

POLICIES AND RULES GOVERNING THE MEMBERS OF THE IOWA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION (ILAX)

(The following Policies and Rules are authorized by Article XII in ILAX Bylaws)

These policies and rules are meant to govern the relationship of Association member clubs with one another and their Association (ILAX), in a cooperative effort to grow the game of lacrosse in the state, and to address the need for fair and safe competition on the field of play. All members of this Association must comply with the following policies and rules as stipulated.

1.0 ILAX Responsibilities

1.1. ILAX will remain a USA Lacrosse (USAL) - sanctioned organization, and abide by the national organization's Code of Conduct and rules and regulations.

1.2. ILAX will represent the collective best interests of member clubs with the national organization, USA Lacrosse (USAL).

1.3. ILAX will provide a regular forum for member club leaders to communicate with each other.

1.4. ILAX will provide USAL and industry support and resources to all members clubs including,

- a. Coaches and officials training,
- b. Skills training for players,
- c. Assistance to member clubs applying for grants, and
- d. Any other available expertise to help member clubs become and remain successful.

1.5. ILAX will provide a competition framework and oversight for contests involving ILAX member clubs including league play, tournaments, play days, exhibitions, all-star games, etc.

1.6. ILAX, in concert with member clubs, will endeavor to grow the game of lacrosse by helping new youth clubs get established in the state.

1.7. ILAX will recruit new officials, oversee their development, and have the authority to assign them to the appropriate level of competition. ILAX also reserves the right to engage, or not engage, any official at its sole discretion.

1.8. ILAX will meet its fiduciary duties by carefully managing Association funds, setting and adhering to annual budgets set by its board of directors, and providing an annual accounting of its revenue and expenses to member clubs.

1.9. ILAX will secure and maintain adequate insurance to protect the assets of the Association, and to take any other risk management measures deemed necessary to do so. This includes remaining in good standing with the USAL Insurance Program, and having Directors and Officers Liability insurance coverage in force at all times whether through USAL or another source.

1.10. ILAX reserves the right to deny admission and Association membership to any youth lacrosse organization in its sole discretion. ILAX also reserves the right to expel any member club from the Association if it fails in a significant way to adhere to these Policies and Rules as set forth.

1.11. ILAX may adopt such rules, regulations, and Codes of Conduct governing players, coaches, club administrators, officials or parents of players as deemed necessary by the board of directors.

2.0 Member Club Responsibilities

2.1 Each member club will remain a USA Lacrosse (USAL) - sanctioned organization, and comply with its Code of Conduct and rules and regulations which include:

a. Insuring that all players, coaches, and volunteers with regular player contact are registered and in good standing with USAL, and are able to document that status at all times,

b. Insuring that the USAL Code of Conduct is adopted and followed by all member club players, coaches, volunteers, parents/guardians, and spectators, and that such code is communicated to all constituents, and

c. Monitoring player eligibility to ensure all players compete at the appropriate USAL age level, and are eligible for extra-curricular activities at the school they attend.

2.2. Each member club will engage or hire competent coaches that are USAL-certified or making progress toward such coaching certification. Each club shall be able to document the certification status of their coaches.

2.3. Each member club will require club volunteers that have regular contact with club players and coaches to be registered at all times with USAL which includes passing background checks. Every club shall be able to document the membership status of such volunteers.

2.4. Each member club will participate in and support all ILAX activities including having club members fill positions with the ILAX Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and any Association committees.

2.5. Each member club will make timely payment of Association dues, officials fees, ILAX tournament fees, and any ILAX member assessments deemed necessary by the ILAX Board of Directors. Failure to do so may lead to the lapse of the club's membership in the Association.

2.6. Member clubs will secure and maintain adequate insurance to protect the assets of their club, and to take any risk management measures deemed necessary to do so. This includes remaining in good standing with the USAL Insurance Program, and having Directors and Officers Liability coverage in force at all times whether through the USAL program or another source.

2.7. Member clubs will notify ILAX and USAL of any injuries, damages, allegations, incidents, claims or lawsuits involving their club that could give rise to legal liability on the part of their club, ILAX, and/or USAL.

2.8. Member clubs will abide by the rules, regulations, Codes of Conduct or other such measures adopted by ILAX to govern on- and off-field activities.

3.0 Competition

3.1. ILAX will be responsible for providing a competition framework for its member clubs by establishing game schedules, league standings, and a season-end playoff tournament for all age levels where there are sufficient levels of participation.

3.2. ILAX-sponsored competition is governed by the rules and regulations of USAL and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

3.3. The ILAX Competition Committees will establish and communicate any rule exceptions from provision 3.2 to participating clubs in advance of each season. Such exceptions may be necessary to accommodate teams with limited rosters, skill levels, as well as field space and game time constraints.

3.4. ILAX will arrange for game officials for all ILAX-sanctioned competition, and every host club will confirm with ILAX that the engaged officials completed their assignments after every hosted game.

3.5. If assigned officials are unable or fail to participate in a game or games, participating team coaches and managers will decide whether the game should be played, or played with fewer or

no officials if need be. Host teams will advise ILAX of any absent officials, and whether games were played in that instance.

3.6. ILAX will be responsible for establishing officials' fees and paying all officials participating in ILAX-sponsored competitions.

3.7. ILAX will monitor game official performances, and reserves the right to engage or not engage any game official based on past performance on the field.

3.8. Host clubs will be responsible for providing a safe field of play for all games, competitions, demonstrations, skills clinics, and events sponsored by ILAX.

