



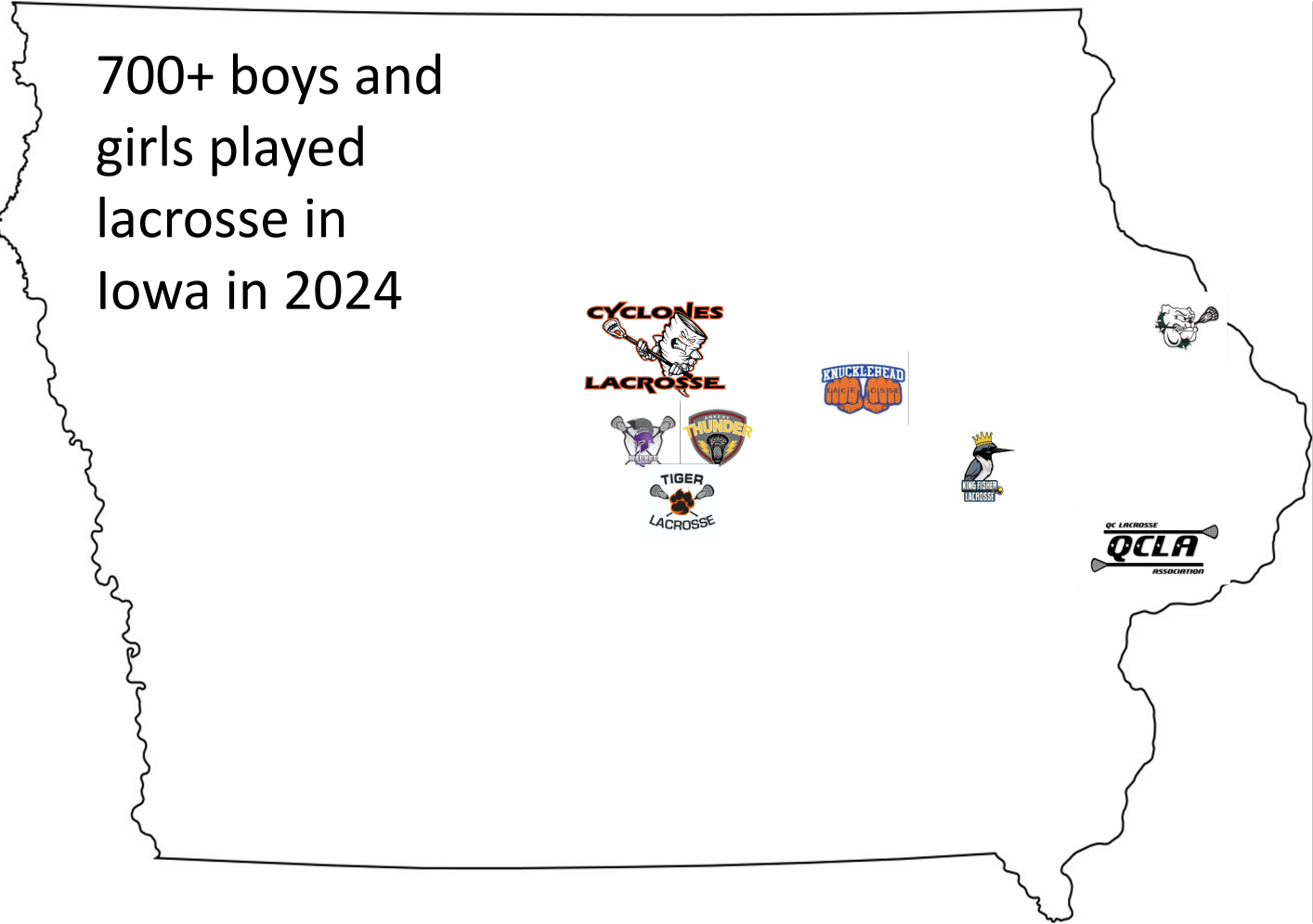
Annual Report 2024

July 2024

Youth Lacrosse in Iowa Today

	2022	2023	2024
Ames (boys only)	16	14	21
Ankeny	145	139	134
Dubuque	23	39	24
Kingfisher (IC-CR area)	68	82	95
Meskwaki Settlement	61	71	107
Quad Cities	57	61	78
Waukee	115	111	138
West Des Moines	153	158	142
Total Statewide	638	675	739
Note: Waukee was "boys only" in '22 & '23			

700+ boys and girls played lacrosse in Iowa in 2024





Growth in Girls Play

- 60 youth girls games scheduled and supported in Spring 2024 (up 20 games from 2023)
- Added competition in the 10U age group
- Girls Competition Committee schedules games, facilitates communications between clubs
- ILAX identified, trained, scheduled, assigned, and paid officials



