



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

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IMPORTANT DATES

2025-2026 WOMEN'S LACROSSE SPORT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 1	START – Practices, Scrimmages & Exhibitions
SEPTEMBER 1	START – Competitions
NOVEMBER 6	DEADLINE – Submission of Sport Motions
NOVEMBER 19-21	IWLCA Convention, St. Petersburg, FL
JANUARY 21	START – National Poll Release <i>Dates: Jan. 21, Feb. 25, Mar. 11, Mar. 25, Apr. 8, Apr. 29, May 20</i>
FEBRUARY 10	START – Player of the Week Release <i>Feb. 10, Feb. 17, Feb. 24, Mar. 3, Mar. 10, Mar. 17, Mar. 24, Mar. 31, Apr. 7, Apr. 14, Apr. 21</i>
APRIL 4	DEADLINE – Undeclare from DOI
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – NAIA Scholar-Athlete nomination materials to NAIA
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – Individual Champion of Character Nomination
MAY 2	DEADLINE – Complete Affiliated Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group Tournaments
MAY 3	DEADLINE – Sport Chairs to Submit All-Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group Team Ballots
MAY 4	RELEASE - National Championship Pairings and Official Bracket Watch the Selection Show live at 400pm CT.
MAY 5	DEADLINE – Teams Advancing to Postseason Play to Submit Official Postseason Roster Form to NAIA National Office on NAIA Connect
MAY 5	DEADLINE – Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group Commissioners to Submit All-Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group Team Ballots to The NAIA National Office
MAY 10	RELEASE – 2026 NAIA Women's Lacrosse All-America Teams, National Player of the Year, National Coach of the Year
MAY 11-15	6TH Annual NAIA Women's Lacrosse National Championship – Decatur, Alabama
JUNE 30	DEADLINE – Scholar Team Nomination
JULY 15	DEADLINE – Nominations for NAIA Hall of Fame

FIVE-YEAR CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Conference Tournament Deadlines	May 2	May 1	April 29	April 28	April 27
National Championship Dates	May 11-15	May 11-15	May 8-12	May 8-12	May 6-10

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 Women'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/Continental Athletic Conference (formerly A.I.I.). 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 Reporting Form](#)



POSTSEASON COMPETITION

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

OFFICIAL PARTY / ROSTER

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](#) and sent to the NAIA National Office. If you do not have a login account, please contact naiacconnectsupport@naia.org. Once you login, please follow these [instructions](#).

Postseason Rosters (and ejection disclosures) will be processed electronically and the administrator completing the roster will sign electronically.

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

If you have trouble with the online roster form, please contact [Brandt McCall](#), NAIA Athletics Communications Manager. For 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, 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 National Championship. 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 conference tournaments 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 they are 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 a Final Site 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

Each participating team shall be responsible for its own expenses to, during, and from all postseason events.

PARTICIPATION AT EVENTS

All participating teams and individuals competing in a National Championship, including Opening Rounds, must attend all event functions including, but not limited to – Parade of Champions, coaches meetings, and Champions of Character initiatives. Failure to comply will result in a penalty of a \$1,500 fine to the institution.

COACHES RESPONSIBILITY

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 their 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 2025 NAIA Women's Lacrosse Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group National qualifying tournaments is **Saturday, May 2**.

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 Women's Lacrosse National Championship is under the direct control and supervision of the NAIA-WLCA National Tournament Committee. The Tournament Committee is responsible for the management of tournament games and the general welfare of participating teams and coaches. The Championship Sport Manager and the Tournament Committee conduct a pre-tournament coaches' meeting, work with the Supervisor of Officials, and coordinate tournament ceremonies. The National Tournament Committee is made up of the officers (Executive Committee) of the NAIA-WLCA. 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 Women's Lacrosse National Championship is an 8-team single-elimination tournament.

The eight teams that will compete in the National Tournament will be determined using the 2025-26 NAIA Women's Lacrosse 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 Women's Lacrosse will use a selection committee made up of coaches and administrators from across the country. It is the responsibility of the committee to select and seed teams for the championship.

FORMAT

The NAIA National Championship will include a field of 8 teams in a single-elimination tournament. The 2026 final site dates will be May 11-15.

CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION APPEALS PROCESS

If there is misapplication of NAIA policy and procedures regarding tournament selection, an institution may appeal to the NAIA National Office.

