

WORLD LACROSSE MAXIMUM CAP ON TEAMS AT WORLD EVENTS

1. OVERVIEW

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to present to the World Lacrosse (WL) General Assembly (GA) the background to the vote to be taken by the membership to determine whether the Sixes Championships from 2027 will have an equal cap on teams for both men and women, with a need for Continental Federation qualifiers from 2025 and to alert members for planning purposes to the future likelihood that Continental Qualifiers will be required for all World Championships.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The 2021 GA, following BSWG considerations, agreed a cap for senior field events from 2026. For Division 1 the cap is 16 and for Division II the cap is set at 24.
- 2.2. In 2021 it was agreed that the Box, Sixes and Under 20 championships would remain open. There may have been an underestimate of global growth.
- 2.3. The 2021 World and CF event scheduling 2024 – 2032 does allow for a year for box CF qualifiers but not for U20, although the U20s does have a CF event year on the calendar which could be made into qualifiers. (Schedule attached at Appendix A).
- 2.4. The men's box championship in 2024 had significantly increased entries and some had to be turned down. It is also noted that although Utica is a venue that can accommodate 38 teams there are few venues in the world that can do this, and few that could provide the venue at such low cost.
- 2.5. The women's box inaugural championship in 2024 attracted 12 certain potential entries, and another 4 expressions of interest. Only 10 teams have been able to take part because of the venue's capacity.
- 2.6. WL is about to consider venues for the 2027 inaugural sixes world event, currently envisaged as men and women together in the same venue and the same time. This needs a cap from the outset, as not having a maximum cap is already causing problems negotiating with potential Sixes World Championship hosts. WL would then need CF Qualifiers.
- 2.7. The Director of Events has produced draft schedules for the Sixes World Championship for 16/16, 20/20 and 24/24 teams for this event. Her advice is that while 16/16 and 20/20 can be done over 10 days if sufficient fields are available, 24/24 is not possible unless we extend the event timeline and have a staggered start with games of one gender starting and finishing before the other (so as to ensure that each team would still only have a 10 day event). 24/24 teams would also have to assume that any host can accommodate 48 teams, which, after Israel 2018, WL stated should not happen again.
- 2.8. The proposal to the 2024 GA is for an equal cap of 16-20 to be put in place for

2027 Sixes World Championship. This provides WL with flexibility to work with the IOC and LA2028 on the final qualification process for the 2028 Olympic Games.

- 2.9. This proposal was discussed at the Governance Committee meeting on Thursday 12th September 2024 and subsequently at a Board meeting. The feedback received was positive and no comments or concerns were raised.
- 2.10. A vote at this years' GA is imperative in order to secure a host for the 2027 Sixes event. However, it is recognized that further work will be required on setting caps for other events and the introduction of Division II championships, as well as the requirement to include further Continental Federation qualifiers for more events. . This will be addressed by the soon to be set up Championship Vision Working Group before further proposals are submitted to the membership.
- 2.11. Members will have an opportunity to discuss the Sixes proposal prior to the GA at the WL GA webinar to be held on 31 October 2024.

3. LEGISLATION CHANGES

- 3.1 If approved the cap, for both men and women proposed at 4.1 below, will be included in the WL Event Hosting and Competition Manual.

4. VOTE AT THE GA

(Proposed by Jim Scherr and seconded by Fiona Clark).

- 4.1 There will be one (1) motion at the GA as follows:
 - 4.1.1 'to accept that the Sixes Championships from 2027 will have an equal cap of 16-20 teams for both men and women and that continental qualifiers will be put in place, with an allocation formula to be determined once the qualification process for the Olympics has been established'.

APPENDIX A

EVENT SCHEDULE (Referenced in 2.3)

Appendix 38: Calendar of Events

WORLD LACROSSE CALENDAR OF INTERNATIONAL

EVENTS 2024 – 2032

As agreed, GA 2021 per Blue Skies Working Group recommendations

Note: The Sixes are across the top with the World Games and Olympics

2026 – 2027 and 2030 – 2031 indicates the event could be held across the last quarter of one of these years, or the first quarter in the following year.

2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
								
U20W / FIELD WORLDS	U20M / FIELD WORLDS	W / FIELD WORLDS	U20W / FIELD CONTINENTAL	W / FIELD CONTINENTAL / QUALI	U20W / FIELD WORLDS	W / FIELD WORLDS	U20W / FIELD CONTINENTAL	W / FIELD CONTINENTAL / QUALI
W / FIELD CONTINENTAL / QUALI	M / FIELD CONTINENTAL / QUALI	U20M / FIELD CONTINENTAL	M / FIELD WORLDS	U20M / FIELD WORLDS	M / FIELD CONTINENTAL / QUALI	U20M / FIELD CONTINENTAL	M / FIELD WORLDS	U20M / FIELD WORLDS
W/M BOX WORLDS		W/M BOX CONTINENTAL / QUALI		W/M BOX WORLDS		W/M BOX CONTINENTAL / QUALI		W/M BOX WORLDS