

BLA Supplemental Rules and Regulations

Rule 1. Rules and Regulations Committee (Adopted 2/3/10)

- 1.1 Chairperson – BLA Secretary. ^[L]_[SEP]
- 1.2 5 individuals made up Coaches/Team Representatives/Officials and will excuse themselves during the discussion and voting process.
- 1.4 All Committee members will have one vote with the Chairperson (a sitting Board Member) only voting as a tiebreaker.
- 1.5 The Chairperson will take all secondary appeals (with the Committee's recommendations) to the Board for approval.

Rule 2. Grievance Process (Adopted 3/3/10)

- 2.1 A grievance is any written complaint (further known as a "Grievance") that is requesting some type of action/resolution from the Rules and Regulations Committee (further known as the "Committee").
- 2.2 Grievances will be handled directly by the Committee. Grievances received and the Committee's action on them will be reported to the Board at the monthly Board meeting by the Chairperson or his/her designate.
- 2.3 Grievances must be in writing and submitted to the Committee by the authorized Team Representative.
- 2.4 The Rules and Regulations Committee will meet as necessary. The Team Representative who submitted the Grievance will be notified of the meeting date and time.
- 2.5 The Committee will review, discuss and vote on a Grievance within 14 days of receipt. If (for whatever reason) the Committee is unable to act on a Grievance within that period, the Committee will notify the Team Representative of the delay and the reasons for it. The Committee will inform the Team Representative who submitted the grievance within 48 hours of the Committee's decision.
- 2.6 The Committee can request any individual to attend a Committee meeting to provide additional information or clarification on a Grievance.
- 2.7 Any decision made by the Committee can be appealed by submitting the appeal (in writing) to the Committee to be submitted to the Board of Directors. The Committee will take the appeal to the Board of Directors with the Committee's recommendation for the Board's final resolution.
- 2.8 Referee notification: if there is a situation that occurs during a game that is reported by an official to the Referee/Umpire Coordinator that may require additional disciplinary action, the Coordinator will report the situation to the Committee.
- 2.9 Grievance Form will be located on the website. ^[L]_[SEP]

Rule 3. Gender Eligibility (Adopted 2/3/10)

BLA complies with the US Lacrosse, Inc. Position Statement With Respect to Gender Classifications in Lacrosse, dated January 2006. A boy must play on a boy's team. Except as otherwise required by law, a girl must play on a girl's team and may not play on a boys team if her lacrosse organization has a girls team at the appropriate age level. If her lacrosse organization does not have such a team, a girl may play on an age-appropriate boys team, but she shall be strongly encouraged to play on the age-appropriate girls team of the nearest BLA member.

Rule 4. Age Eligibility (Amended and restated 2/4/15)

4.1 BLA follows WLF and US Lacrosse established eligibility guidelines in order to promote the game of lacrosse among the youth in a safe and sportsmanlike environment. To best achieve this goal, BLA seeks to provide playing opportunities that, as much as possible, establish a "level playing field" among players of similar age, size, and ability.

4.2 The following age groupings are determined as of the August 31st preceding competition. ^[SEP]
NOTE: Age group references used in this section are in common usage but should not be understood literally. The U15 (read: "Under 15") grouping means that, if a player is 14 years old on the cutoff date, he may participate in U15 competition as a 15-year old. ^[SEP]

U15: All players must be 14 years old or younger on the August 31st preceding competition.

U13: All players must be 12 years old or younger on the August 31st preceding competition.

U11: All players must be 10 years old or younger on the August 31st preceding competition.

U9: All players must be 8 years old or younger on the August 31st preceding competition. ^[SEP]

4.3 Boys Youth Team Composition (Adopted 11/15/17)

4.3.1 When a BLA club has more than one team at any level, all teams at that level shall be created equal. A / B teams or first year / second year teams are not allowed on the BLA schedule.

4.3.2 Scrimmages: Clubs may create alternate A and B teams to scrimmage, outside the BLA schedule.

4.3.3 Substitutes: If a team is missing players for a specific game, they may borrow an equal number of age appropriate, substitute players from other teams. The substitute players should be of a similar skill level to the players they are replacing and the number of substitutes shall not exceed 50% of the number of players on the field. (10v10 teams may have five substitutes from another team, 6v6 may have three, 4v4 may have two.)

