REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISIONS II AND III MEN'S LACROSSE RULES COMMITTEE
JUNE 3-4, 2026, MEETING

***ACTION ITEMS*.**

1. **Legislative items.**

   - **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative items.** The NCAA Divisions II and III Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee approved the following rules change proposals for the 2027 and 2028 seasons. The committee requests approval from the NCAA Divisions II and III Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following items:

   a. **The Ball (Rule 1-16)**

      1. Recommendation. Allowable for the 2027 season, and required by the 2028 season, the standard ball color shall be a fluorescent green or yellow, similar to hex code #ccff00. Ball colors white, yellow, orange, lime green or pink can be used provided both coaches agree. The ball shall have a surface of smooth or slightly textured rubber. The ball shall meet the current NOCSAE standard. For the 2027 season, if the home team chooses to use the fluorescent green/yellow ball, that shall be used. The game ball color shall be stated in the game contract, but if not, the visiting team must be given at least one week's notice.

      2. Effective date. Allowable for the 2027 season, required by the 2028 season.

      3. Rationale. The fluorescent ball color provides increased visibility for student-athletes, officials, spectators and television audiences.

      4. Estimated budget impact. Minimal. As lacrosse balls are already a recurring expense, this purchase would not be unexpected for institutions. Due to the unique fluorescent color, and the fact that this color has not been historically mass produced by every manufacturer, there could be an increase in cost. Institutions would also have until the 2028 season to purchase lacrosse balls that comply with the new color.

      5. Student-athlete impact. None.

   b. **Overtime Play (Rule 4-31).**

      1. Recommendation. Change overtime play to proceed for 15-minute periods or until a goal is scored. Timeout and challenge rules remain unchanged.

      2. Effective date. Immediately.

3. Rationale. To create a more fluid continuation of regulation.

4. Estimated budget impact. None.

5. Student-athlete impact. None.

c. Video Review.

1. Recommendation. A coach's challenge may be requested to initiate a review of a goal that could be potentially negated by the following:

    - Offsides;
    - Too many players on the field;
    - Player in possession of the ball stepped on a boundary line (defined as the lines that completely surround the field, the midlines and the restraining lines).

    The challenge may only be requested if the goal was scored within 15 seconds of when the violation occurred and no whistle has sounded between the potential violations listed above and the goal. In the event that the clock is not burned into the video feed, officials may use a stopwatch while reviewing the play at actual speed to determine the 15-second count.

2. Effective date. Immediately.

3. Rationale. Provides the opportunity to correct what unfairly led to a goal. Defines a time period that enables the defense to adjust.

4. Estimated budget impact. None.

5. Student-athlete impact. None.

d. Video Review.

1. Recommendation. Officials may initiate video review of potential contact to the head/neck without originally having made a call.

2. Effective date. Immediately.

3. Rationale. Player safety.

4. Estimated budget impact. None.

5. Student-athlete impact. None.

e. Video Review.

1. Recommendation. On a play where officials have originally made a call for contact to the head/neck, they may rescind the penalty if video review confirms there was no illegal contact.

2. Effective date. Immediately.

3. Rationale. Fairness.

4. Estimated budget impact. None.

5. Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. **Welcome and announcements.** The chair and NCAA staff liaison welcomed the committee and invited guests and thanked them for their time.

2. **Review meeting schedule, rules committee roster, rules timeline, guiding principles and operational items.** The rules committee reviewed the meeting schedule, rules timeline, NCAA conflict of interest policy, document retention policy and experimental playing rules guidelines.

3. **Review of 2025 annual meeting report.** The rules committee reviewed and approved the 2025 annual meeting report as written.

4. **Review of the NCAA injury surveillance data report.** The rules committee heard a report from Dr. Kody Campbell, Assistant Director of the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program, that included an overview of men's lacrosse injury data from the past several academic years.

5. **Active official report.** The designated men's lacrosse active official provided a report to the rules committee that covered the training and educational practices throughout the season and the collaboration with the National Intercollegiate Lacrosse Officials Organization (NILOA).

6. **USA Lacrosse report.** The USA Lacrosse representative was unable to attend the meeting for this update.

7. **Secretary-rules editor report.** The rules committee heard a report from Willie Scroggs, the NCAA men's lacrosse secretary-rules editor, which included the note of the 2026 season being relatively quiet surrounding any rules clarifications or interpretation, while also stating that the main rules topics have remain consistent year over year. The secretary-rules editor mentioned the Men' Lacrosse Rules Book needing an extensive review prior to the next print version being distributed in late 2026. Lastly, the secretary-rules editor reflected on his 12-year

tenure as the NCAA men's lacrosse secretary-rules editor with gratitude, fulfillment and confident the game of men's lacrosse is in a great place with a bright future.

8. **National coordinator of officials' report.** Tom Abbott, NCAA national coordinator of men's lacrosse officials, provided a report to the rules committee that focused on a recap of the 2026 season, the current state of the rules and the need of the rules book to be more concise and reviewed prior to its next printing. The start of the season continues to provide some officiating hurdles from the cancellation or postponements of numerous games due to the early season weather conditions. Also mentioned was the collaboration with NILOA and the efforts put forth in obtaining new and upcoming officials. The national coordinator applauded all the work that was done regarding the weekly training videos on RQ+, stating that many officials and assignors provided many positive comments on the successful training and information from these videos. Lastly, the outgoing secretary-rules editor was thanked for all his work and collaboration over his tenure.

9. **NCAA championships updates.** Dante Jones, coordinator of championships and Will Hopkins, associate director of championships, provided the rules committee an update on both the Division II and Division III championships that recently took place in Charlottesville, VA. The committee also received an update on future locations for the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Championships.

10. **Review of statistical trends.** The rules committee reviewed the recent statistical trends for several key aspects of the sport.

11. **Review of 2026 rules survey and proposals.** The rules committee reviewed the results of the 2026 rules survey, and the submitted rules proposals.

12. **Selection of Divisions II and III Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee chair.** The rules committee elected Jason Lange, University of Montevallo, as chair for the 2026-27 academic year.

13. **Future meeting and videoconference dates.** The rules committee decided the future videoconferences will be determined at a later date.

14. **Other business.** The rules committee had no further business to discuss.

Committee Chair: Dana Lindstrom, Gwynedd Mercy University, Atlantic East Conference
Staff Liaison: Connor Lancashire, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating

NCAA Divisions II and III Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee June 3-4, 2026, Meeting
Attendees:
Jake Coon, Rochester Institute of Technology.
Jake DeCola, Albion College.
Peter Donley, Catholic University.

Christian Hall, Muskingum University.
Jason Lange, University of Montevallo.
Dana Lindstrom, Gwynedd Mercy University.
Willie Scroggs, secretary-rules editor (nonvoting member).
Jack Wilson, D'Youville University.
Absentees:
Dan Mara, Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.
Guests in Attendance:
Brian Abbott, active official.
Tom Abbott, national coordinator of officials.
Kody Campbell, Datalys Center.
Avinash Chandran, Datalys Center.
David Seidman, incoming secretary-rules editor.
Todd Thurman, Metropolitan State University of Denver (Divisions II and III PROP representative).
NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:
Connor Lancashire.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Paden Alie, Will Hopkins, Dante Jones, Greg Johnson and Mallory Mickus.