

WPYLA LEAGUE RULES

The following are the WPYLA League rules, which are in place to provide a fair and level playing opportunity to all players, as well as mindfulness to grow players of all competitive levels, from recreational or beginner players to elite players. The WPYLA Board will review WPYLA League Rules at the conclusion of every season to ensure the rules reflect the ever-changing landscape of our sport and our region's lacrosse community. Each season, WPYLA will publish a Calendar of Events, which member clubs must reference for all deadlines. WPYLA is governed by USA Lacrosse. All Member Clubs are expected to adhere to all USA Lacrosse rules and regulations.

1. **Member Club Membership:** WPYLA shall limit membership to one (1) program/member club in a defined school district.
2. **Member Club Responsibility**
 - a) Member Clubs will follow the WPYLA Calendar of Events and be timely and accurate with all information, deadlines, and payments. Fees will be imposed for missed deadlines. See WPYLA Season Costs document.
 - b) Member Clubs will provide up-to-date board contact information by the season deadline. If any change occurs throughout the year, the Member Club will notify WPYLA of any changes immediately. Member clubs must submit information via the Member Club Board Information form provided by the WPYLA Board of Directors.
 - c) Each Member Club participating in the league shall be responsible for the conduct of its players, directors, coaches, spectators, and others to preserve order in the stands, sidelines, and on the field during any league activity.
 - d) A Member Club may not recruit a player from another Member Club participating in the WPYLA League, nor shall they register a player that should be playing for another Member Club participating in the WPYLA League. *Further details can be found in*

Section 5: Player Eligibility.

- e) Each Member Club shall appoint a representative who will attend all WPYLA meetings, in person or virtual, and be the conduit of all WPYLA rules and regulations for their Member Club.
- f) Member Clubs are to communicate any concerns or issues before missing a due date or deadline.
- g) All Member Club communications to WPYLA must be initiated by email to the WPYLA Board of Directors. The email must include the name of the person writing the email and the Member Club name.

3. **Conferences/Divisions**

a) **Conferences:**

- Conferences will be based on grade levels and designated as follows:
 - K – 2nd Grade (8U)
 - 3rd & 4th Grades (10U)
 - 5th & 6th Grades (12U)
 - 7th & 8th Grades (14U)

b) **Divisions:**

- Each Conference will split into Divisions of different competitive, developmental, and recreational levels of play.
- Divisions will be designated as follows:
 - Platinum
 - Gold
 - Silver

- Nickel
- Bronze (if necessary)

**This is a guideline based on registration data. WPYLA intends to have a minimum of four divisions, but the final division count will be based on the number of teams registered.

- Divisions will be differentiated by vision/guidelines that the WPYLA Board will update each season, if needed. Programs will request placement into a particular conference/age group. WPYLA will make the final conference placement decision based on registration information.

4. **Player Eligibility**

- a) A player shall play for the Member Club representing the school district in which they live. If a player goes to a private or non-traditional school, the player should play for the Member Club that represents the school district in which they live. If there is uncertainty with which Member Club a player should play for, please refer parents to the Player District Eligibility form, which can be found on the WPYLA website and must be submitted by the season deadline. WPYLA will review and resolve any issue on a case-by-case basis.
- b) If no WPYLA Member Club exists within the school district that the prospective player lives in, the player may play for a Member Club that borders their school district.
 - If no bordering Member Club exists, the prospective player may play for the next closest Member Club to their school district.
 - A Player Eligibility Form must be filled out and submitted to WPYLA as soon as possible. We recommend prior to charging the player for registration and uniform costs so WPYLA can validate the player's eligibility.
 - If a player resides in a school district without a Member Club but borders more than

one school with a Member Club, the player can choose which club they would like to play for. It is the parent or guardian's responsibility to contact that Member Club for information.

