



NAIA WOMEN'S LACROSSE SELECTION COMMITTEE PROTOCOL

Committee Appointment Process:

Area Ranking Committees (ARC) – Area ranking committees will consist of a representative from each conference in that local area as well as an at-large representative from the National Selection Committee. ARC's will meet. The out-of-area ARC being involved in this part of the process allows for a better understanding of another areas that isn't their own and also adds more transparency.

North – WHAC

Midwest – Heart of America, CCC

West – AAC

East – The Sun

National Selection Committee will also select its chair through nomination and vote of the committee. The selection committee will be made of 8 members.

4 – Area Ratings Committee Chairs

3 – At Large NAIA Administrators (Athletic Director, Assistant Athletic Director, Commissioner, or Sports Information Director)

1 – NAC Sport Liaison

Committee Role:

The role of the National Women's Lacrosse Selection Committee is to have oversight for the Women's Lacrosse Championship. The committee will focus on the following during the year:

1. Evaluate teams throughout the season.
2. Serve as a chair and/or member of an area ranking committee.
3. Participate in national committee calls.
4. Participate in the selection meeting.
5. Attend committee meetings as scheduled throughout the year.

At-Large Representative Role Description –

- The rationale for NSC At-Large members in the selection process is to cultivate individuals on the NSC who incorporate a broad view involving multiple ARC's and consider all potentially eligible sport playing institutions.
- Sport personnel tasked with appointing NSC At-Large members should strive to incorporate non-coaching personnel to the role.
- NSC At-Large member affiliation with an out-of-area ARC is designed to create comprehension and appreciation for another ARC(s).
- NSC At-Large members are tasked with protecting the validity of the selection committee process. To that end, NSC At-Large members:
 - Should not be involved with ARC's in which they are employed as an administrator, coach, or other role,
 - Maintain neutrality as non-voting members of assigned ARC's,
 - Act in the role of guide to members of their assigned ARC,
 - Insist on evaluation of ARC teams based on the selection criteria as defined in sport NSC Handbooks,
 - Create an atmosphere of transparency from NSC to ARC and vice-versa.



Criteria For Selection:

The criteria which will be used by the Selection Committee for both At-Large Selection and Seeding are as follows:

No weight or order is given to the criteria listed in the primary or secondary categories.

PRIMARY:

Head-to-Head
Area Rating
NAIA RPI

SECONDARY:

Record vs. Common Opponents
NAIA SOS
SOS vs Non-NAIA Opponents
Goal Differential
Record vs. Top 10 Final NAIA RPI

Analytic Information:

RPI (Ratings Percentage Index)

- $WP (0.25) + OWP (0.50) + OOWP (0.25)$
 - WP = Winning Percentage
 - OWP = Opponent's Winning Percentage
 - OOWP = Opponent's Opponent's Winning Percentage

SOS (Strength of Schedule)

- $OWP (.67) + OOWP (.33)$
 - OWP = Opponent's Winning Percentage
 - OOWP = Opponent's Opponent's Winning Percentage

Basic Principles for Selection:

1. At no point in the process may a member vote for a team that he/she represents as an athletic administrator or coach. A committee member from a conference office may vote for all teams that he/she represents.
2. All votes will be by confidential ballot.
3. All committee meeting discussions, votes, brackets, seedings, pairings are strictly confidential and should not be shared with anyone outside of the women's lacrosse committee until after the championship bracket announcement.

Basic Procedures Considered In the Following Order:

1. Determine the automatic qualifying teams and then select the remaining at-large teams.
2. Place the teams into the championship bracket.

NOTE: Every effort should be made to separate conference teams from playing each other in the first round. Depending on the number of teams from a given conference, this may be unavoidable.



Selection of At-Large Teams:

Principles

1. Select the best available teams to fill the at-large berths.
2. There is no limit on the number of teams the committee may select from one conference or area.

Procedures:

1. Prior to the selection meeting, committee members shall prepare the following information:
 - a) A ranking of all teams within his/her area to be considered for at-large berths.
 - b) Ranking of teams within each conference within his/her area.
2. At-Large Nomination Pool
 - a) All teams included in each Area Ranking.
 - b) Also, any team finishing first or second in their conference in the regular season will be placed in the nomination pool.
 - c) Other teams mentioned during the committee's final evaluation call that do not meet the aforementioned criteria will automatically be considered part of this process.
3. The first ballot procedures will be conducted as follows:
 - a) Each committee member shall present information from their respective area and discuss those teams that should be considered for selection. A committee member whose team is under focused consideration may present objective data about his team but may not participate in votes regarding a team that he represents as a coach or athletic administrator.
 - b) Each member shall consider the teams recommended for at-large berths and vote for any number of teams that he believes are deserving of selection.
 - c) Teams that receive 75 percent of the votes cast will automatically be designated as at-large selections. However, a minimum of 50 percent of the available at-large positions must be left vacant. If less than 50 percent are vacant, each committee member will then prepare a ballot, consider only those teams that received 75 percent of the votes and list in rank order a number of teams equal to the total berths available minus 50 percent and conduct a poll vote.
4. The committee will fill the remaining at-large berth as follows:
 - a) All teams in the at-large pool will be considered for the remaining berths and each committee member shall vote on teams to be selected by listing the number of teams as there are berths available.
 - b) Teams receiving 75 percent of the votes will be selected at large, however no more than half of the remaining berths will be filled. If more than half of the berths are filled, a separate ballot will be conducted with only those teams receiving 75 percent of the first vote being considered. Each committee member shall list a number of teams equal to the number of berths remaining. A poll vote will be taken, which would involve each committee member ranking the teams under consideration and a point value would be given to the ranking with the top team receiving a number of points equal to the number of teams being considered and each team thereafter would be give points in descending order.
 - c) Steps a and b will be repeated with each committee member voting for the same number of teams as berths that are available and no more than half of the berths are to be filled.
 - d) At any time during the process, the committee may determine that a team be eliminated from the pool. In order to eliminate a team, at least 75 percent of the votes would be required.



- e) Whenever a consensus cannot be reached, the chair may call for a poll vote. During poll votes, 75 percent of votes are not required and a simple majority will determine the team for at-large selection.

Seeding of Teams:

1. Teams are seeded 1 through 8.
2. The committee shall use the same criteria for selection to the tournament for seeding the tournament.

Placing Teams in Bracket Principles:

1. Every attempt will be made to not pair conference teams in the first round. Based upon the pairings and selection criteria above, this may be unavoidable.