



2025-26
**MEN'S LACROSSE
COACHES MANUAL**



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For National Championships Selection / Event Administration, please contact:

Senior Championship Sport Manager
Abby Schultz
aschultz@naia.org
816-595-8184

For Athletic Communications & Polls Inquiries, please contact:

Manager of Athletic Communications
Brandt McCall
bmccall@naia.org
(816) 595-8104

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IMPORTANT DATES

2025-26 MEN'S LACROSSE SPORT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 1	START – Practices, Scrimmages, & Exhibitions
SEPTEMBER 1	START – Competitions
NOVEMBER 5	DEADLINE – Submission of Sport Motions
DECEMBER 10-12	IMLCA Convention – Orlando, FL.
JANUARY 22	START – National Poll Release <i>Dates: Jan. 21, Feb. 25, Mar. 11, Mar. 25, Apr. 8, Apr. 29, May 20</i>
FEBRUARY 25	START – Player of the Week Release <i>Dates: Feb. 10, Feb. 17, Feb. 24, Mar. 3, Mar. 10, Mar. 17, Mar. 24, Apr. 7, Apr. 14, Apr. 21</i>
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – Nominations for Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – NAIA Champions of Character Individual Award Nominations
MAY 2	DEADLINE – Complete Affiliated Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group tournaments
MAY 4	RELEASE – Official bracket release for the 2 nd Annual NAIA Men's Lacrosse National Championship 5:00pm CST – NAIA Selection Shows
MAY 5	DEADLINE – For Sport Chairs to submit All-Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group Team ballots
MAY 5	DEADLINE – teams advancing to postseason play to submit official postseason roster form to NAIA national office (via the NAIA Connect admin website at (www.naiacconnect.org/s/login/))
May 10	RELEASE – 2026 NAIA Men's Lacrosse All-America Teams, National Player of the Year, and National Coach of the Year
MAY 12-16	2nd NAIA MEN'S LACROSSE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP – Decatur, Alabama
JUNE 30	DEADLINE – Nominations for NAIA Scholar Teams
JULY 15	DEADLINE – Nominations for NAIA Hall of Fame Due

FIVE-YEAR CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Conference Tournament Deadline	May 2	May 1	April 29	April 28	April 27
National Championship	May 12-16	May 10-14	May 9-13	May 7-11	May 7-11

National Championship Website – [Click Here](#)



PLAYING RULES AND REGULATIONS

PLAYING RULES

NCAA Lacrosse Rules govern all NAIA regular season and postseason play. Rulebooks may be purchased or downloaded for free online [HERE](#).

JURISDICTION OF GAME OFFICIALS

The outcome of all games is under the jurisdiction of game officials. Decisions of game officials are final and are not subject to appeal. The only instance in which a game can be protested is when a referee has misapplied a rule (not a judgment call). In that case, the NCAA rule book provides specific guidelines on lodging a protest.

SEASON RECORDS

Won-loss records for all member institutions participating in Men's Lacrosse shall include ONLY those games played against upper-level, degree-granting institutions, and SHALL NOT include games against junior colleges, foreign (Canada excluded), military, or club teams.

CONDUCT IN COMPETITION

EJECTIONS AND SUSPENSIONS

An ejection is an action enforced in conjunction with competition by a game official consistent with the playing rules in that sport. A suspension is required by NAIA bylaws (Article 6, Section B, Item 7) as an additional consequence related to ejections in conjunction with competition.

Ejections are not subject to appeal. Some sport rules allow protests through an official process outlined in each sport rule book.

Suspensions may be appealed starting with the Conference/CAC. An institution must submit an appeal to their conference within 72 hours of the completion of contest. The conference will submit a recommendation to the national office within 72 hours of receiving the appeal from the institution. The Conduct and Ethics Committee is responsible for all appeals related to suspensions due to ejections of a coach and/or student-athlete.

Once an appeal with appropriate signatures has been submitted to the conference, the student-athlete/coach may continue to participate through the appeal process. If the appeal is not approved, then the student-athlete/coach must sit out of the next scheduled contest(s).

