

WSLA Winter League meeting

Lyn Porterfield | January 25, 2025

Member Agreement + Insurance program

<u>Same process as 2024</u>: For 2025, each member program needs to submit an agreement form prior to using the General Liability insurance. If you haven't already done so, connect with Kate or Lyn to receive a link to the member organization agreement form.

Once you submit that, you'll receive an onboarding email that will contain a link to request a 2025 Certificate of Insurance (COI) for any of your facilities/fields that you rent for lacrosse activities for your program. Be sure to bookmark that COI request link and pass on to anyone else on your board who's involved with renting facilities so that they can request COIs as needed.

- Don't forget (see Lyn for details):
 - Discounted memberships for players needing financial assistance
 - Non-member event insurance for introductory clinics

COACH CERTIFICATION FOR 2025

- Bronze level certification required for ALL coaches
 - Entry level coach certification included with USA Lacrosse membership

Requirements:

- Valid membership for duration of season
- Background check (good for 2 years)
- Abuse Prevention course (good for 2 years)
- Concussion Education course
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) course
- Cultural Competency course (take once)
- Annual Rules test (2024 test if already taken you're done!)
- Silver level certification requirement (head coaches U12 up to HS)
 - This is a WSLA requirement don't forget to also complete Bronze level too!
- More information on Bronze certification is here:

https://www.usalacrosse.com/coach-certification-bronze

Roster Management Tool

- USE the Roster Management tool (formerly Program Leader Portal)
 to verify coach background check status, Abuse prevention training and
 other Bronze certification requirements.
- All member programs must use the tool to upload all players and coaches participating in your program.
 - Connect with Kate if you need assistance she's here to help and can load up rosters if you need.
- Roster management tool go here for more info: www.usalacrosse.com/roster-management

Player Age Verification

- Age verification process is free and has been available for 10+ years to members.
- It will be required of all player members as of July 1, 2025 to maintain active membership status.
- Remind your parents now! It's a "one and done" process that only takes a few minutes.

Go here for more info: www.usalacrosse.com/age-verification

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Kate Macintyre Regional Coordinator – Pacific + Mountain

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WSLA Youth League Meeting January 25, 2025



MaryKate Benshoof

Introduction to New Executive Director

Email: mk.benshoof@wslax.org

Phone: 425-583-8947

Bellarmine Prep Coach – Any concerns/issues; reach out to Grace Hamilton.

Email: gracechamilt@gmail.com

Phone: 631-512-1145

Out of Season Reminder

During Out-of-Season, coaches, paid or volunteer, may coach or conduct practices or conduct instructional clinics for present In-Season team members ONLY under the following conditions:

- 1. Any Out of Season team, skill clinic or other lacrosse opportunity is open to all players in WSLA and is published on the WSLA website;
- 2. Any Out of Season team, skill clinic or other lacrosse opportunity is published on the WSLA website at least 7 days before the event date;
- 3. Regular Participants (defined as those attending 3 or more practice sessions or events for the Out of Season Opportunity) are identified by program on the WSLA website;
- 4. All Out of Season High School Opportunities are concluded no later than the Martin Luther King Holiday of any given year. Youth activities for the purpose of team recruitment may be held if approved by WSLA.

Players from a program may conduct Captain's Practices only under the following conditions:

No In season Coaches are in attendance or visible during any point of the Captain's Practice

Failure to follow this rule may result in consequences that at the sole discretion of the appropriate WSLA committee. These consequences may include a determination that any Coach in attendance or visible at a Captain's practice is ineligible to coach for the in season.

WSLA Program Requirements

- 100% of players and coaches verified USA Lacrosse members
 - Verification that all league coaching req are met
- League Meeting attendance (3/year)
- Official recruitment

Youth Coach Requirements

USA Lacrosse Coach membership- Bronze Coaching Certification

ALL HEAD Coaches

- CPR/First Aid certified
- Youth NRI each year

HEAD coaches for 12U & 14U – Silver Coaching Certification

12U > 8v8 Format - Shift from Full Field Play

More touches and involvement for all players = Increased Development

• A vast majority of 12U players are new and/or beginners to the sport. Full field play minimizes individual growth as teams tend to rely on a select few to carry and move the ball to advance game play. The 8v8 format will increase player skill and involvement as there is 'no where to hide.'

Fast paced and Fun!

• With increased touches and involvement the games will move fast! Similar to basketball, players will run the field more often with less play stoppage.

Increase in Program Participation

- 8v8 format will increase program participation from 26 to 33 (if not more) & more programs will compete as their program
- In 2019, WSLA had 38 12U teams various programs with multiple 12U teams. In 2024, WSLA carried 26 12U teams only 3 programs had two 12U teams and multiple neighboring programs combined to field a 12U team.

