

WOMEN'S LACROSSE POLICIES – UPDATED 02/06/2017

A. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

1. **Competition Rules.** Conference competition (regular season and Conference Championship) shall be governed by NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules. *(Revised August 2006)*
2. **Competition Site.** All Conference games are to be played on the field of the scheduled home team, except by mutual agreement of the Athletic Directors of the competing teams. When, because of extenuating circumstances, a substitute home field is required, an athletics administrator of the home team is required to notify the affected team in advance of the scheduled game.
3. **Complimentary Tickets.** If an institution charges admission to regular season home contests, it must provide 20 complimentary tickets to each visiting Conference opponent. *(Revised February 2000)*
4. **Conference Schedule.**
 - a. The women's lacrosse Conference schedule shall feature six Conference games. Each member institution shall play one regular season game against each of the schools that sponsor women's lacrosse, including one mid-week (Wednesday) contest. The Conference office shall be responsible for preparing the annual Conference schedule. Institutions may alter the schedule only with prior approval from the Conference office. No Conference games may be scheduled after the Sunday preceding the annual championship. *(Revised October 2013)*
 - b. All America East Conference women's lacrosse games must be played prior to the end of the regular season. In the event an America East Conference game must be postponed from its original start time, all attempts should be made to have both teams remain at the competition site to determine if the game should be delayed until a later time that day. If the game site is deemed unplayable for the entire day, the contest must be made up on the first mutually agreed upon date available for both institutions, as determined by athletic administrators, and must be made up prior to the end of the regular season. If necessary, teams shall pre-empt a non-Conference game in order to obtain an open date for the Conference game. *(Revised February 2003)*
5. **Event Management Policies.**
 - a. Ball Persons. The host institution shall be responsible for providing an adequate number of ball retrievers for Conference games.

- b. Locker Rooms. The host institutions shall make every effort to provide separate and secure locker room areas, 40 towels, chalk/dry erase board and water for competing teams during both the regular season and championship.
6. **Game Times**. All Conference regular season game times shall be the decision of the host institution.
7. **Grants in Aid / Staffing Requirements**.
 - a. Grants-in-Aid. America East schools must annually award 9.00 grants-in-aid for women's lacrosse, effective July 1, 2009.
 - b. Staffing. America East schools must maintain one full-time head coach and one full-time assistant coaches, effective July 1, 2009.
8. **Home Game Administrator**. A game management representative from the host institution must be designated for each contest. The representative shall be identified to all game officials and the visiting team's coaching staff prior to the contest and shall be located at the scorer's table or in another central and visible location for the duration of the contest. In addition, this individual shall be versed in the operation of all equipment and/or shall be equipped with a means of communication to contact necessary personnel in the event that problems arise. *(Revised March 2010)*
9. **Media**.
 - a. Recommended for regular season; required for championship competition. *(Revised July 2013)*
 - Covered press structure enclosed with PA system
 - Capable of accommodating radio/television/streaming via internet
 - Internet access
10. **Scouting Policy**. There shall be no verbal or visual exchanges of scouting reports on any Conference team given to non-conference opponents.
11. **Sporting Conduct**. Please refer to the America East Administrative Policy Manual.
12. **Umpires**. Each member institution shall use umpires as assigned by the America East Conference Coordinator of Women's Lacrosse Officials for all home games. Host institutions shall be responsible for the prompt payment of officials. All regular season games shall have three umpires. Umpires may not be publicly criticized by conference member institution's personnel, including comments to media outlets *(see administrative policy manual)*.

13. Video Exchange Program.

- a. **Conference Policy.** Teams will upload all non-conference home games and all conference home games for future opponents and the conference office. All video must be exchanged online. All uploaded video should be checked to ensure that the video was uploaded successfully. Any issues or problems with uploading or downloading games **MUST** be reported immediately to the conference office.

The following standards must be met by each institution in regards to quality of game films:

- 1) Must be filmed from mid-field, preferably from a covered position
- 2) The video must be in color, with a wide angle view.
- 3) All video must be recorded in digital format.
- 4) All video must be of high quality, it may or may not have audio, and be in good working order
- 5) The camera operator must record the scoreboard following the completion of each half and overtime. It is recommended, not mandated, that the camera operator is paid and trained in filming games.

