

= Dan Coccoziello =

Daniel F. " Dan " Coccoziello (born August 8 , 1985) is a lacrosse defenseman who plays professional field lacrosse in the Major League Lacrosse (MLL) . He starred as a member of the Princeton Tigers men 's lacrosse team from 2005 through 2008 where he started every game . He is the only defenseman to have earned the Men 's Ivy League Rookie of the Year . He was a three @-@ time United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA) All @-@ American (once first team and twice second team) and three @-@ time All @-@ Ivy League selection (twice first team and once second team) . During his college career , Princeton earned an Ivy League championship and two NCAA Men 's Lacrosse Championship invitations . In high school , he won three state lacrosse championships .

= = Background = =

Born in Oldwick , New Jersey , Coccoziello was a baseball and soccer player in his youth . He attended elementary school at Gil St. Bernards in New Jersey . He met his middle school , high school and college teammate Alex Hewit taking an entrance exam for New Jersey 's Delbarton School in sixth grade . Even in seventh grade at Delbarton , Coccoziello was still a baseball player who was introduced to lacrosse during lunch and free periods with his classmates . He eventually got a lacrosse stick and started practicing as much as he could . In eighth grade , he joined the school team and made a New Jersey state eighth @-@ grade all @-@ star team along with Hewit that competed against all @-@ stars from other states . He eventually joined the varsity team and helped lead the team to a cumulative 63 ? 4 record and three high school lacrosse state championships . He was regarded as the best high school lacrosse recruit in the nation in the 2003 , according to Inside Lacrosse . He played linebacker in high school football and was offered a scholarship to play for Hofstra University , but opted to play lacrosse at Princeton .

= = College career = =

He started every game of his career at Princeton , where he earned the 2005 Men 's Ivy League Rookie of the Year , the only defensemen to every to garner the award . That year he was an honorable mention All @-@ Ivy League selection . He was also the first defenseman to win the Ivy League Rookie of the Year award . He was a first team All @-@ Ivy League choice in 2006 & 2008 and second team choice in 2007 He was a first team USILA All @-@ American Team selection in 2008 and second team selection in 2006 and 2007 . He served as co @-@ captain of the 2008 team along with longtime teammate Alex Hewit and Bob Schneider . The 2006 team was Ivy League co @-@ champion with Cornell . Princeton qualified for the NCAA Men 's Lacrosse Championship in 2006 & 2007 . During Coccoziello 's junior year , while playing in a scrimmage against Towson University , broke his vehicular bone in his left foot . Originally diagnosed as a sprain , Coccoziello played his entire junior and senior season on the broken foot . Upon graduation in 2008 , he was correctly diagnosed and underwent reconstructive surgery following his 2008 MLL Season with the Denver Outlaws . The surgery was unsuccessful causing Coccoziello to discontinue playing lacrosse .

= = Professional career = =

Coccoziello began his MLL career with the Denver Outlaws during the 2008 MLL season . On February 20 , 2009 , he was reassigned to the Toronto Nationals . In 2010 , he was a member of the Boston Cannons .

He has appeared in no National Lacrosse League games . However , his National Lacrosse League rights were acquired by the Philadelphia Wings in the 2010 Orlando Titans dispersal draft .

= = = MLL statistics = = =

The following are his MLL career stats :

= = Life after the MLL = =

Cocoziello currently lives in New York City where he works in real estate for New York @-@ based StructureTone , Inc . He is also pursuing a Master 's in Real Estate from New York University .