4.3.4 Grievance procedure: Clubs may email a grievance to the Grievance Committee if they believe that another club is violating these rules. See Rule 2.

4.4 BLA recommends teams should consider physical, cognitive, and emotional maturity when grouping players. BLA member clubs should strive to limit the maximum age difference between players in a youth game to no more than twenty-four (24) months.

4.5 At any U-age level, at the coach's discretion, in mindfulness of player safety, players may play up one U-age level, and only one U-age level. Players may not play at a U-age level lower than that based on this section. A U15 player may not play on a high school team unless that player is a freshman in high school. There are three exceptions to this rule.

4.5.1 Players who are participating in any high-school level team during a BLA season are not be eligible for a youth team (U15, U13, U11 or U9) in the same season. This means that a player who is age-eligible for U15 but plays on a high school level team cannot concurrently play on a youth league team.

4.5.2 Youth U-age players that play up a level will also be allowed to play in their U-age level based on their birthdate if necessary to allow the BLA member club to be able to field a team in that lower level.

4.5.3 If a team is sanctioned by a school system, the team will follow the school district's rules.

Rule 5. Membership (Adopted 3/3/10)

5.1 In order to be eligible to join BLA as a member, a regional lacrosse entity must meet the following requirements:

5.1.1 The entity must be a member of US Lacrosse and have an organizational structure established by written bylaws and populated by persons who are responsible for the entity's actions.

5.1.2 The entity must agree to follow BLA's bylaws and rules. ^[L]_[SEP]

5.1.3 The entity's mission must include the development and administration of scholastic ^[L]_[SEP] lacrosse in a regional area that includes one or more contiguous Wisconsin school districts that is/are not already represented by an existing BLA member.

5.1.4 The entity must have at least one high school team. If the entity does not have high school teams for both boys and girls, it must have arrangements in place for the boys or girls in the entity's region to play for one or more existing BLA members.

5.1.5 The entity must strive to have a youth (pre-high school) lacrosse program. This requirement may be met by availability of a youth lacrosse program in the entity's region offered by a third party such as Lacrosse America.

5.2 In order to be eligible to participate in the next BLA season, an entity must apply to join BLA no later than the preceding October 1st.

Rule 6. Boys' Referees (Adopted 3/3/10)

6.1 Adult referees shall be one year removed from any association with a team they are to referee.

^[L]_[SEP] 6.2 All youth referees must be at least a sophomore in high school. ^[L]_[SEP]

6.3 Referees for high school games must be graduated from high school, unless exempt by the

BLA referee/umpire coordinator.

6.4 All first year referees will officiate youth games only, unless they are experienced and are approved by the BLA referee/umpire coordinator.

Rule 7. Coaches' Certification/Qualification (Adopted 3/3/10, amended July 11, 2012)

7.1 All coaches will submit information to the BLA past-president via BLA on-line form. [SEP]

7.2 All coaches will submit the following documentation to Team Representatives, which will be kept in the same folder as the players' medical documents.

7.1.1 Copies of record of completion of required workshops and clinics or, [SEP]

7.1.2 Copy of US Lacrosse membership card w/certification on it. [SEP]

7.3 All coaches, at all levels, will follow the Wisconsin Lacrosse Federation (WLF) qualifications requirements. The current WLF coaches' qualification requirements are attached hereto as Appendix A. The BLA past-president will monitor and report this information to the WLF.

Rule 8. Equipment (Adopted 3/3/10)

8.1 Youth Boys - Long Pole

8.1.1 Boys in the Bantam, Junior and Senior divisions should first master the use of the standard stick before moving into the long (or defensive) stick. It is at the coach's discretion when this use is appropriate, safe and in the best interest of the game and its players.

8.1.2 If at any time, it is deemed by an official that a player does not have safe control of a long stick, the official may remove the stick from player's possession and the player shall use only a standard stick for the remainder of the game.

Rule 9: Rostering (Adopted 4/6/11, amended November 28, 2018)

9.1 Except for a co-op team and a youth player playing up at the high school level (Rule 4.2.1), each high school team roster may include only players who attend the high school.