If a video malfunction prohibits an institution from meeting its obligation to provide a video, it will be the responsibility of that institution to obtain a copy from the opponent and fulfill the request. *(Revised January 2013)*

- b. **Nonconference Policy.** The Conference will adhere to the IWLCA open video exchange policy enables coaches to exchange all game film without limitation. High definition digital quality recording is highly recommended. *(Revised September 2013)*

B. CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

1. **Championship Eligibility.** An institution shall be prohibited in both team and individual sports from competing in Conference championship postseason play if a team falls below the 930 APR benchmark. *(Revised July 2012)*
2. **Championship Format.** The annual championship shall consist of a four-team single elimination format. The top four teams shall participate and be seeded based on regular season play. The championship will be hosted by the highest seed. If the #1 seed (host institution) is unable to host on its home field, the institution may seek an alternate facility in the local vicinity that meets the minimum facility standards and is available for the entire duration of the tournament, including scheduled practice times, with the understanding that the Conference office will not assume the facility rental cost. The CCC will require the host to submit an action plan with

details regarding the proposed facility in advance of the championship for their review and recommendation to the Conference office. *(Revised August 2006)*

a. **Tie-Break Criteria.** Ties shall be broken from the top of the standings down. In the event of a tie between two or more teams, the tie shall be broken using the following criteria in order. *(Revised October 2014)*

- 1) Winning percentage in Conference games versus the other teams with which it is tied (i.e. head-to-head competition)
- 2) Winning percentage in Conference games versus the other Conference opponents in descending rank order. In the event of arriving at another group of tied teams when comparing records, each team's record (winning percentage) versus the combined tied teams is used rather than the performance versus the individual tied teams.
- 3) Each tied team's total goal differential (maximum of five-goal differential in each game) in games versus the other teams with which it is tied. The team with the highest total goal differential gains the advantage.
- 4) Each tied team's total goal differential (maximum of five-goal differential in each game) in Conference games. The team with the highest goal differential gains the advantage.
- 5) Winning percentage versus common non-Conference Division I opponents.
- 6) A draw conducted by the Commissioner or his/her designee.

Once a tie is broken among three or more teams, immediately return to (i) to break the tie between the remaining teams.

3. **Dates.** The America East Conference Women's Lacrosse Championship shall take place on the weekend immediately preceding the NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship.

4. **Event Management.** The host institution shall be responsible for providing:

- Secured playing field that meets NCAA regulations
- Practice field in case of inclement weather
- Visible scoreboard, PA system, spectator stands
- Medical area for athletic trainers and doctor
- Restroom facilities
- Public address announcer
- Scoreboard operator, official scorekeeper/statistician
- Grounds crew, ticket sellers and ticket takers
- Ushers and other security personnel

- b. Ball Persons. It is the responsibility of the host institutions for all rounds of competition to provide an adequate number of ball retrievers where appropriate. Ball retrievers must be at least 12 years of age and dress in attire that will distinguish them from the competing institutions and other sideline personnel. The host institution is required to train and provide for the safety of the ball retrievers.
 - c. Locker Rooms. The host institutions shall make every effort to provide separate and secure locker room areas, 40 towels, chalk/dry erase board and water for competing teams during both the regular season and championship
 - d. 10-Goal Differential. The 10-goal differential rule will be in effect for championship play. If a team is leading by 10 or more goals, the clock will continue to run after goals.
- 5. **Game Ball**. The tournament ball shall be the Brine Yellow lacrosse ball. The host institution is responsible for providing the appropriate number of balls for use at the tournament. Practice balls shall be the responsibility of each competing team in the championship. *(Revised August 2006, 2015)*
- 6. **Game Times**. The championship format shall reflect that the second semifinal championship game shall start 45 minutes following the conclusion of the first semifinal game. *(Revised August 2006)*
- 7. **Practice Time**. Each team will be allotted one hour of practice on the game field prior to the start of the championship. If an additional field is available following the scheduled practice, the team may be allotted a half-hour on the additional field. On the day between the semifinal and championship game the two remaining teams are allotted an hour-and-a half on the game field. In addition, if the facility allows, all competing teams should be offered a 45 minute shoot-around session on both the semifinal and championship game day. *(Revised July 2007)*
- 8. **Pre-Championship Call**. A pre-championship conference call including head coaches, tournament administration, and the Coordinator of Officials shall be held to discuss details of the tournament.
- 9. **Pre-Game Award Recognition**. All-Conference award winners will be acknowledged prior to the start of each Conference championship contest they are participating in. The conference shall provide the public address announcer with a script that must be read for all Conference championship contests. *(Revised July 2009)*
- 10. **Pre-game Timing**. For the semifinal games, 45 minutes shall be placed on the clock and teams may not be allowed to step foot on the field until the clock begins the countdown. There shall be 60 minutes placed on the clock for the warm-up of the championship game. For all three games, athletes will be allowed in the bench areas

prior to the start of the clock but not allowed to use any equipment or step foot on the playing field. Pregame music will be divided evenly between both teams. The designated home team will choose to have its music played either first or second. Each institution is responsible for editing its music. Music must be turned into the host tournament director or Conference representative prior to the contest.
(Revised July 2007)