NAC Policy: A suspended person cannot be in the competitive venue the day of the contest or communicate with any team personnel or game officials the day of the contest. The student-athlete/coach will be normally removed from the venue during a suspension. However, the game manager will use their best discretion on what is appropriate to risk management procedures regarding their venue.

Ejection reports must be completed by the NAIA game official ejecting a student-athlete or coach and the athletic director of the ejected student-athlete or coach. The form must be submitted to the NAIA within 48 hours after the completion of the contest.

[Ejection Report Form](#)



POSTSEASON COMPETITION

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

OFFICIAL PARTY

The official party for each team participating in postseason play is **35** players allowed in uniform and up to **4** support staff. Each team will receive a maximum number of **39** credentials, **35** student-athlete credentials and **4** official party credentials.

Official Postseason Roster forms will now be filled out via NAIA Connect (<https://www.naiiaconnect.org/s/login>) and sent to the NAIA National Office. If you do not have a login account, please contact naiiaconnectsupport@naia.org. Once you login, please follow these [instructions](#).

All postseason rosters will be processed entirely electronically. The administrator completing the postseason roster will sign electronically. Do not send postseason rosters to the national office.

You are still required to carry a copy of your roster to the site of the conference/CAC/unaffiliated group and national tournaments and present it to the tournament supervisor prior to that institution's participation in the tournament.

If you have trouble with the on-line nomination form, please contact the NAIA Athletics Communications Department, [Brandt McCall](#). Any other general questions related to the official postseason rosters, please contact [Abby Schultz](#), NAIA Senior Championship Sport Manager.

The deadline for certifying the official roster of 35 players is prior to the first game of any tournament (affiliated conference/group, National Championship opening round or National Championship). Once the tournament begins, no player may play that is not on the official roster. Official tournament rosters may change from conference to opening round and from opening round to national levels. For unaffiliated group qualifying tournaments that include preliminary conference/group qualifying contests in the qualification plan; roster changes cannot be made between "rounds." Unaffiliated group tournaments will follow the same roster change policies used for affiliated conference/CAC tournaments.

For the National Championship, roster changes are permissible between the opening rounds and the start of the final site competition only in the event of injury, illness or family emergency. Replacements are permitted from among eligible athletes only. Roster changes can be made up to 30 minutes prior to the team's first respective tournament game. Coaches must bring a copy of the institution's NAIA Official Eligibility Certificate to the site in order to verify the eligibility of any players added to the roster. NOTE – A player cannot be credited with serving a suspension if he is NOT listed on the official roster for that game.

MEDICAL PERSONNEL

Each team is allowed up to two athletic training/medical personnel on the team sideline. One of which must be an ATC, MD, or DO. A licensed health care provider's license information/number must be submitted in the application in order to receive any medical/athletic training credentials for your team. Applications will close 72 hours before the event starts. Medical personnel credentials can be picked up during team check-in/registration only with a photo ID.

[Please apply here for medical personnel credential.](#)

SPORTS INFORMATION/MEDIA PERSONNEL

All SIDs/Media personnel will need to apply for a credential for the final site. Applications will close 72 hours before the event starts. Media Credentials can be picked up at the box office only with a photo ID. Media credentials will NOT be included in the team packets at coaches pick up.

[Please apply here for SID/Photographer credential.](#)
[Please apply here for Media credential.](#)

ADMINISTRATOR PERSONNEL

All Presidents and Athletic Directors from qualifying teams will each receive two credentials. These credentials can be picked up at the box office. All other administrators will receive free admission with their NAIA membership card when presented at the box office.



UNIFORM POLICY

Teams must have both light and dark colored uniforms available. Home teams wear light colored uniforms and visitors wear dark. It is mandatory that numbers are easily distinguishable from the predominant background color(s) and pattern. Numbers must be displayed on front and back of each player's jersey.

A sponsor patch may be permitted on a jersey or shirt. The entire patch must be contained within a four-sided geometric figure (that is, rectangle, square, parallelogram) that does not exceed 2¼-square inches.

Primary Location: Front shoulder panel opposite manufactures logo. Between the apex of the neckline and the shoulder seam.

Secondary Permissible Location: Centered on bottom right sleeve (as worn) or centered bottom opposite sleeve of manufactures logo.