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 within 24 hours from the time the tournament field has been released.
2. Once an appeal has been 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 NAC sport liaison will be on-site at the selection to listen to the discussion of tournament selection.

The NAC liaison will report any concerns to the NAIA National Office immediately following the conclusion of the selection. The oversight committee will review ratings to prevent any ratings process violations or unethical use of the ratings process.

TEAM HOUSING

All participating teams must stay at the designated hotels. Failure to do so would make a team ineligible for participation.

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 and student-athlete experience event. Failure to comply will result in a penalty of a \$1,500 fine to the institution.



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. Tournament 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 Championship.

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 Championship. Teams will be able to access these special rates by providing the special NAIA contract ID #XZ05146.

Click [here](#) for account setup and instructions to use code.

MASTER'S TRANSPORTATION

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

POSTSEASON LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETITION GUIDELINES

AFFILIATED CONFERENCE/UNAFFILIATED GROUP LACROSSE CHAIRS

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. 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.
4. Communicates with the officers of the NAIA-Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (NAIA-WLCA) on any matter relative to the administration of lacrosse at the affiliated conference/group and national levels.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT 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. Assists the NAIA Championship Sport Manager and the host-site coordinator on all other matters related to the administration of the national championship.
7. It is the responsibility of the NAIA-WLCA Executive Committee to fill the positions of the Tournament Committee. If these individuals cannot complete this duty, it is the Executive Committee's responsibility to provide recommendations for the completion of these positions.

RELATED INFORMATION

1. ***Student-Athlete Experience** – Prior to the start of 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.
4. **Officials** – The NAIA, in consultation with the NAIA-WLCA, 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 POLICY PLAY

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 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 including the [Drug Testing Info Sheet](#) 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 Championship.

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

2025-24 NAIA-WLCA STANDING COMMITTEES

NAIA-WLCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - (Two-year terms beginning January 1)

COMMITTEE POSITION	NAME, SCHOOL & CONTACT INFO
President	Kelly Buikus , University of the Cumberlands (Ky.), kelly.buikus@ucumberlands.edu
First Vice President	
Second Vice President	Lauren Chizmar , Keiser University (Fla.), lbennett@keiseruniversity.edu
Third Vice President	Max Ruhl , Missouri Baptist, max.ruhl@mobap.edu
Secretary	Clare Hanson , Benedictine College (Ks.), chanson@benedictine.edu
Member at Large	Alexis DiGiovanni , Indiana Tech, akdigiovanni@indianatech.edu

Liaisons

IWLCA Katy Sherman, Ave Maria (Fla.)
NAC Dustin Wilke, The Sun Conference
Sport Manager [Abby Schultz](#), NAIA

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section I - The name of the Association shall be the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association.

ARTICLE II – ORGANIZATION

Section I - The NAIA-WLCA is an allied association of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. The NAIA-WLCA is charged with the responsibility of carrying on programs beneficial to the sport of women's lacrosse and the member coaches of the sport. The activities of this Association shall be in accordance with the aims and objectives of the NAIA and under the guidance of the NAIA National Administrative Council (NAC).

Section II - The NAIA-WLCA shall submit to the NAC statements governing the NAIA-WLCA, plans and practices for approval and in every way cooperate with the NAIA in furthering the stated aims and objectives of this parent organization.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section I - Active membership in the NAIA-WLCA will be open to any head coach of a women's lacrosse program, that has declared varsity, at an institution holding current membership with the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Section II - There will not be any membership dues charged to a member of the NAIA-WLCA. The NAIA National Office will issue an official membership card to all women's lacrosse coaches listed on the membership information roster submitted at the beginning of the academic year.

ARTICLE IV - AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Section I - The NAIA-WLCA shall supervise and conduct programs which will foster and promote intercollegiate lacrosse. The NAIA-WLCA shall establish policies and procedures for the conduct of the NAIA Women's Lacrosse National Championship which will include conference/unaffiliated and opening round play. These policies should include appropriate recognition for teams, competitors and coaches.

ARTICLE V -BUDGET



Section I - The NAIA-WLCA shall submit an annual budget request to the NAIA National Office prior to June 1, for approval of the NAIA-Council of Presidents. A portion of the NAIA institutional membership dues shall be assigned to the NAIA-WLCA to conduct their business.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section I - The annual business meeting of the NAIA-WLCA will be held in conjunction with the annual Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association Convention during the month of November.

