

Central Iowa Lacrosse

Territory Assignment & Player Release Policy

Effective Date: September 1st, 2026

1. Purpose

This Policy establishes uniform territorial boundaries for Central Iowa youth lacrosse clubs and defines a consistent, transparent process for families to request a hardship-based release from their designated home club. The Policy further clarifies club assignment for parochial and private school students and formally recognizes grandfathered exceptions approved prior to the effective date.

2. Scope

This Policy applies to all players, families, administrators, coaches, and boards associated with Central Iowa youth lacrosse organizations, including but not limited to the Ankeny, West Des Moines, and Waukee lacrosse clubs.

This Policy governs **youth boys and girls programs** only. Youth is defined as 14U and under. HS programs will follow boundary rules set forth in their league rules until this document is modified.

Any creation of new clubs, redistricting, or modification of territorial boundaries must be jointly approved by the ILAX Board and any impacted clubs.

3. Definitions

Home Club:

The club assigned to a player based on the public school district in which the player resides.

Youth Boys Programs:

8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U teams

Youth Girls Programs:

8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U teams

Hardship:

A material and documented circumstance that materially impacts a player's reasonable ability to participate in their Home Club. Examples may include, but are not limited to, transportation constraints related to custody arrangements, significant caregiver scheduling conflicts, medical or safety considerations, or unique developmental needs that cannot be reasonably accommodated by the Home Club.

Preference, competitive advantage, team placement, or coaching considerations do not constitute hardship.

Original Club:

The club corresponding to the player's Home Club at the time the request is submitted.

Receiving Club:

The club to which a family seeks reassignment following an approved release.

Release Request:

A written request submitted by a family to move a player from their Home Club to another club based on hardship.

4. Territorial Boundaries Follows Public School Districts.

(Effective as of January 31, 2026)

Ankeny Club:

Ankeny, Southeast Polk, Saydel Township, North Polk and Bondurant-Farrar public school districts.

West Des Moines Club:

West Des Moines, Des Moines, Urbandale and Norwalk public school districts.

Waukee Club:

Waukee, Johnston, Dallas Center-Grimes, Adel-DeSoto-Minburn and Van Meter public school districts.

5. Policy: Player Assignment, Releases, and Governance

1. Players shall register and participate in the Home Club associated with their public school district of residence.
2. Families may submit a written Release Request to the Original Club only when a qualifying Hardship exists.

3. The Original Club is the sole decision-maker on all Release Requests and shall review each request objectively, consistently, and in good faith.
4. If a family contacts a Receiving Club prior to approval, the Receiving Club shall redirect the family to the Original Club. All communications with the family remain the responsibility of the Original Club.
5. The Original Club shall acknowledge receipt of a Release Request within twenty-four (24) hours and issue a written determination within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving a complete request.
6. If a Release Request is approved, the Original Club shall notify the Receiving Club in writing within forty-eight (48) hours.
7. The Receiving Club's Board or designated executive committee shall vote within twenty-four (24) hours of notification on whether to accept the transfer and shall communicate its decision in writing to the Original Club.
 - If accepted, the transfer shall proceed.
 - If declined, the player shall remain with the Original Club.
8. Prior exceptions agreed upon before the effective date of this Policy are formally grandfathered and remain in effect.
9. Parochial and private school students shall be assigned to the Home Club of their public school district of residence.
10. All communications between clubs and families must be professional, timely, and documented. Communication should be made within 24 hours of written communication from families.

6. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP): Release Request Process

Step 1: Family submits a completed Release Request Form to the Original Club.

Step 2: Original Club acknowledges receipt within 24 hours.

Step 3: Original Club issues a written determination within 48 hours of receiving a complete request.

Step 4: If approved, Original Club notifies the Receiving Club in writing.

Step 5: Receiving Club reviews request and makes a determination for acceptance, within 24 hours, and notifies Original Club and family in writing of its acceptance.

Step 6: If denied, Original Club provides written notice to the family, including a brief rationale within 24 hours of notice from the Receiving Club.

Incomplete submissions do not trigger review timelines until all required information is received.

7. Appeal Process

A family may submit a written appeal of a denied Release Request to the ILAX Board(iowalaxassoc@gmail.com) within five (5) calendar days of the decision. Appeals are limited to review of procedural compliance and application of Policy standards. The decision of the ILAX Board is final.

8. Parochial and Private School Assignment

Players attending parochial or private schools shall register and participate in the Home Club corresponding to their public school district of residence. Attendance at a parochial or private school, by itself, does not constitute hardship. Previously approved exceptions are grandfathered.

9. Compliance, Enforcement, and Review

All clubs must adhere to the requirements, timelines, and standards set forth in this Policy. Each club shall post territorial boundaries and release procedures on its official website and provide this information to families upon request.

Clubs shall annually share spring season rosters with Central Iowa clubs for compliance verification purposes only. Shared information shall be used solely for policy enforcement and not for recruiting or competitive purposes.

Players found to be rostered incorrectly shall be subject to review, including potential forfeiture of games, ineligibility for postseason play, and/or adjustment of tournament seeding, as determined by the ILAX Board.

This Policy shall be reviewed annually prior to the spring season.

10. Communications Standards

All interclub and family communications must be clear, professional, and documented. Families shall have a single point of contact designated by the Original Club. It is the responsibility of the original or home club to provide policy interpretation, hardship evaluation, or release guidance to families.

Signatures

DocuSigned by:

John Koons 8/20/2026

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John Koons Waukee Lacrosse Club

Signed by:

Jeff Kueter 8/21/2026

9F03FEFA594F851...

Jeff Kueter – Iowa Lacrosse Association

Signed by:

Dave Hankins 8/26/2026

B06353455B1F88B...

Dave Hankins - Ankeny Lacross Club

Signed by:

Seth Kaiser 8/26/2026

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Seth Kaiser - West Des Moines Lacrosse Club