Alternate Permissible Location: If neither of the above locations are available on the back of the jersey, the apex/center of the neckline as close to the neckline as is possible.

- Sponsors of alcohol, tobacco, or any other legalized drugs (example; legalized marijuana) are not permitted
- Sponsors whose sole or primary business function is sports gambling (e.g., FanDuel, DraftKings, etc...) are not permitted
- Sponsor logos must be in the same location on each set of uniforms (e.g., if the home whites patch is on the neckline, all home whites must be the same; away jerseys could be in a different permissible location)

EXPENSES

Participating teams are responsible for their own expenses to, during, and from all postseason events.

PARTICIPATION IN FUNCTIONS AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

All participating teams and individuals competing in a National Championship must attend all functions including, but not limited to – Parade of Champions, coaches' meetings, Teaming Up for Character™ event and student-athlete experience event. Failure to comply will result in a penalty of a \$1,500 fine to the institution.

HEAD COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

The head coach or designated person for each participating team must be in attendance and is responsible for their team at all times while at the site of the National Championship. This person shall accept the responsibility for the conduct of his student-athletes at the National Championship site, during the Championship and at all activities connected with the team's participation. In case of property damage, the offending institution shall be held financially responsible.

INSURANCE

Each participating team shall provide its own medical, hospitalization, travel and accident insurance for all members of its official party.

QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT PLAY

CONFERENCE/CAC/UNAFFILIATED GROUP NATIONAL QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

The conference/group national qualifying tournaments are planned and administered by their respective group committees under the leadership of the conference/group Lacrosse chairs and subject to approval by their executive committee.

Conference/group national qualifying tournament plans must be submitted to the NAIA National Office no later than **February 1**.

DATES AND SITES

The dates and sites of the conference/group qualifying tournaments shall be determined by their respective executive committees. The deadline for completion of the NAIA Men's Lacrosse Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group National qualifying tournaments is **Saturday, May 2, 2026**.

ADMINISTRATION

If available, the conference/group Lacrosse chairs will serve as site supervisors for their respective national qualifying tournament in cooperation with the host site athletics director. All national qualifying tournament games must determine a winner. Games tied after regulation must utilize the tie breaker procedures outlined in the NCAA rules book.



FINANCES

The host site for all conference/group national qualifying tournament games is responsible for the following:

1. Compensating game officials.
2. Ordering/purchasing conference/group awards, if applicable.
3. Administrative expenses, security, ticket personnel, PA announcer, scorer, timer, etc.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

ADMINISTRATION

The NAIA Men's Lacrosse National Championship under the direct control and supervision of the NAIA and the NAIA-MLCA National Tournament Games Committee. The tournament committee is responsible for the management of tournament games and the general welfare of participating teams and coaches. NAIA Site Supervisors and the Tournament Committee conduct a pre-tournament coaches' meeting, work with the Supervisor of Officials, and coordinate both pre- and post-tournament ceremonies. The National Tournament Games Committee is made up of the officers (Executive Committee) of the NAIA-MLCA. Should a member of the games committee have a team qualify for the national tournament, the NAIA Sport Manager will appoint an alternate on the committee and the Past President serves as the first alternate on the committee.

QUALIFICATION OF TEAMS

The NAIA Men's Lacrosse National Championship is an 8-team single-elimination tournament.

The eight teams that will compete in the National Championship will be determined using the following qualification plan approved by the NAC, found in NAIA Connect.

NOTE: To be eligible to qualify for the National Championship, an institution must compete in a minimum of seven (7) games against an NAIA opponent (varsity).

SELECTION OF AT-LARGE TEAMS/SEEDING OF CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD

NAIA Men's Lacrosse will use a selection committee comprised of coaches and administrators from across the country. The committee is responsible for selecting and seeding teams for the championship.

FORMAT

The NAIA National Championship will include a field of 8 teams in a single-elimination tournament. The final site dates will be **May 12-16, 2026**.

CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION APPEALS PROCESS

If there is misapplication of NAIA policy and procedures regarding Championship selection, an institution may appeal to the national office of the NAIA.