11. **Rescheduling Policy.** In the event of adverse weather, the games committee shall decide if the field is playable prior to a game. Once play commences, the decision to play is that of the Umpire-in-Chief/Head Official. Every effort shall be made to complete championship play, including holding competition on a subsequent day. In case of severe weather, the host institution's regular season severe weather policy shall be followed for all practices and games. If it becomes impossible to complete the tournament, the highest remaining seed at the **conclusion** of the most recently completed **round** (i.e., semifinal) shall be declared the tournament champion and shall be designated as the Conference's automatic qualifier for the NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship.
12. **Squad Size.** Players in uniform shall be restricted to the NCAA limit of eligible players for any one contest and shall be designated on the official roster form prior to the championship. Only those players listed on the official roster shall be eligible to play in the championship.
13. **Team Benches.** Bench limits shall be restricted to the NCAA limit of institutional personnel in the bench area during the competition.
14. **Umpires.** Three umpires shall be assigned for all games; in addition, a table umpire shall be assigned to each game and shall have supervision over the timer's and scorer's table and ball persons. The Conference office shall secure umpires for the championship. The Conference office, upon conclusion of the championship, shall complete payment of championship umpires.
15. **Uniforms.** Participants in the championship shall wear exclusively the official uniform of their institution in competition and during related ceremonies (*refer to Rule 1 Sec.12-16 of the NCAA Lacrosse Rules Book*). All teams must have the Conference logo or patch on the uniform.
16. **Video.** The host institution shall be responsible for filming all games of the championship and distributing the copies to the competing teams following the completion of each game. Each team shall receive only their own game film following completion of their game. Space will also be accommodated for a videographer from each competing team. (Revised July 2007)

C. AWARDS

1. **Weekly Regular Season Awards.** The Conference office shall name a Player, Defender and Rookie of the Week each week during the season of competition. It is the responsibility of each institution to nominate players for these awards. Players will be recognized on the America East website.
2. **Selection of Postseason Awards.** The head coaches shall select recipients of all women's lacrosse awards. Coaches shall not be allowed to vote for themselves or for their own players for any of the awards. Ballots shall be distributed to head coaches upon conclusion of all Conference games. *(Revised October 2016)*
3. **All-Conference Teams.**
 - a. The All-Conference team shall consist of a 13-player first team and second team consisting of 4 attackers, 4 midfielders and 4 defenders and 1 goalie.
 - b. All-Conference nominations shall be submitted in rank order by position and the nominees shall be listed by institution in rank order on the final ballot. *(Revised, May 2003)*
 - c. The All-Conference team shall be recognized in a Conference media release and shall receive certificates from the Conference office. The award winners will be announced on the day before the championship *(Revised January 2001)*
4. **All-Rookie Team.**
 - a. The All-Rookie team shall consist of a 10-player team comprised of the top 10 vote-getters, regardless of position. Institutions may have an unlimited number of All-Rookie nominations. *(Revised May 2004)*
 - b. The All-Rookie team shall be recognized in a Conference media release and shall receive certificates from the Conference office. The award winners will be announced on the day before the championship.
5. **Individual Awards.** Individual awards from the Conference office shall be awarded to the Offensive Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, **Midfielder of the Year, Goalkeeper of the Year**, the Rookie of the Year and the Coach of the Year. *(Revised October 2016, 2013)*
6. **Regular Season Champion.** A team trophy shall be awarded to the regular season champion.
7. **All-Championship Team.** An All-Championship team shall be selected by the participating coaches. Two players shall be selected from each of the teams losing in

the semifinal round, three players from the runner-up team and four players shall be chosen from the championship team. The Most Outstanding Player shall be one of the four selected from the winning team and shall receive an additional individual award. Members of the All-Championship team shall receive plaques.

8. **Championship Team Awards.** A team trophy shall be awarded to both the championship team and the runner-up. Additionally, members of the championship team shall receive individual gifts.
9. **Fans' Choice Player of the Year.** America East Fans, through on-line voting, will select an America East Fans' Choice Player of the Year.