Roster size recommendations > WSLA recommends 14-18 players per team

- 2024 spring season brought some woes relative to 12U full-field rosters sizes and game scenarios. Many teams played with little to no subs or even played 'woman down' consistently. The 8v8 format allows for more program involvement given the need for slightly less players to register a team.
- Programs with larger numbers can field more than 1 team if applicable MORE ON THIS LATER....
- The pace of 8v8 format at the 12U level will be fast paced. Players will tire quickly given the back and forth format, thus the need for substitutions (on the fly during offensive transition). 10U teams get by with fewer players due to the slower nature of the game.

12U > 8v8 Format - shift from full field play (cont.)

More teams = Need for more coaches?

• The change in 12U game play format is not meant to alter how teams are coached and skills are taught. All the same concepts still apply! In fact, 8v8 game format is more approachable (again, similar to basketball) making it easier to find volunteers to step up to the plate!

WWLOA Impacts

- WWLOA is on board!! We had a surplus of YOUTH referees in the 2024 spring season, meaning there were youth referees that did not get to ref as often as they wanted to. With an increase # of games due to the new format, more referees will get the opportunity to ref
- WWLOA will try to put 2 refs on all 12U games, but seasoned 12U refs may operate solo if needed

Financial Implications

- WSLA anticipates an increased # of 12U teams from 26 to approximately 33
- \$875 Registration fee per 12U, 8v8 team (decreased the per team fee from \$925)

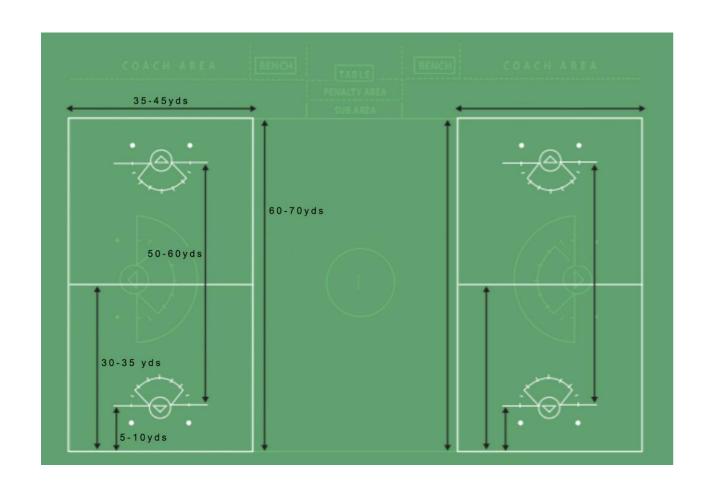
12U > 8v8 Rules

CATEGORY	USAL/WSLA 12U	CATEGORY	USAL/WSLA 12U	
Field Lines	8.5' Goal Circle, 8M	Overtime	No Overtime	
Restraining Line	2 players behind midfield line	Start of Game/Quarters	Draw-players behind 'RLs' except up to 3 players	
Field Size	Cross Field	Start after Goal	Goalkeeper clear	
Goals	6' x 6'	Offsides	2 players back of center line	
Balls	Regulation	Substitutions	Allowed during play and stoppage of play, recommended during offensive transition	
Sticks	Regulation Stick	Covering Ball	HS covering rules	
Players	8v8	Minimum Pass Rule	1 pass attempt prior to shot	
			(goalie clears do not count)	
Coaches	In Coaching Area	1v1 Defense	Not applicable	
Officials	2 Officials	3 sec, guarded	Applies	
Timekeepers	Timekeeper at Table	3 sec, <u>8 meter</u> arc	Applies	
Scorekeepers	Scorekeeper at Table	Goal Circle Violations	Only goalkeeper may enter goal circle	
Length of Game	4 x 10 running (5 min. halftime)	Checking	Modified Checking	
Timeouts	1 team timeout	Contact	Body to body contact that does not displace, or disadvantage opponent allowed. No stick to body contact.	
		Cards	Team plays short	

Attack, midfield and defensive concepts should be taught the same in the new format given the use of the mid-line as a restraining line

12U > 8v8 Field Setup & Play

- 8v8 play, including a goalie
- 5v5 settled play at either end of field, holding 2 back over midline restraining
- Play a 2/3/2 model (like a miniature full field 4/3/4 model) OR 5/2 where the first 5 players to transition over play A/D while holding 2 back. BOTH WORK!!
- Maximize length of the field widthwise
- Goalie crease and 8m are required (field lining, dots, flat cones, tape etc.)
- Game/Field time = 1 hr (reserve 60-90 minutes of field time depending on your space/turnover time)
- Settled play = identical to full field play & concepts but with less players.