Criteria for filing an appeal

1. A written appeal citing the specific NAIA policies and/or procedures that have been misapplied must be submitted to the NAIA National Office - Department of Championships within 24 hours (or noon (Central) of the next business day if the end of the 24-hour period falls on a non-business day) from the time the tournament field has been released.
2. Once an appeal is submitted a response will be provided within 24 hours from receipt of appeal.
3. Appeals **MUST** be submitted and signed by the Athletics Director and President of the institution.

NOTE: The National Administrative Council (NAC) sport liaison will be on the tournament conference call to listen to the discussion of tournament selection. The liaison will report any concerns to the National office immediately following the conclusion of the conference call. The ratings oversight committee will review ratings to prevent any ratings process violations or unethical use of the ratings process as it pertains to ratings.

TEAM HOUSING

All participating teams **MUST** stay at the designated hotels. Failure to do so would make a team **INELIGIBLE** for participation.



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

It is the responsibility of the host Medical Director/Athletic Trainer at NAIA Championship events to determine when an event should be suspended and when it is safe to return to play as the result of severe weather. The AT is to notify the NAIA Championship Manager who, in collaboration with the appropriate personnel (i.e. Games Committee) will implement the predetermined action plan for both player and spectator safety.

TRAVEL

SHORTS TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

Qualifying institutions are responsible for making their own travel arrangements to the National Invitational.

The Official Travel partner of the NAIA is Short's Travel Management. Please contact **Short's Travel (816-323-6405)** to book your travel arrangements.

Short's Travel has contacts with charter air travel as well as charter buses for ground travel.

NATIONAL CAR RENTAL

National Car Rental/Enterprise Rent-a-Car is offering special rates for the NAIA National Invitational. Teams will be able to access these special rates by providing the special NAIA contract ID #XZ05146.

MASTER'S TRANSPORTATION

Master's Transportation is the official provider of all shuttles/buses for your sale, lease and rental needs. Please contact Maria Duran at (816) 979-3493 or mduran@masterstransportation.com for more information.

POSTSEASON LEADERSHIP

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETITION GUIDELINES

CONFERENCE/INDEPENDENT/UNAFFILIATED GROUP LACROSSE CHAIRS/VOTERS

1. Serves as lacrosse liaison between affiliated conference/group and the national office (NAIA Sport Manager).
2. Serves as chief administrator of the affiliated conference/group lacrosse committee in the coordination of the lacrosse playoff plan and the lacrosse tournament.
3. Compiles the affiliated conference/group rating for respective group and submits a top-15 national ballot on behalf of the affiliated conference/group.
4. Coordinates the selection of the All-Conference/Group team and coach of the year from their representative group. Receives and tabulates All-Conference/Group ballots from all coaches in the group and forwards the team to the NAIA National Office.
5. Communicates with the officers of the NAIA-Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association (NAIA-MLCA) on any matter relative to the administration of lacrosse at the affiliated conference/group and national levels.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES COMMITTEE

1. Supervises the competing teams at the National Championship by greeting upon arrival, preparing informational material, coordinating practice times, conducting the pre-tournament coaches' meeting, and assisting the participating coaches with local information and arrangements.
2. Works as liaisons with the Championship game officials by greeting upon arrival, coordinating game assignments and informing of all meetings, official functions, special interpretations and evaluations.
3. Supervise all games of the tournament from the sideline (between the benches). Other duties include field inspection, preparation of the sidelines, pre-game lineups, player/coach conduct, liaison to the game officials and all other items related to game administration.



4. Arbitrates and determines decisions involving player/coach conduct and matters beyond the jurisdiction of the game officials.
5. Coordinates voting for tournament awards and conducts award ceremonies.
6. Serve as the NAIA All-American Team Selection Committee (along with four conference coaches).
7. Assists the NAIA Championship Event Manager and the host-site coordinator on all other matters related to the administration of the national invitational.
8. The Games Committee shall be comprised of the NAIA-MLCA Executive Committee.

