Future championships (2025 and beyond)**. Committee members discussed initial thoughts on future championships and identified additional enhancements they would like to see, while highlighting things that have been done well that they would like to see continue. In addition to these items, they also discussed a few items related to the championships, including:
 - **a.** Bracket size. Starting with the 2025 championship, the field will be increased to 47 teams.
 - **b. 2025 and 2026 tournaments.** The committee continues to work on sites for the 2025 and 2026 championships, while also reviewing bids as part of the current 2027 and 2028 bid cycle. Plans for 2025 and 2026 are expected to be announced this summer, while the current bid cycle for 2027 and 2028 announcement will come later this fall.

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- **c. Preliminary-round hosts.** The committee will talk with the Division III Men's Lacrosse Committee about selection of preliminary-round hosts.
- **d. Practices.** The committee has cleaned up the language for assigning preliminary-round site practices to clarify for teams about how practices should be assigned/selected.
- 7. National committee chair. The committee selected Jeff Siegel of Rochester Institute of Technology to continue to serve as chair in 2024-25. The committee will not have any new committee members in 2024-25 but will have two members entering their final year on the committee (Regions III and IV).

Committee Chair: Jeff Siegel, Rochester Institute of Technology, Staff Liaison(s): Kevin Alcox, NCAA Championships and Alliances

Division III Women's Lacrosse Committee
May 27 and June 20, 2024, Meeting

Attendees:

Erica Adams, Bridgewater State University.

Kate Livesay, Middlebury College.

Janice Luck, Albright College.

Brittney Morris, St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Caitlin Moore, University of Mary Washington.

Michael Schulist, Carroll University (Wisconsin).

Jeff Siegel, Rochester Institute of Technology.

Guests in Attendance:

None.

NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:

Kevin Alcox, Championships and Alliances.

Bryce Peters, Championships and Alliances.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Bill Regan, Managing Director, Governance & Policy.