12U > 8v8 Scenarios & Guide

WSLA is here to support all programs through this change. We encourage you to reach out and ask questions! This shift in game play is in the spirit of growth and development, in addition to increased participation. We are looking to accomplish this WITH YOU.

Practice & Coaching Strategies with 12U Shift

- •Keep things as they are! Practice all of your 12U players together with your typical coach(es) and make a plan for game coverage.
- Coaching is more approachable under these circumstances.
 To some/most of these 12U players, it will feel like a continuation of 10U play w/ slightly advanced rules.
- Home games can be scheduled simultaneously or back to back - this will be indicated on your scheduling form (same as 10U scheduling).
- Away games if your program has 2 teams and they are playing in different locations, split coaches and bring HS player helpers! Game management and subbing is easier with 8v8 play.
- Adult volunteer coaches, HS player coaching assistants, HS Player Coaches, Paid coaches - we don't want you to change what is already working for your program.

12U Scenarios and WSLA Recommendations

- •12-18 players > 1 team, 1-2 coaches
- •18-24 players > consider 2 teams OR 1 team with 3 pods - assign 2 pods to each game & practice all players together
- •24-36 players > 2 teams, 2-3 coaches
- •36-45 players > consider 3 teams or 2 teams with pod rotation
- Multiple 12U teams? > create even, skill based teams (recreational lacrosse, not A and B teams)
- You know your program best relative to practice and game attendance. Pick a solution that works for your program.



OFFICIALS RECRUITMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Requirement is proportional to the number of teams fielded
 - 1-3 Teams 1 Official
 - 4-6 Teams 2 Officials
 - 7-9 Teams 3 Officials
 - 10 Teams 4 Officials
- Each 10U team counts as ½ a team for these purposes

IND YOUTH	ADULT	COACH	2 ND YR ADULT
Rated + 10	Rated + 5	Rated + Jamb	Rated + 8

\$200 fine post-season

WWLOA Training Dates

- New this year... OPEN TO COACHES!
- Small fee of \$15 to cover trainers, facilities, & food.
- MK sent a form to sign up in an email
- Reach out to <u>wwloaeducation@gmail.c</u> om with any questions

TRAINING CLINICS

ALL NEW AND RETURNING OFFICIALS MUST ATTEND ONE CLINIC DATE

Saturday, January 11, 2025

Spokane - Spokane Public Library- Central New officials: 10:30am-5pm Returning officials: 10:30am-1pm

Sunday, January 26, 2025Eastside Catholic HS, Sammamish

Saturday, February 8, 2025Bellarmine Prep, Tacoma

Sunday, February 22, 2025Snohomish PUD training center, Everett

Sunday, February 23, 2025 Seattle Prep, Seattle

New officials: 9am-4pm Returning officials: 1pm-4pm

CLINIC FEES AND SIGN UP INFO: WWLOA.ORG





Youth Rules Summary

(On the website -> Resources -> Rules & WWLOA)

2025 GIRLS YOUTH RULES COMPARISON CHART

WSLA Specific rules in RED

Category	USL 6U & 8U	USL 10U	USL 12U	USL 14U
Cards	No cards, teams do not play short	No cards, teams do not play short, PLAYER IS SUBBED	NFHS Cards	NFHS Cards
Checking	No checking	No checking	Modified checking	Transitional checking, modified checking from behind
Contact	No body-to-body or stick- to-body contact allowed (incidental only)	Body-to-body contact that does not displace or disadvantage opponent allowed. No stick-to-body contact.	Body-to-body contact that does not displace or disadvantage opponent allowed. No stick-to-body contact.	Body contact that does not displace or disadvantage ok. HS contact rules
Covering Ball	No covering ball with stick or body	No covering ball with stick or body	No covering ball if opponent in playing distance	No covering ball if opponent in playing distance
Defending Goal	No defending goal by standing in the 5-yard space in front of goal unless marking	Shooting Space rule applies in 8m	Shooting Space rule applies in 8m	NFHS Shooting space rule applies
Field Lines	Goal circle with 6' or 8.5' radius / No restraining line	Goal circle, 8m arc, half field line	Goal circle, 8m arc, half field line	NFHS field lines
Field Size	Small sided field	Small sided field	Small sided field	Full field
Goals	3'x3' or 4'x4'	6'x6'	6'x6'	6'x6'
Length of Game	4 x 6-minute running clock / 5-minute halftime	4 x 10-minute running clock / 5-minute halftime	4 x 10-minute running clock / 5-minute halftime	4 x 12-minute running clock / 5-min halftime
Offsides	Not applicable	5 Field players in each end	5 Field players in each end	NFHS offside procedures
1 v 1 Defense	1v1 defense required	1v1 defense in midfield	Not required	Not required
Players	3v3 up to 7v7 / No Goalkeeper	8v8 with goalkeeper	8v8 with goalkeepers	12v12 with goalkeeper
Restraining Line	None	Center Line	Center Line	NFHS
Start After Goal	Ball to defender at side of goal circle / Player self- starts	Goalkeeper clear OR ball to defender on goal line extended (GLE).	Goalkeeper clear	Draw
Sticks	Small stick / No pocket limits	Modified Pocket	NFHS stick and pocket	NFHS stick and pocket
Stick to Body Contact	Prohibited except for incidental contact	Prohibited except for incidental contact	Prohibited except for incidental contact	Prohibited except for incidental contact
3-Seconds Closely Guarded	3-Seconds closely guarded rule applies	3-Seconds closely guarded rule applies	3-Seconds closely guarded rule applies	Not applicable
Timeouts	1 team timeout	1 team timeout	2 team timeouts	2 team timeouts
Minimum Pass Rule	One pass attempt prior to shot	One pass attempt prior to shot	One pass attempt prior to shot	Not applicable