9.2 A high school co-op team is a team the roster of which includes players from more than one high school that conform to specifications indicated in Rule 10 (below). A high school co-op team roster may include only players who attend one of the high schools that are included in the high school co-op team, except as in Rule 4.2.1

9.4 A high school player must roster on the team that includes the player's high school of attendance, except that if a member of a league recognizes a new team and in prior years a player in a high school district or private school included in that team was rostered on the pre-existing team, the player must roster on the new team, except if the player is a junior or a senior, the player may roster on the pre-existing team if the boards of the two affected league members agree.

9.4.1 A high school player that is home-schooled or participates in an accredited On-Line course of study must play for the team associated with the school district in which the player resides. If no such team exists, then the player may participate on the team nearest geographically to the residing school district. Once the player plays for this team, they must remain with that team throughout, unless the player joins a public or private high school, in which case refer to 9.4 above.

9.5 A youth lacrosse player must roster on the team in their school district or co-op districts if such a team exists. If their school district does not have a team or established co-op, they must play with the nearest geographical team.

9.5.1 A youth player that is home-schooled must play for the team associated with the school district in which the player resides. If no such team exists, then the player may participate on the team nearest geographically to the residing school district. Once the player plays for this team, they must remain with that team throughout, unless the player joins a public or private school district, in which case refer to 9.5 above.

9.6 Teams in violation of these rostering rules may be subjected to forfeiture of all games in which the offending player(s) participate.

Rule 10: Co-op and Non-Conforming Teams (Adopted 4/6/11)

10.1 The organization or reorganization of any co-op team must be approved by the BLA board. A co-op team that is not approved by the BLA is a non-conforming team and is not eligible for conference play.

10.2 A high school co-op must meet all of the following requirements:^[L]_[SEP]

10.2.1 May include only adjoining high school districts (plus any private high schools).

10.2.2 May include no more than three high schools (public or private).^[L]_[SEP]

10.2.3 Total enrollment of the high schools included in the co-op may not exceed 4,500.

^[L]_[SEP] 10.2.4 Non-conforming teams in existence on the date this rule is first in force are approved but must re-apply for BLA approval by January 1st before the 2012 season and every January 1st thereafter for as long as the team remains non-conforming.^[L]_[SEP]

10.3 Youth level co-op teams can be created using any number of school districts to foster the growth of the sport. These co-ops can change year to year. The only requirement is that each co-op youth program declare their co-op districts to BLA before the first game of the season each year.

10.4 Co-op teams shall be created and maintained solely for the purpose of providing opportunities for youth (youth or high school level) to play lacrosse when they otherwise would lack such opportunities. Such teams may not be created or maintained for the purpose of enhancing a team's competitiveness. BLA may require a co-op team to submit a plan for transitioning out of co-op. BLA may remove a high school from a co-op team if BLA concludes that the high school is able to maintain its own team. BLA may also create or reorganize co-op teams if doing so will improve the opportunities for youth to play lacrosse.

10.5 A new co-op team must apply to BLA for approval by the January 1st preceding the next season.

Rule 11: New Teams (Adopted 10/6/15)

11.1 Beginning in the 2017 season, in order to be included in the regular season scheduling process, new teams must apply to BLA by July 1 of the year prior to conference play. (i.e. teams that apply by July 1, 2016 will be included in the 2017 BLA Conference schedule)

(BLA Drafting Note: Teams that miss the July 1st deadline can play BLA teams as "non-conference" games and the new team is responsible for scheduling these games)

11.2 At its option, a new high school team may play at the junior varsity level for up to two years, provided that the team has only enough players to field one team. Starting in year 3, if the team has enough players to field two teams, one must play at the varsity level and one at the junior varsity level.

Rule 12. Reporting of Game Ejections & Red Cards

Within 12 hours of the end of the game, the referee (boys) or head umpire (girls) must file a game ejection report with the BLA Vice President (High School Boys, High School Girls, Youth Boys, Youth Girls, as appropriate) and the BLA Referee or Umpire Coordinator, as appropriate, in the event of an ejection of a player, coach or fan. This includes red cards issued to a player in a girl's game. Any player or coach ejected must miss a minimum of the team's next scheduled game.

Rule 13. Dual-Rostered Player Rule for Girls High School (Adopted 6-21-2017)

13.1 A team may elect to roster and play a player at both the JV and Varsity level during a BLA scheduled game provided the following conditions are met.