- c) No player will be eligible to be rostered in WPYLA activities if they enter the season older than the age of 14. The standardized WPYLA season shall start on March 1st of each year.
 - If there is uncertainty with a player's eligibility due to age, please refer parents to the Player Age Eligibility form, which will be found on the WPYLA website and must be submitted by the season deadline. WPYLA will review and resolve any issue on a case-by-case basis.
- d) Any game in which a team is found to have played and/or registered a wrongly districted player or non-exempt over-age player during the season and/or End-of-Season event will result in a forfeiture for all games played to that point in the season and/or tournament.
- e) All players must have a current and active USA Lacrosse membership with an expiration date through the end of June of each season. Players must have a one-time age verification completed through USA Lacrosse with their membership purchase/renewal.
- f) WPYLA reserves the right to request and receive documentation verifying the age, grade, and/or verified home address of any WPYLA player. At WPYLA's discretion, the player and Member Club are subject to suspension until received.

5. **Player Rosters**

- a) Finalized rosters for each team must be submitted, with jersey numbers, by the designated deadline each season.
- b) Rosters MUST be submitted in the exact WPYLA format, with all required information provided, and submitted to WPYLA by the designated deadline each season. Each Member Club is responsible for the validity of their rosters.

- c) If a roster is not submitted on time, that team will forfeit all games until submitted and approved by the WPYLA Board. Those games will not be retroactively scored after a team's roster becomes compliant. Scheduled opponents will be notified of any issues relating to roster submission and approval.
- d) Pre-Game Roster Checks will be completed by referees at the request of 1 participating coach. The procedure for checking rosters and associated penalties for violations can be found in the WPYLA Roster Check Document.
- e) A player may be on only one roster and be registered to one (1) Member Club.
- f) A player may play up a Conference or Division but never down a Conference or Division. Parent/Guardian approval is required for any player that is playing up a Conference or Division.
- g) In the spirit of good sportsmanship, call ups should be utilized to supplement existing players from the team roster, not to create an unfair competitive advantage. Call ups for the purposes of rewarding a player at the expense of a rostered player's playing time is discouraged as every player's individual development should be a focal point.
- h) Call ups from a lower age group are permitted. However, the player can play only at the same conference level or 1 conference lower. Example: A 12U Platinum player can be called up to 14U Gold or 14U Platinum. A 12U Platinum player cannot be called up to 14U Nickel or 14U Silver.
- i) WPYLA will provide each team with a roster max based upon the number of players registered. No team may exceed the roster max at any time regardless of player position. Goalies count toward the roster limit. Teams registering less than 20 players will be given a roster max of 20.
- j) ***ALL OTHER ROSTER RULES CAN BE FOUND IN THE ROSTER RULES DOCUMENT***

6. Coaches Rosters

- a) Each WPYLA Member Club will submit a Coaches Roster in the exact WPYLA format, with all required information provided by the season deadline. Each Member Club is responsible for the validity of its rosters.
- b) Every coach, whether they are on the sideline at games or helping with practices, must have a USA Lacrosse Coaches Membership with an expiration date through the end of June of each season.
- c) Every coach must complete all currently mandated USA Lacrosse training before the Coaches Roster submission deadline.
- d) Member Clubs will immediately provide the WPLYA Board with any changes throughout each season via the Coaches Roster form, which will be provided by the WPYLA Board at the start of the season.
- e) If a Coaches Roster is not submitted on time, that team will not be eligible to play as a minimum of 1 USA Lacrosse Bronze certified coach is required per team. Scheduled opponents will be notified of any issues relating to roster submission and approval.
- f) If a team has Junior Coaches (under the age of 18) helping at practice, they must be listed on the coach's roster, and all USA Lacrosse Memberships and Certifications must be acquired.

7. Maximum Number of Sideline Coaches

- a) A maximum of five (5) coaches is permitted on the sideline during a game.
- b) No Junior Coaches (under the age of 18) are allowed on the sidelines.
- c) Having more than the maximum number of coaches on the sideline during a game will result in game penalties for violations.
- d) Any coach shouting or being disrespectful toward a referee or not exemplifying sportsmanship to his team or the opposing team will result in ejection from the game and

suspension. Referees will be instructed to have zero tolerance with WPYLA Coaches.