Section II - Usual order of business at the annual business meeting shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Introductions
3. Announcements
4. Committee Reports
5. Old Business Reports
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

Section III - Voting on all official business shall be by voice or hand, unless members request a secret ballot on any specific item or items. Virtual ballot votes to total membership may be requested on any issue deemed necessary.

ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS

Section I - The officers of the NAIA-WLCA shall consist of President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President and Secretary. The officers shall be elected from the acting membership of the Association at the annual business meeting and must represent NAIA member institutions in good standing.

Section II - Terms of office for all President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President and Secretary shall be for two years. The term of office shall begin on January 1.

Section III - The President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Secretary and Immediate Past President shall make up the NAIA-WLCA Executive Committee.

Section IV - The executive board shall be elected annually during the November business meeting. The term of each office shall be two years, from January 1 to December 31. The NAIA-WLCA Executive Committee is empowered to appoint officers from the membership at large to fill a vacant position for the remainder of the term. Such an appointee shall remain in office until the next annual business meeting when the membership elects the executive board for the coming year.

Section V - Remove the Past President as a full-voting member of the executive committee. Past president would have Executive Committee voting rights only if there is a tie vote on the Executive Committee. This also means that they lose their automatic vote on the Honors Committee for being a member of the Executive Committee.

Section VI Create an at-large position on the Executive Committee. At-Large position will serve as the chair of the Championship Committee and be involved with Executive Committee discussion. The member will vote in Executive Committee votes only when both of the following are true:

- There is a tie in the Executive Committee vote
- There is no Past President to break the tie

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section I - The duties of the President are to provide leadership and guidance for the NAIA-WLCA and represent the Association at all official functions. The President shall plan the agenda and preside over all official business meetings of the NAIA-WLCA. The President serves as chair of the Research Committee.

Section II - The duties of the First Vice President are to assume the leadership of the Association at all meetings and functions when the President is not in attendance. The First Vice President also serves as chair of the NAIA-WLCA All-American Selection Committee.



Section III - The duties of the Second Vice President are to assume the leadership of the Association at all meetings and functions when the President and First Vice President are not in attendance.

Section IV - The duties of the Third Vice President are to be responsible for performing various duties during the annual business meeting. The Third Vice President shall serve as the chair of the Allied Organizations Committee.

Section IV - The duties of the Secretary are to take minutes at all meetings of the NAIA-WLCA, submit the minutes to the NAIA National Office for circulation to the membership, maintain records and perform other duties as assigned by the President. The Secretary shall also serve as the chair of the Hall of Fame Committee.

Section VI - The Past President shall serve on the Executive Committee of the NAIA-WLCA and act as a consultant to the President. The Past President shall serve as chair of the Past Presidents Committee.

ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES

Section I - The President of the NAIA-WLCA is empowered to appoint committees which will assist in the administration and recognition of the interests of the Association.

Section II - Ad-hoc committees shall be appointed by the President.

Section III - The NAIA-WLCA shall have six standing committees. Following is a list of those committees and their duties:

Honors: This committee will be comprised of the officers of the NAIA-WLCA Executive Committee and one designated coach from each of the Conferences/Groupings from the membership. The duties of this committee are to select the NAIA-WLCA All-America teams according to the prescribed selection procedures established by the NAIA-WLCA.

Allied Organizations: This committee is comprised of three head coaches and is to be chaired by the Third Vice President. The duties of this committee are to establish formal relations with other Lacrosse organizations and report on developments as they may affect the NAIA-WLCA. Some of the important organizations that this committee will relate to are: Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA), National Women's Lacrosse League (NWLL), US Lacrosse and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

Past Presidents: This committee is comprised of all past presidents of the NAIA-WLCA currently coaching at an NAIA institution and is to be chaired by the immediate past president. Duties of this committee are to act as an advisory committee to the NAIA-WLCA in the areas of:

1. Constitution and By-Laws
2. Nomination of officers, identification of Hall of Fame candidates
3. History and Records
4. Other areas as requested

Research: This committee shall consist of three head coaches and is to be chaired by the President. Duties include the research of all major decisions that may affect the membership such as regional realignment, All-America selection, rules, etc.

Hall of Fame: This committee shall consist of three head coaches and is to be chaired by the Secretary. Duties include the yearly identification of qualified candidates and to oversee the nomination process.