13.1.1 The player has not been **nominated or won an All-Conference Award** at any time during their high school career.

13.1.2 The player is identified on both Varsity and JV rosters as a "Dual-Rostered" or "Double Rostered".

13.1.3 If the player is a significant contributor on Varsity (starter, significant playing time, and/or major contributor), the coach, to the best of their ability, should play them out of normal position if they are played in a JV game.

13.1.4 The player does not play more than **3** total halves in a 2 game (Varsity and JV) series on the same day. If it is a JV only game, the player may not play more than **1** half of the JV game. (halves are considered to run contiguous and minutes may not be split between first and second halves or any combination of such in any game or games)

13.2 Scorekeepers, Statisticians and Coaches should be responsible for enforcing this rule at the time of the event. If an issue is found during the course of the game the officials and coaches should be made aware of the situation immediately and the player should be pulled (not ejected or carded) from the game. Any issue should be forwarded to the BLA Girls VP. If a club becomes a "repeat offender", the opposing team should file a grievance. If a grievance hearing determines that the offense did occur, the offending team may have to forfeit their JV game / games where the offense / offence's occurred. It will be up to the BLA grievance committee to decide on the disciplinary action plan.

Rule 14. Forfeit/Cancellation of Girls High School Game (Adopted 6-21-2017)

14.1 Varsity and JV **regular season games** scheduled by the BLA scheduler should be played during the season. The procedure below must be followed if a game cannot be played on the date it was originally scheduled due to any reason.

14.1.1 If a game cannot be played on the original scheduled date, the team **not able** to play the game must submit a reschedule notice to the opposing team and the head of officials as soon as possible.

14.1.2 The teams should make every effort to find a mutually agreeable date that is within the regulation season to reschedule the game. If the option is available, switching home and away games is advisable. The rescheduled date must be agreed upon within 48 hours of the cancelled game time.

14.1.3 If the coaches cannot find a mutually agreeable date within the 48-hour period, a coach may either decide to forfeit the game or the coaches may file for arbitration with BLA for a date change. The arbiter of the grievance should be the Girls HS VP and not be affiliated with the clubs involved. If the Girls HS VP is affiliated with the clubs involved it should go to the Youth VP, or the President of BLA in that order. The arbiter should either decide on a date or may call it a draw (0-0) if the game cannot be reasonably played within the regular season.

14.1.4 Once the BLA committee issues the game change date, if one of the clubs refuses or cannot play the game it will count as a forfeit. A forfeit will be counted as 1-0, in favor of the team willing and able to play the game.

APPENDIX A

WISCONSIN LACROSSE FEDERATION

COACHES' QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS POLICY – HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUTH, BOYS AND GIRLS ORIGINALLY ADOPTED IN 2007, REVISED APRIL 22, 2012

All coaches involved with Wisconsin Lacrosse Federation (WLF) sanctioned programs must be members of US Lacrosse, with their membership valid through June 30 of the given season; must be of good standing with US Lacrosse, WLF and the Wisconsin Lacrosse Coaches Association; and their local league. Within 16 months of the first game coached, every coach, of every team, must be "Certified". "Certified" is defined as having obtained at least US Lacrosse CEP Level 1 Certification, which includes completion of the following requirements, applying to US Lacrosse, for certification and successful completion of the US Lacrosse background check:

1. US Lacrosse Level 1 CEP on-line course & test completion
2. US Lacrosse Level 1 CEP workshop attendance 
3. PCA Double Goal Coach 1 workshop attendance or on-line

Every first-year coach, and those within the first sixteen (16) months of coaching, must be "Qualified" prior to the start of their season. "Qualified" is defined as meeting the following qualifications:

1. completing the US Lacrosse CEP Level 1 on-line test AND
2. completing the PCA Double Goal Coach 1 workshop (live or on line)

In every game, each team must have at least one coach in the coaching box that meets the applicable minimum qualifications outlined by this policy, for either "Certified" or "Qualified". Every coach that is in the coaches' box must at a minimum be "Qualified" as outlined above. Failure to comply with this policy will result in WLF sanctions.

All coaching certifications will be tracked and compiled annually for requirement compliance and enforcement as directed by WLF.