3.9. Host clubs in concert with visiting clubs will determine whether competition can take place as scheduled in the event of deteriorating weather and/or field conditions. Such determinations will be made and communicated no later than 2 hours before scheduled game time or such time as reasonable for teams and officials that will be traveling to participate in the game.

3.10. Host club will be responsible for initiating attempts to reschedule any game postponements, and will advise assigned officials and ILAX of any schedule changes. ILAX will make the final determination whether unplayed games can be cancelled if the teams involved have difficulty rescheduling.

3.11. Otherwise, game officials will determine if play is to start or resume based on weather and field conditions. Also, if during the course of a contest a situation arises during play that in the opinion of the officials crew could increase the chance of player injury or undue danger to the participants, the officials crew can stop, suspend, or cancel further play.

3.12. Host clubs will be responsible for providing all game-day support including securing fields of play, field preparation and tear-down, any necessary equipment, and scoring table personnel.

3.13. Member clubs are responsible for the conduct of its youth lacrosse program which includes the actions of its players, coaches, volunteers, parents/guardians, and spectators. This responsibility includes instituting full and complete team and crowd control measures at all ILAX-sponsored contests. Participants will conduct themselves at all times in a proper and sportsmanlike manner, and assuring full compliance with the USAL & ILAX Codes of Conduct.

3.14. ILAX reserves the right to take disciplinary action against any player, coach, volunteer, parent/guardian, or spectator, for any violation of the USAL & ILAX Codes of Conduct and these Policies and Rules, up to and including immediate removal from the game, and suspension or permanent expulsion from future ILAX games and activities.

3.15. Member clubs will establish their geographic boundaries. When there are multiple clubs in the same area, they are expected to work cooperatively to establish player recruiting boundaries, adjusting them from time to time, to maintain competitive balance among the clubs and to reflect

development patterns of the region (e.g., school and city boundaries). Disagreements between clubs on appropriate boundaries will be brought to the ILAX Executive Committee for discussion in writing with subsequent discussions to follow the dispute resolution procedure defined under these Policies and Rules.

3.16. Any player seeking to participate in an age group younger than the group they would normally be assigned requires that player's club to petition the ILAX Competition Committee for an exception in advance of the upcoming season.

3.17. Any player seeking to play for a club other than the one they normally would be assigned based on the school they attend or where they reside, must first gain the approval of both clubs involved, and if granted, then petition the Competition Committee for an exception in advance of the upcoming season.

3.18. ILAX will be responsible for creating and administering any team championship and/or player, coach or volunteer recognition trophies and awards arising out of ILAX-sponsored league play.

3.19. ILAX will be responsible for any player All-Star recognition or other honors stemming from ILAX-sponsored play.

4.0. Authority

4.1. The ILAX Board of Directors has the ultimate authority to determine all matters arising out of:

- a. Disputes between member clubs brought to its attention by one or more of the clubs involved seeking a solution to such disputes,
- b. ILAX-sponsored competition which includes player eligibility and in which age level or club he or she plays if in dispute,
- c. The conduct of players, coaches, volunteers, officials, parents/guardians, and spectators arising out of such ILAX-sponsored competition, and
- d. Any other issues in dispute arising out of these Policies and Rules.

5.0. Dispute Resolution

5.1. The Competition Committee for the respective division of play shall be responsible for first consideration of any dispute arising from concerns of eligibility, conduct, or rules interpretation. Matters of concern shall be submitted in writing to the Committee chairperson by another

member of the Committee. The chairperson will inform the full membership of the Committee within three (3) days of a duly submitted petition. The Committee should strive to resolve the matter before the next scheduled competition involving the affected parties. A simple majority vote of the members of the Committee is needed. An affected party may appeal a decision of the Committee to the ILAX Executive Committee.

5.2. The ILAX Executive Committee on behalf of the Board shall have the authority and responsibility to investigate and decide all matters concerning eligibility, protests, by-laws or rules. The Committee may modify the effect of or penalty for violation of or non-compliance with any bylaw or rule.

5.3. A player, coach, parent/guardian, official, individual, or member club in whose favor or against whom a decision of the Executive Committee made pursuant to this Section applies, may appeal that decision by submitting a written request for a hearing to the ILAX Board of Directors.

5.4. In response to such a written request, the Board of Directors shall conduct a hearing as soon as reasonably possible to review the action of the Executive Committee. The party or parties appealing the Committee's decision may appear and present information for consideration to the Board. The decision or action of the Board of Directors, pursuant to any hearing held before it, shall in all instances be final.

5.5. A simple majority vote shall be binding for action by either the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors.

6.0. Publicity Policy

6.1. Each member club acknowledges that athletic contests and inter-club activities take place in the public. As such, there is no expectation of privacy in the images, videos, social media content, or any other related media materials featuring players, coaches or other participants at such events. ILAX and/or its agents or designees may take, distribute and use such media involving players, coaches, officials and other participants at such events, and use the same for publicity, marketing and other appropriate purposes, including event programs.

7.0. Amendments and Additions

7.1. At the sole discretion of the ILAX Board of Directors, any of these Policies and Rules may be amended, repealed, changed or added to by majority vote of the Board. Member clubs and any ILAX committee may propose to amend, repeal, change or add to these Policies and Rules by submitting a written request to the Executive Committee of the Association for consideration.

7.2. The communication of these Policies and Rules and any future amendments or changes of such is the responsibility of ILAX and its member clubs. Lack of awareness of these Policies and Rules does not excuse a party's failure to comply with such, and does not relieve such party from the consequences of that failure.

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