

= 2009 NCAA Division I Men 's Lacrosse Championship =

The 2009 NCAA Division I Men 's Lacrosse Tournament was held from May 9 through May 25 , 2009 . This was the 39th annual Division I NCAA Men 's Lacrosse Championship tournament . Sixteen NCAA Division I college men 's lacrosse teams met after having played their way through a regular season , and for some , a conference tournament , to play in the NCAA Tournament .

= = Overview = =

The first round of the tournament was played on May 9 and 10 at the home fields of the seeded teams . The quarterfinals were held on May 16 and 17th on neutral site fields at Hofstra University (James M. Stuart Stadium) and the United States Naval Academy (Navy @-@ Marine Corps Memorial Stadium) . The tournament culminated with the semifinals and final held on Memorial Day weekend at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough , Massachusetts . The tournament was won by Syracuse University who defeated Cornell University , 10 ? 9 , in overtime in front of 41 @,@ 935 fans .

= = Qualifying teams = =

The NCAA Division I Men ? s Lacrosse Committee selected the participating teams for the championship tournament . The committee announced the qualifying teams and the seeding order on Sunday , May 3 , 2009 . Seven conferences received automatic bids for their top team . The remaining nine teams were selected by the committee as " at @-@ large " bids .

Five conferences held tournament championships , which also determined their NCAA bids . Siena earned an automatic bid by winning the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) championship for both their first conference title and first NCAA tournament appearance . Villanova earned an automatic bid by winning Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) championship and also made its NCAA tournament debut . Navy earned an automatic bid by winning its fifth Patriot League championship in six years . Both Notre Dame and UMBC repeated as conference champions by winning the Great Western Lacrosse League (GWLL) and America East Conference , respectively .

Two conferences awarded their bids based on regular season performance . UMass earned the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) championship and its automatic with a 6 ? 1 conference record . The Ivy League awarded its automatic bid to Cornell . Princeton and Cornell possessed identical conference records and were named co @-@ champions . The head @-@ to @-@ head regular season game , which Cornell had won , acted as the tie @-@ breaking criterion .

The remaining nine berths were awarded to at @-@ large teams . Duke won the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) tournament for the third straight season , but the league does not receive an automatic bid because it does not have at least six members . Nevertheless , all four ACC teams received at @-@ large bids : Duke , Maryland , North Carolina , and Virginia . Additionally , the NCAA Selection Committee awarded at @-@ large bids to : independents Johns Hopkins and Syracuse , Brown and Princeton of the Ivy League , and Hofstra of the CAA .

= = Tournament bracket = =

* = Overtime

= = Game summaries = =

= = = First round = = =

The 1st round of the tournament , seven of the eight seeded teams advanced . Every past NCAA tournament had been won by seven of the eight teams that advanced to the quarterfinals , with Duke being the only one to have never won a national title , up to this tournament . For the first time , all four Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) teams advanced to the second round . It was just the second time in tournament history that four teams from the same conference advanced . The first instance occurred in 1990 with Brown , Harvard , Princeton , and Yale of the Ivy League .

The tournament began on Saturday , May 9 , when the Brown Bears traveled to face the eighth @-@ seeded Johns Hopkins Blue Jays at Homewood Field in Baltimore . The Blue Jays pulled away to three @-@ goal leads in the first and final quarters , but the Bears equalized both times . In the final ten seconds of regulation , Brown attackman Kyle Hollingsworth batted in a loose ball to even the score , 11 ? 11 . In overtime , Hopkins won the faceoff and called a timeout , before Brian Christopher drove up the right side of the field and made a game @-@ winning top @-@ corner shot on the run . It was the third overtime goal by Christopher in Hopkins ' past four games .

UMBC then played at number @-@ six seed North Carolina . The UMBC Retrievers possessed the most efficient extra @-@ man offense (EMO) and the best @-@ rated midfield in the nation . Their roster , however , lacked depth , and the first @-@ string midfielders were forced to play in the 90 ° F (32 ° C) heat for almost the entire game . At halftime , the Retrievers led the Tar Heels , 8 ? 6 . The lead changed hands several times in the third period , before North Carolina took control for the remainder of the game to win , 15 ? 13 . Tar Heels attackman Billy Bitter , who attempted only nine shots , matched the school single @-@ game record with eight goals .