RELATED INFORMATION

1. **Student-Athlete Experience** - Prior to the start of the National Championship competition, there will be a special gathering (including a meal function) to recognize the participating teams. All teams are required to be in attendance and dressed appropriately.
2. **Meetings** – The NAIA Championship Committee will conduct pre-match meetings with head coaches and officials. Head coaches are required to attend.
3. **Officials** - The NAIA, in consultation with the NAIA-MLCA, shall arrange for a sufficient number of game officials to work the tournament utilizing a three-person crew and a CBO. Only registered, nationally certified officials will be considered for assignment.



NAIA POLICY HANDBOOK INFORMATION

The NAIA Policy Handbook can be found at [HERE](#). Please refer directly to the NAIA Policy Handbook for the following –

Competition

- A. Declaration of Intent to Participate – Bylaws, Article I, Section L
- B. Frequency of Play and Scheduling – Bylaws, Article I, Section F
- C. Criteria for Countable Contests – National Administrative Council, Article XXV, Section A, Item 12
- D. Reporting Results – National Administrative Council, Article XXV, Section A
- E. Forfeits – National Administrative Council, Article XI
- F. Conduct in Competition Guidelines – National Administrative Council, Article IV
- G. Ejection Policy – Bylaws, Article VI Section B Item 7
- H. Drug Testing and Reinstatement Procedures – Bylaws, Article VIII

Eligibility

- A. Definitions for Eligibility – Bylaws, Article V, Section B
- B. Eligibility Requirements – Bylaws, Article V, Section C
- C. Transfer Rules – Bylaws, Article V, Sections F-H
- D. Amateur Rules and Reinstatement – Bylaws, Article VII

Recruiting & Financial Aid

- A. Recruitment – Bylaws, Article II, Section D
- B. Campus Visitations and Tryouts of Prospective Students – Bylaws, Article II, Section C
- C. Financial Assistance – Bylaws, Article II, Section B
- D. Financial Aid Limits – Council of Presidents, Article XII

SUNDAY PLAY POLICY

As a matter of policy, NAIA Opening Round and National Championship competition will not be scheduled on Sunday. See NAIA Policy Handbook, National Administrative Council, Article XXIII for additional information.

DRUG TESTING

Drug testing may be done at any randomly selected NAIA National Championship competition for performance enhancing drugs. In accordance with the guidelines set forth by the National Drug Testing and Education Committee, the National Office will select which championships events will incorporate drug testing each year. Student-athletes may be tested before, during and/or after NAIA National Championships.

For more information regarding championship drug testing, the National Administrative Council Drug Testing Policy Manual, the safety of supplements and over-the-counter medications and resources to increase awareness on your campus, please visit – www.naia.org/wellness

DRUG TESTING CONSENT FORM

Each academic year all eligible NAIA student-athletes must sign a [Drug Testing Consent Form](#) in which he or she consents to be tested for the use of drugs prohibited by the NAIA Banned Substance List to participate in any NAIA National Championship competitions. This consent form shall be administered by the institution.

To ensure all student-athletes participating in NAIA National Championship competitions have signed a consent form and such form is on record with the institution, a representative of each institution participating in any NAIA National Championship competition must sign an [Official Certification of Student-Athlete Consent Form](#) at check-in.

It is recommended that before the season begins that an institution has all student-athletes complete the form to minimize the possibility of issues occurring when the postseason roster is submitted at a NAIA National Invitational.

MEDICAL EXEMPTION FORM

The NAIA recognizes that some banned substances are used for legitimate medical purposes. Accordingly, the NAIA allows exemptions to be made for those student-athletes with a documented medical history demonstrating the need for regular use of such a drug. Exemptions may be granted for substances included in the following classes of banned drugs – Stimulants, anabolic agents, beta blockers, diuretics, peptide hormones, anti-estrogens, and beta-2 agonists.