Youth Boys Play Continues to Grow

- 115 regular season games supported in Spring 2024 (up from 80 in 2023)
- Supported play at 10U, 12U and 14U
- Boys Competition Committee develops schedule, provides communications vehicle between clubs
- ILAX identified, trained, scheduled, assigned, and paid officials for each of these games



2nd Youth State Championships

- Inaugural 10U Girls Championship
- All member clubs fielded at least one team
- Supported 2 day format
- Organized food trucks on-site both days to provide added amenities to players and families
- Championships won by:
 - 10U Boys – Waukee
 - 12U Boys – Ankeny
 - 14U Boys – Kingfisher (CR-IC)
 - 10U Girls – Kingfisher
 - 12U Girls – Meskwaki



Announced First All Star Teams

- 3 players from each team in each age group selected as All Stars
- Players selected based on leadership, positive attitudes and practice habits as well as skills
- 102 players recognized at Youth State Championships





Developing Officials Pool

- 3 new officials worked boys games for the first time in Spring '24
- 1 new official worked girls games for the first time in Spring '24
- ILAX continues efforts to efficiently organize and manage officials scheduling
- Fall Play Day in Oct '23 provided opportunity to work with USA Lacrosse trainers
- Developing Iowa-based Officials Trainers
- More work is needed to supported expanded game play schedules across the State

Enabling League & Inter-League High School Play

- ILAX scheduled games and provided officials coverage for the Eastern Iowa Lacrosse Conference
- ILAX facilitated high school play between eastern and central Iowa boys teams, helping the eastern programs continue their development and providing additional games for central Iowa teams
- Kingfisher girls played with Ankeny in the Midwest Girls Lacrosse League providing them with game play opportunities
- Greater attention is needed to expand opportunities for high school play, particularly for the girls game



Iowa Programs Excel in High School Play

- Three Championships Won
 - Girls – the West Des Moines Tiger girls won the Midwest Girls Lacrosse League
 - Boys – the Waukee Warriors won the NELAX League
 - Boys – the Kingfisher Club won the Eastern Iowa Lacrosse Conference
- Individual Accolades
 - Rowan Sandvig (WDM) – USA Lacrosse Academic All American
 - Meghan Gruver (WDM) – USA Lacrosse Coach of the Year
 - Rowan Sandvig (WDM), Lexi Bogardus (WDM), Caleigh Carlson (WDM) – MGLL 1st Team All Conference
 - Tori Schmidt (WDM), Eliza Schmidt (WDM), Lucie Albin (ANK), Olivia Sprouse (ANK) – MGLL 2nd Team All Conference
 - Maddox Christensen (WAU), Jack McDowell (WAU), Carson Clemmensen (WAU), Magnus Brock (WAU), Ty Barr (WDM) – NELAX 1st Team All-State
 - Will Rivenburgh (WAU), Dalton Elliot (WAU), Brenden Willey (WAU), Alex Wirth (WDM) – NELAX 2nd Team All-State
 - Chase Jespersen (ANK), Liam Lewis (ANK), Jackson Rittgers (ANK), Kaedon Miller (ANK), Gavin Jones (ANK), Aidan Cooper (WAU), Jack Graeve (WAU), Boston Mendenhall (WAU), Rykan Moss (WAU), Dustin Herzberg (WDM), Sam Swanson (WDM), Jack Freking (WDM), Sawyer Gienapp (WDM), Mitch Welge (WDM), Drew Swanson (WDM) – NELAX Honorable Mention





Iowa Girls Participate in National USA Lacrosse Tournament

- Combined Iowa-Nebraska team attended the USA Lacrosse Women's National Tournament
- Meghan Gruver, head coach of the Iowa-Nebraska team: "What I told them in the beginning before we even started was, 'You guys are the ambassadors of the game. Go back to your teams, take what you learned from today and what you see from out here and push your teams to be better so that we raise the level of lacrosse in the Nebraska/Iowa area.'"



Iowa Players Moving on to College Play

- 6 players in Iowa programs moving on to collegiate play in fall '24
 - Jake Alford – University of Michigan Dearborn (Ankeny)
 - Brayden Mohwinkle – Cornell College (Kingfisher)
 - Kianna Zach – Mt Mercy University (Kingfisher)
 - Gavin Flattery – University of Dubuque (Waukee)
 - Alex Wirth – St Ambrose University (WDM)
 - Drew Swanson – William Penn University (WDM)



Engaging USA Lacrosse to Benefit Iowa

USATM
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- ILAX is primary interface between Iowa clubs and USA Lacrosse
- Helps secure grant funding for new programs
- Secured participation of USA Lacrosse Officials Trainers
- Represents Iowa in national lacrosse discussions