



## ***Pearl is Named the Official Ball of the IWLCA Tournament Series***

The IWLCA and Elite Tournaments are proud to announce that the Pearl, made by Guardian, will be the exclusive tournament game ball of the [IWLCA Tournament Series](#) in 2021.

“We’re thrilled to partner with the Intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Coaches Association and sponsor their tournament series,” said Erin Hanson, Guardian CEO and co-founder. “As a woman owned small business, we believe strongly in women supporting women.”

In 2015, Guardian Sports developed the Pearl lacrosse ball, drawing on 20-plus years of material science and engineering expertise. Pearls are the only textured lacrosse ball that is SEI certified and meets NOCSAE official game specifications. The slight texture prolongs its grip and delays the effects of greasing and are the first textured lacrosse balls approved for game play. Alongside the IWLCA Tournament Series, Pearl is also the official ball of Team USA, IMLCA, and the MCLA.

The Pearl will be featured throughout the series, with the partnership set to kick off with the IWLCA’s Southeast Cup in Winston-Salem, N.C., and will include a total of eight events in 2021:

- [IWLCA Southeast Cup](#), June 12-13, Winston-Salem, N.C.
- [IWLCA Champions Cup presented by Coast to Coast Clothing Brand](#), June 18-19, Boyds, Md. & Olney, Md.
- [IWLCA New England Cup presented by Coast to Coast Lax](#), June 26-27, Amherst, Mass.
- [IWLCA Capital Cup](#), July 9-12, Richmond, Va.
- [IWLCA West Coast Cup presented by Coast to Coast Lax](#), July 24-25, San Jose, Calif.
- [IWLCA Southwest Cup](#), November 6-7, Tucson, Ariz.
- [IWLCA Presidents Cup presented by Millie Dog Clothing Brand](#), November 19-21, Dallas, Texas
- [IWLCA Debut](#), November 20-21, Dallas, Texas

“The IWLCA Tournament Series is happy to be able to bring the best in game ball performance to our teams by partnering with Guardian. We know our athletes are going to love playing with the Pearl and we are looking forward to positive gameday feedback.” said Ryan Heacock, Director of Lacrosse Development, Elite Tournaments.

Additional information about the IWLCA Tournament Series can be found on [iwlcarecruiting.com](http://iwlcarecruiting.com), as well as via the event series’ [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.

About the IWLCA Tournament Series: The IWLCA Tournament Series was created by the college coaches of the IWLCA to streamline the recruiting process and make a more effective and affordable process for both college coaches and prospective student-athlete families. Every IWLCA event boasts a strong attendance by college coaches from Division I, Division II, Division III, and NAIA institutions because the event has been created and executed with the recruiting process in mind. The IWLCA Tournament Series is run in partnership with Elite Tournaments, for more information: <http://www.elitetournaments.com/sites/default/files/u18103/2021%20IWLCA%20Tournament%20Dates.pdf>



### **About Guardian**

In 2015, Guardian Sports developed The PEARL lacrosse ball. Guardian is able to draw on 20-plus years of material science and engineering expertise. They use their knowledge to improve the materials used in sporting goods. The team is comprised of innovators and scientists that are passionate about better engineered sporting equipment. Guardian's goal remains the same: advance technologies to bridge the gap between the protection that athletes deserve/need and what is currently available on the market. Learn more about the company at [GuardianSports.com](http://GuardianSports.com) and follow @Pearl\_Lacrosse on Twitter and Instagram.

# **PEARL**<sup>TM</sup>