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# SPORT – BY – SPORT REGULATIONS & POLICIES

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## MEN'S LACROSSE REGULAR SEASON

### ***Regular Season Format***

Each member participating in the Conference men's lacrosse league will compete in a 6-game single round-robin format, one (1) division of seven (7), playing each opponent once each year. All teams except Notre Dame will play one mid-week game: Rutgers-St. John's; Providence-Syracuse; Georgetown-Villanova.

### ***Regular Season Services***

1. Scheduling:
  - Conference staff designates home-and-away;
  - Conference establishes schedule based on home-and-away matrix;
  - Conference staff handles any scheduling conflicts and approves final schedule.
2. A publicity release naming an Offensive and Defensive Player of the Week, a weekly Honor Roll (for those nominees worthy of mention but not selected for weekly honors) as well as listing notes and statistics, is compiled and distributed by the Conference staff.
3. The Conference staff coordinates and publicizes a preseason coaches' poll that predicts the order of team finish, an All-Conference Team, an Offensive Player of the Year and a Defensive Player of the Year.
4. Coaches will exchange a watch list of student-athletes that should receive consideration for preseason and postseason awards.

### ***Regular Season Policies & Regulations*** (NCAA rules and regulations are followed unless specified below)

1. The Video Exchange Policy is mandated as follows:
  - a. A coach may request three recorded regular season games from each Conference team.
  - b. All requests must be made by the first Wednesday in February.
  - c. Confirmation is required of each institution receiving a request.
  - d. All videos must be DVD, must include sound and must be produced from midfield at an elevated position.
  - e. Game records must be shipped the first business day after the game (i.e. shipped on Monday for a Friday-Saturday-Sunday game or shipped on Thursday for a Wednesday game), via guaranteed overnight delivery (i.e. FedEx).

If a requested video cannot be provided or delivered on time, a phone call to the opposing coach is required as soon as the problem becomes apparent.
  - f. Each coach is personally responsible for providing the video requested regardless of where the game record originated and/or who produced it.
  - g. Coaches can make additional in-conference requests without limitations.
  - h. There will be no limitations/restrictions on non-conference exchanges except the use of second-hand tapes.

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## MEN'S LACROSSE (continued) REGULAR SEASON

### *Regular Season Policies & Regulations (continued)*

2. Home team bands are not permitted to be located behind the visiting team bench. Bands, artificial noisemakers, air horns, bells, whistles, electronic amplifiers, artificial clappers and/or similar items are not permitted to make noise during live action.
3. Bands, cheerleaders and mascots are prohibited from traveling to away contests.
4. Fans may not display signs or banners deemed as being offensive or inappropriate to particular institutions, players or coaches in the facility. These banners should be identified and removed by security personnel.
5. The host Institution must generate game contracts for all Conference regular season games.
6. The visiting team should have access to the field the home team practices on, for equity purposes (i.e. if home team practices on game field, visiting team would have access to game field; if the home team practices on primary practice field, visiting team would have access to the primary practice field).
7. The home team should make “best efforts” to provide a 90-minute practice to the visiting team on the day before a game as well as a 45-minute shootaround on game day. Requests for practice/shootaround times should be made at least two months in advance of the respective game.
8. In any Conference game that involves the visiting team traveling by air, the home team will provide 150 balls (i.e. same color/type as game ball) to the visiting team for practice, shootaround and pregame protocol.
9. The home team should make “best efforts” to provide a closed practice environment for the visiting team’s practice/shootaround.
10. The home team should make “best efforts” to have an administrator/facility representative on site during practices/shootaround. If an on-site representative is not possible, host team must provide a cell phone number in the event the visiting team needs to address an issue in a timely manner.
11. An administrator from the host institution must be on site during all Conference regular season games. The on-site administrator may NOT have other primary game functions (i.e., PA announcer, scorekeeper, field preparation, etc.).
12. The home team must provide a standardized pregame protocol sheet to the visiting team in advance of its arrival.
13. It is recommended that visiting teams have access to the game field 90 minutes prior to the start of the contest. No less than 60 minutes must be provided for pregame protocol. The aforementioned may be adjusted when a men’s lacrosse Conference game is the second game of doubleheader.
14. It is recommended that each institution provide an enclosed area (meeting room, locker room, etc.) with ample chairs for each team’s travel party and a dry erase board for pregame and halftime use. This area should minimally be a tent with sides.
15. Locker rooms and towels should be provided to the visiting team for practice and postgame on game day.

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## MEN'S LACROSSE (continued) REGULAR SEASON

### ***Regular Season Policies & Regulations (continued)***

16. Each institution that charges admission for regular season games must offer 100 complimentary admissions to the visiting team. Admission procedures are to be handled by the host school.
17. Thunder and Lightning Safety Policy: The Conference has adopted as policy NCAA Guideline 1D for Lightning Safety. You may find the policy online at:  

[http://www.lightningsafety.com/nlsi\\_pls/Sports\\_Medicine\\_Handbook\\_lightning.pdf](http://www.lightningsafety.com/nlsi_pls/Sports_Medicine_Handbook_lightning.pdf)
18. The BIG EAST Conference Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association holds its official annual meeting each September. These meetings are held at the Conference office headquarters in odd years and via conference call in odd years. Attendance is mandatory for all head coaches. In extreme situations where the head coach cannot attend, the institution's sport administrator or Director will determine the substitution.