Hofstra played at fifth @-@ seeded Cornell , where the teams were even at halftime , 5 ? 5 . The third period was the decisive quarter , and Cornell won three face @-@ offs and outscored Hofstra five @-@ to @-@ one . In Durham , third @-@ seeded Duke hosted Navy . At halftime , the Blue Devils led 10 ? 0 and expanded the rout to 13 ? 1 at the start of the final period . Duke advanced with a final score of 14 ? 5 .

The second day of the tournament began with the Maryland Terrapins facing the seventh @-@ seeded Notre Dame Fighting Irish at home in South Bend , Indiana . The Fighting Irish entered the game in possession of a perfect 15 ? 0 record , but still considered an unknown variable due to their schedule . The magazine Inside Lacrosse called the Terrapins a talented team that had underachieved during the regular season . The first @-@ ranked Notre Dame defense frustrated Maryland , but the Terps still managed to gain a 6 ? 1 lead in the third quarter . Maryland 's defense effectively shut @-@ down Notre Dame and the leading Irish scorer Ryan Hoff was unable to make a single shot on goal . Maryland was the only unseeded team to advance to the quarterfinals .

Both schools making their inaugural NCAA tournament appearance suffered quick elimination . The Villanova Wildcats were trounced by the Virginia Cavaliers , 18 ? 6 . The Cavaliers were led by Brian Carroll 's career @-@ high five goal performance . The Siena Saints were held scoreless for nearly 42 minutes in their loss to the Syracuse Orange , 11 ? 4 . Onondaga Community College transfer Cody Jamieson , who had just been cleared academically , scored three goals in his first start for the Orange .

At Princeton University , the Tigers defeated the visiting UMass Minutemen , 10 ? 7 . Princeton was led by Mark Kovler 's six @-@ point effort . The game was the final in the collegiate career of Minutemen goalkeeper Doc Schneider who led his team to the 2006 championship game as a freshman . His opposite number , Princeton 's Tyler Fiorito , became just the second freshman goalkeeper to start an NCAA tournament game for the Tigers .

= = = Quarterfinals = = =

The quarterfinals took place over the weekend of May 16 to 17 at two neutral sites . The first doubleheader was sponsored on Saturday by Hofstra University , followed by games held at the United States Naval Academy on Sunday . Despite overcast weather at both locations , it was the first time that each NCAA quarterfinals venue attracted in excess of 11 @, @ 000 spectators .

The second round opened at Hofstra 's James M. Shuart Stadium with the Maryland ? Syracuse match @-@ up . Al Cavalieri filled in as the Orange goalkeeper for long @-@ time starter John

Galloway who was sick with the flu . Syracuse scored three unanswered goals in the first quarter before Maryland goalie Brian Phipps suffered an ACL tear . Terrapins midfielder Grant Catalino narrowed the deficit to 5 ? 3 before halftime on an extra @-@ man score . In the second half , Syracuse made defensive adjustments to shut down Maryland 's behind @-@ the @-@ goal attack , and the Orange tallied three times in the span of 2 : 10 to pull away in the third quarter . Syracuse won , 11 ? 6 , and extended its postseason streak against Maryland to five .

Ivy League rivals Cornell and Princeton then had their 70th meeting , but first in the NCAA tournament . Earlier in the postseason , the Big Red defeated the Tigers to split the Ivy League championship . Three Princeton shots hit the post in the first half of the second quarter , and Cornell entered halftime with a 5 ? 1 advantage . In the third quarter , Tigers attackman Tommy Davis ended their 27 : 58 scoring drought with a 15 @-@ yard shot . Princeton quickly tallied again with 28 seconds in the period . In the final quarter , the Big Red withstood two penalties to win , 6 ? 4 .

The second day of the quarterfinals took place at Navy @-@ Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis , Maryland . The first game featured top @-@ ranked Virginia and Johns Hopkins . The Cavaliers dominated the Blue Jays , 19 ? 8 , in their worst postseason defeat in school history . Shamel Bratton of Virginia scored a career @-@ high five goals . The victory marked the 300th of head coach Dom Starsia 's career , and he became the third coach in Division I lacrosse history to win as many games . Virginia advanced to their fourth Final Four appearance in five seasons . With the quarterfinals elimination of both Maryland and Johns Hopkins , 2009 became only the third time since the NCAA tournament began that no team from the state participated in the Final Four .