[Medical Exemption Form](#)





COACHES ASSOCIATION

2025-26 NAIA-MLCA STANDING COMMITTEES

NAIA-MLCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - (One-year terms)

POSITION	NAME, SCHOOL, & CONTACT INFORMATION
President	Bryan Seaman , Indiana Tech, 260-442-5561 x2128, BCSeaman@indianatech.edu
1st Vice President	Jordan Coates , Point (Ga.), 706-784-8635, jordan.coates@point.edu
2nd Vice President	Carlos Matta , Madonna (Mich.), 734-432-5503, cmatta@madonna.edu
3rd Vice President	Kody Swann , Cumberlands (Kent.), 606-539-3595, Kody.swann@ucumberland.edu
Secretary	Justin Moe , SCAD (Ga.), 912-525-4791, jmoe@scad.edu
Past-President	Luke Christiansen , William Penn (Iowa), 641-673-1318, luke.christiansen@wmpenn.edu
NAC Liaison	Kris Swogger , Keiser (Fl.), 561-681-7974, kswogger@keiseruniversity.edu
NAIA Staff Liaison	Bruce Tate , Championship Sport Manager, 816-595-8196, btate@naia.org



REPORTING RESULTS AND STATISTICS

REPORTING RESULTS/STATISTICS & SUBMITTING SCORES

Mandated by the NAC, all contest results must be reported to the NAIA Stats site (via Presto Stats) within 24 hours of completion in order to be eligible for team and/or individual weekly ratings and honors. Institutions failing to report statistics and/or results any two consecutive weeks, or a total of four weeks, during the reporting period will not be eligible for the national statistical reports or polls.

Institutions failing to report results for two consecutive weeks, or four total weeks during the season will be subject to a monetary penalty. The first violation will continue to be a warning. Any second violation (first penalty) will be a \$500 fine. The third violation will be a \$1,000 fine and a loss of postseason awards. The fourth violation will be a \$1,000 fine and will be dealt with at the discretion of membership services. Fines will be due within 30 days of notification.

STATISTICS

An in-season, weekly national statistical report is produced utilizing Presto Stats for the sport of Lacrosse. To be eligible for the statistical report, a student-athlete must play in 75-percent of team's games played. Only statistics from games against varsity teams from upper-level, degree-granting institutions should be submitted. Categories will be determined on a sport-by-sport basis and by the NAIA Athletics Communications.

It is strongly recommended that the host institution be responsible for both team's official statistics. The home team must notify opposing team at least 72 hours prior to contest if official stats will not be provided. The opposing team can file an appeal if they feel an error was made in the official stats up to 72 hours after the conclusion of the contest. The appeal must be filed with the home team up to 72 hours after the contest and both teams must change the stats.

It is vital that sport records maintain a certain level of integrity and accuracy. The NAIA urges the official statistician for every sport to become familiar and have a working knowledge of the statistical manual.

AWARDS

Nomination details and forms for the following national awards can be found [HERE](#).

CONFERENCE/CAC/UNAFFILIATED GROUP & NATIONAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

1. Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group Player of the Week

All NAIA member institutions are encouraged to nominate candidates for Conference/Group Player of the Week honors for all sports in which they declare for NAIA postseason.

2. National Player of the Week

All NAIA member institutions are permitted to nominate candidates for National Player of the Week for all sports in which they declare for NAIA postseason. National Players of the Week are selected from the pool of Conference/Group Players of the Week and are released on Tuesdays during the regular-season.

NAIA ALL-CONFERENCE/CAC/UNAFFILIATED GROUP TEAMS

These teams of thirteen players (one goalkeeper, three attack, three midfield, three defense, one LSM, one defensive midfield and one face off specialist) are selected by each affiliated conference, by the CAC, and by unaffiliated groups/conferences. Teams are selected in each of the groups (conference/CAC/unaffiliated) by a ballot of coaches in their respective group.

All Lacrosse coaches shall forward their All-Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group nomination form/ballot to their respective sport chair. Coaches vote for one goalkeeper, three attack, three midfield, three defense, one LSM, one defensive midfield and one face off specialist in their group only. Additionally, each conference may submit up to four Second Team All-Conference honorees to be included in the National All-America Ballot; however, these additional nominees are only eligible for selection to the second or third team All-America.

NAIA ALL-AMERICA TEAMS

All-America awards are annually bestowed on the most outstanding athletes in the NAIA. Criteria for the awards and the procedures for selection and implementation are established by the Awards & Statistics subcommittee of the National



Administrative Council (NAC). Please note some sports recognize All-America status by order of finish, and others require submission of materials and selection at the conference/CAC/unaffiliated group levels.