All-American Oversight Committee: All All-American ballots voted on by the Honors Committee should be shared with the membership after they are reviewed by the Oversight Committee and All-Americans are announced publicly. The Oversight Committee will be chaired by the 1st Vice President and the Chairperson will not receive any voting rights on the Oversight Committee. The Oversight Committee will be comprised of elected members that are not on the Executive Committee or the Honors Committee.

Section IV - Implement the following policy for filling open spots on the Executive Committee and Standing Committees: Executive Committee votes on current members of the committee with vacated chair. Candidates are contacted in order of

Executive Committee recommendation to check interest in filling open position. If someone accepts, then the process is completed. If no one can/will fulfill the chairperson seat, Executive Committee will move to the next step:

- Open nominations to the entire membership
- Coaches can nominate themselves
- Window to nominate is "no longer than 48 hours"
- Executive Committee will vote on all nominations, offering seat to the person with the top-votes received.
- If the person with the top-votes received declines, then seat will be offered to the second-highest votes received nominee
- Procedure will proceed until seat is offered and accepted

ARTICLE X - NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP/OFFICIAL RULES

Section I - The NAIA Women's Lacrosse National Championship is a function of the NAIA-WLCA and is subject to all approved policies and guidelines as adopted by the Association.

Section II - The Tournament Committee for the National Championship shall be comprised by members of the NAIA Executive Committee and/or a Past President if necessary.

Section III - The rules governing all conference/group and national play are the official NCAA Lacrosse rules. The NAIA-WLCA can propose modifications to NCAA rules; which must be approved by the National Administrative Council (NAC).

ARTICLE XI - CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

Section I - Proposed amendments to the Constitution of the NAIA-WLCA must be presented in writing to the President at least one month prior to the annual business meeting. The President must see that the proposal is presented to the membership at the next annual business meeting. The amendment must have a two-thirds vote of approval by current members of the NAIA-WLCA. Approved amendments then must be submitted to the appropriate NAIA council for appropriate action.

BYLAWS

The procedure to place an item of business on the agenda for the NAIA-WLCA annual business meeting in November at the IWLCA Convention is as follows:

1. A letter from the National Office will be sent prior to the annual business meeting. This letter will spell out the proper procedure for submitting agenda items.
2. All agenda items must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the annual business meeting. Exceptions to this bylaw are reports from standing committees.
3. All agenda items will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and a final agenda will be formulated with the representative of the NAIA National Office.
4. The annual business meeting agenda with all motions shall be emailed by the NAIA National Office to all members prior to the in-person meeting.

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 and final statistics within 72 hours 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 to be included in the national statistical website or leaderboards.

Institutions failing to report statistics or 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 & Media Department.

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

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. The nomination process is handled through the [NAIA Awards Platform](#).

Note: Nominations for Player of the Week are due no later than 3:30pm (CT) on Mondays during the regular season.

NAIA ALL-CONFERENCE/CAC/UNAFFILIATED GROUP TEAMS

These teams of fifteen players (one goalkeeper, five attack, five midfield, five defense) 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.

Coaches vote for one goalkeeper, five attack, five midfield, five defense in their group only. These should be listed in order with number one being the best player at that position, then two, three, etc. A coach may vote for no more than three of his/her own players on their ballot. Once tabulated, All-Conference teams should be sent to the designated personnel (Honors Committee Chair/NAIA National Office).



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 Women's Lacrosse All-America teams are selected by the Honors/All-America Committee. In addition to the NAIA-WLCA 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.

Conference offices must submit one goalkeeper, five attack, five midfield, and five defense to the National Office for consideration on the All-America Ballot. Additionally, each conference may submit up to four, 2nd Team All-Conference Honorees to be included in the National All-America Ballot.

The All-America Committee shall select a first, second, and third team consisting of one goalkeeper, five attack, five midfield, and five defense. The third team may exceed the numbers of the first and second All-America teams based on the number of conference players of the year that were not included in the first, second or third teams. Honorable mentions will be eliminated.

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 Women's Lacrosse National Coach-of-the-Year is selected by a vote of the NAIA-WLCA membership from a ballot containing the names of the conference/group coaches of the year and/or coaches participating in the National Championship. 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 in May. The NAIA Women's Lacrosse National Coach-of-the-Year is announced at the NAIA National Championship.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

The NAIA maintains a standardized awards program for its national championship, with awards provided to the official parties of the 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 (April 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 April 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. 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, 2026**. 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, 2026**. Download the **NAIA Scholar Team Award Form** in NAIA Connect.

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