The final game of the round featured intrastate rivals Duke and North Carolina in their third meeting of the season . In the first quarter , the Blue Devils jumped out to an early lead and survived a two @-@ man @-@ down penalty , but the Tar Heels scored four unanswered goals to briefly take the lead in the second quarter . Late in the final period , North Carolina rallied from a four @-@ point deficit to trail by one goal , 12 ? 11 . As time expired , a shot by Sean Delaney missed high over the goal , and Duke defeated North Carolina for the third time of the year . The Blue Devils ' Zach Howell scored a career @-@ high three goals and Tewaaron Trophy finalist Ned Crotty tallied twice and had six assists . The Duke defense held Carolina 's leading scorer , Billy Bitter , to just two assists .

= = = Semifinals = = =

= = = = Syracuse vs. Duke = = = =

Syracuse met Duke for the first game at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough , Massachusetts , which was attended by 36 @,@ 594 fans , a decrease from the previous year 's 48 @,@ 224 . Nine Orange players scored in a rout of the Blue Devils , 17 ? 7 , which demonstrated the depth of the Syracuse offense . It was the most goals allowed by Duke all season . Seniors Kenny Nims and Patrick Perritt led the Orange with four goals each . Freshman Tim Desko , son of head coach John Desko , and heralded transfer Cody Jamieson each tallied twice . The Orange dominated the faceoff circle and won 18 of 28 draws . To open the third quarter , senior Jake Moulton won the opening faceoff and scored nine seconds into the half . With the victory , the Orange advanced to the championship game for the seventh time since 1999 .

= = = = Cornell vs. Virginia = = = =

In the second game of the day , fifth @-@ seeded Cornell upset first @-@ ranked Virginia . The Big Red upset the Cavaliers decisively , 15 ? 6 , and advanced to the championship game for the first time in over two decades . Cornell controlled the game from the start , and accounted for the game 's first three tallies and entered halftime with an 8 ? 2 advantage . Big Red freshman Rob Pannell , junior Ryan Hurley , and senior Chris Finn each scored three times . The Cornell defense created 18 turnovers and stymied Virginia 's high @-@ powered attack . Commenting on the upset , Cornell

head coach Jeff Tambroni said , " We knew we weren 't going to have a whole lot of believers out there . We needed to play hard first and believe second . "

= = = Championship = = =

= = = = Syracuse vs. Cornell = = = =

The final game was also held at Gillette Stadium and took place on Memorial Day , May 25 . Cornell controlled the tempo of the game for the first 56 minutes and frustrated Syracuse with a tough defense . Late in the fourth quarter , the Big Red led , 9 ? 6 , before Syracuse 's Stephen Keogh and Cody Jamieson narrowed the deficit to one goal with 2 : 46 remaining . Keogh attempted another shot but missed , and Cornell took possession with 27 @. @ 6 seconds left to play . The Orange 's Kenny Nims then dislodged the ball from Matt Moyer , and Keogh recovered possession . He took a wild shot , which was caught by Syracuse 's Matt Abbott . As he was flattened by Cornell defenders , Abbott got off a pass to Nims , who had run from midfield to the very edge of the crease . Nims connected with his shot on goal to send the game into overtime . Cornell won the overtime faceoff , but Syracuse defenseman Sid Smith stripped Ryan Hurley to create a turnover . Dan Hardy feigned a shot before passing to Jamieson , positioned just beyond the crease , who scored the game @-@ winner .

= = Post @-@ tournament honors = =

After the championship , Cornell midfielder Max Seibald was honored with the Tewaaraton Trophy for the most outstanding Division I men 's lacrosse player . Syracuse attackman Kenny Nims was named the Most Outstanding Player of the tournament . The NCAA named its " All @-@ Tournament Team " following the championship game , which consisted of five players each from Syracuse and Cornell . The following individuals made up that team :

= = Record by conference = =