The NAIA Men's Lacrosse All-America teams are selected by the NAIA-MLCA Executive Committee. In addition to the NAIA-MLCA Executive Committee, four coaches (selected by the Executive Committee prior to the start of the season) also serve on the selection committee. It is recommended that the four additional selection committee members represent four different conferences.

The All-America Committee shall select a first, second and third team consisting of one goalkeeper, three attack, three midfield, three defense, one LSM, one defensive midfield and on face-off specialist. The third team may exceed the numbers of the first and second All-America team numbers based on the number of conference players of the year that were not included in the first, second and third teams.

NAIA NATIONAL PLAYER-OF-THE-YEAR

The All-American Selection Committee selects the NAIA National Player of the Year from the group of All-Conference/Group Players of the Year.

NAIA NATIONAL COACH-OF-THE-YEAR

The NAIA Men's Lacrosse National Coach-of-the-Year is selected by a vote of the NAIA-MLCA membership from a ballot containing the names of the conference/group coaches of the year and/or coaches participating in the National Invitational. Selection of the conference/group coach-of-the-year is coordinated by their respective chair. Ballots for national coach-of-the-year are e-mailed to all coaches. The NAIA Men's Lacrosse National Coach-of-the-Year is announced at the NAIA Lacrosse Championship Banquet.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

The NAIA maintains a standardized awards program for its national championship, team awards provided to top two teams. A 12-member All-Tournament Team, including the Tournament Most Valuable Player, is selected. The Tournament Most Valuable Player is included as part of the 12-member All-Tournament Team.

CHAMPIONS OF CHARACTER INDIVIDUAL STUDENT AWARD

Each participating team shall nominate one student-athlete that has shown a documented display of exemplary character and sportsmanship during competition, on campus and in the community that exemplify the core values of Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Sportsmanship and Servant Leadership.

NAIA SCHOLAR-ATHLETE

Criteria for the NAIA Scholar-Athlete Award are as follows:

1. Nominee must be a sophomore or above in academic standing;
2. Nominee must have been in attendance at the nominating institution one full academic year at the time of the nomination deadline (**Apr. 15**)
3. Nominee has a minimum grade point average of 3.50 (on a 4.0 scale) at the time of the nomination deadline (for transfer students the GPA is only at current NAIA institution).
4. Nominee has been certified as eligible and is listed on the eligibility certificate submitted to conference eligibility chair.
5. Nomination form is complete and submitted through NAIA Connect.
6. All the above information is to be received by **Apr. 15** to be eligible for national press release/website, certificate and honors database – All criteria must be met by this date.

NOTE – There are no statistical/playing requirements needed to receive this award. Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete nominations will be filled out via NAIA Connect.

If you do not have an account, please sign up and create your own. Access will be granted (usually) within 24 hours. Nominations will be processed entirely electronically. To complete a nomination, the student-athlete must have approved and signed a release of their cumulative grade point average for nominating purposes. If you or your sports information office does not have a signed release form from the nominated student-athlete on file, a blank document (PDF) will be available for download.



This release form does not need to be turned into the NAIA National Office. You are asked to retain it for your institutional records. The administrator nominating the student-athlete will sign electronically. To be eligible for listing on website or honors database, forms must be submitted by **April 15**. Late nominations will not be accepted.

To download a template to create an award certificate for your student-athletes that have earned this honor, [CLICK HERE](#).

SCHOLAR TEAM AWARD

In recognition of academic achievement, the NAIA names a Scholar Team for all sports in which Scholar-Athletes are recognized. **Based on a cumulative 3.0 season GPA for the current academic year** on a 4.0 scale, all members of the team who appear on the eligibility certificate will be included in the GPA compilation.

The deadline for Scholar Team nominations is **June 30, 2025**. Download the [NAIA Scholar Team Award Form](#)

ORDERING AWARDS

Appropriate conference tournament awards are to be ordered by the conference chair and are the financial responsibility of the conference or the conference tournament host institution. Official NAIA awards MUST be [ordered](#) from:

Collegiate Awards

18081 E. Trafficway, Springfield, MO 65802

Contact – Brad Stout – brads@collegiateawards.com