### ***Regular Season Awards***

1. Regular Season Team Champion (trophy and individual awards)
2. Attack Player of the Year \*
3. Defensive Player of the Year \*
4. Midfielder of the Year \*
5. Goalkeeper of the Year \*
6. First Team All-Conference  
(13 spots; 1 goalkeeper, 3 attack, 3 midfielders, 3 defense, 1 long-stick midfielder, 1 specialty player, 1 at-large)\*
7. Second Team All-Conference (13 spots; 10 at-large, 1 goalkeeper, 1 long-stick midfielder, 1 specialty player)\*

\* Selection Process

- Coaches nominate their own players in rank order of strength.
- Nominees are forwarded to each coach on a ballot.
- Online voting begins at 9:00 a.m. ET on the Sunday following the conclusion of the regular season. Voting closes at 1:00 p.m. ET the following Monday.
- Voting coaches may not revise the rank order as submitted by the nominating coach.
- Coaches submit choices (via the Conference's web site) from the nominee list, but cannot select their own players.
- Conference staff approves final selections.

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## MEN'S LACROSSE (continued) CHAMPIONSHIP

### ***Championship Format***

1. Four-team, single-elimination. The event is conducted in two days with the schedule as follows:

DAY 1	Thursday	Semifinal 1	4 vs. 1	4:30 p.m. ^
	Thursday	Semifinal 2	3 vs. 2	7:00 p.m. ^
DAY 2	Saturday	Championship	Semifinal Winners	Noon^

^ Conference staff will determine start time based on availability of television coverage and other marketing/promotional opportunities.

2. A tournament meeting is conducted for the four (4) participating head coaches the evening preceding the start of the Championship.
3. A dinner honoring the four (4) participating teams is scheduled the evening preceding the start of the Championship. Head Coaches and administrators may each bring one guest, at their respective institution's expense.
4. The tournament champion earns the Conference's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. The highest-seeded team remaining will be the automatic bid representative should the tournament not be completed. In the event that the Championship is not completed, no champion will be declared.

### ***Championship Seeding Requirements/Procedures***

The top four teams are selected and seeded according to Conference game winning percentage at the conclusion of the regular season.

### ***Tie-Breaking Policies***

The following policies are set up to break ties at the end of the regular season for selection/seeding purposes. Follow the appropriate steps in order. Once one or more teams gain an advantage in the case of a multiple-team tie, revert to the beginning of the tie-breaking policies with the remaining teams. If the ties cannot be broken, the Commissioner or his designee will conduct a coin flip.

1. Regular season head-to-head results. If three or more teams are tied, they are viewed as a "mini-conference" when comparing head-to-head results. The team or teams with the best combined record versus the other teams in the mini-conference gain the advantage.
2. Each team's record versus the team occupying the highest position in the standings, continuing down through the standings until one team gains an advantage.

NOTE: When arriving at another pair of tied teams while comparing records, use each team's record against the tied teams as a group rather than the performance against the individual tied teams.

3. Each team's Mini Conference seasonal goal differential (maximum of seven goals per game).
4. Each team's Mini Conference seasonal goals for (maximum of seven goals per game).
5. Each team's Mini Conference seasonal goals against (maximum of seven goals per game).

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## MEN'S LACROSSE (continued) CHAMPIONSHIP

***Championship Policies & Regulations*** (NCAA rules and guidelines are followed unless otherwise noted; regular season game management policies, where applicable, apply to the championship)

1. The Conference staff contracts officials based upon recommendations by the independent assignor.
2. The tournament field is available for practice for all participating teams on the day preceding the start of the tournament. Coaches will submit preferred Wednesday/Friday practice and Thursday/Saturday shootaround times once the tournament field is determined. Host staff, Sport Committee and Conference staff will work in conjunction with participating teams to determine practice times, should conflicts arise. Factors for determining the seeding will include, but are not limited to, seeding, travel distance and academic calendar.

In addition, practice will be available to the two advancing teams on Saturday. Shootaround will be available on the days of the semifinals and championship game.

3. A total of 52 team personnel may be in the bench area during the competition. This total must include an administrator from the participating institution. Teams are limited to a maximum of 32 players in uniform for any one contest. Each team must designate its 32 players during the pregame meeting. After the game starts, no replacements will be permitted for any reason.
4. The higher-seeded team (home team) will wear light-colored uniforms and use the bench traditionally occupied by the host school. The lower-seeded team (visiting team) will wear dark-colored uniforms and use the bench traditionally occupied by the visiting school. All teams should bring both sets of uniforms. The goalkeeper shall wear a numbered game shirt in a different color than either team.
5. The BIG EAST Men's Lacrosse Committee, in conjunction with the on-site BIG EAST administrator as chair, will serve as the Games Committee to handle any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior, etc. This committee is not in place to dispute officials' calls.
6. The host institution must record both semifinal games and provide copies to all four participants.
7. The Nike Championship ball will be utilized for all Championship games.

### ***Championship Awards, Gifts & Services***

1. The Championship team receives a trophy and individual awards.
2. The runner-up team receives a trophy.
3. A Most Outstanding Player receives an award and is selected by a vote of qualified persons as determined by the Conference staff.
4. An all-tournament team will be selected from among the four (4) participating institutions at the site of the Championship. Ten (10) players will be selected. One of the ten will be designated Most Outstanding Player. A selection committee shall be comprised of the Sport Committee, staff and select media, with input from the sports information representatives of the four participating institutions.
5. The Conference staff produces a Championship program. A press release previewing the tournament field is distributed a week prior to the Championship.
6. Each Men's Lacrosse student-athlete competing in the Championship receives a gift from the Conference office, which is shipped to each head coach after the Men's Lacrosse Championship.