New Rules/Scoring & Timing

New Rules Interpretation

- Last Chance via Zoom, February 26 at 6:30pm
- Mandatory for all HEAD coaches each year, recommend for all coaches
- USA Lacrosse New Rules Interp

Scorer/Timer Clinics

- Wed Feb 26 7pm virtual thru TEAMS
- Mandatory that 1 rep from each program attend

Youth Boundaries

Know your boundaries and WSLA assignment rules

Post your boundaries on your website

Know where your players are coming from

- Collect residential addresses and schools attended
- Be sure to vet registration and reroute players to appropriate program BEFORE practices start

WSLA reserves the right to ask for rosters and home addresses

Registration

- 3 Step Process REGISTRATION of teams/FEE payment, SCHEDULING FORM, and COACH/TEAM ADMIN registration
- The person registering needs to be prepared to pay

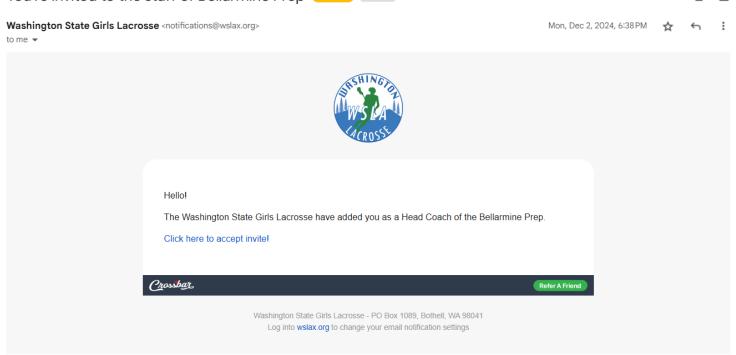


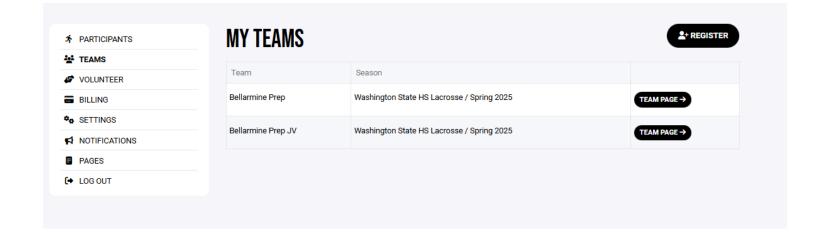




New Website... Accepting Invite

 Whoever registered your team was instructed to add coaches to the platform. You must ACCEPT your invite to gain access to the site but more importantly, so we have the coaches USA Lacrosse number. If you have already accepted the invite, you may have to navigate to "TEAMS" on the left side and it should show your invite with a way to accept.





Scheduling Dates & Process

- All Updates/Changes to Scheduling forms must be made by contacting scheduler@wslax.com
- Changes to *Registration* made by emailing admin@wslax.org
- Jan 27 REGISTRATION, FEES and SCHEDULING FORM WITH BLACKOUT DATES DUE
- Feb 14 Home Game Dates/Times and Opponents Distributed
- Feb 21 Home Game Changes and Locations DUE to Scheduler
- Mar 4 Final Schedule Loaded

Youth Schedule Form

					- Constitution			•			
							- "- "				A 11 PI
	Team	Age			Head Coach		Email Addres	S	1		Cell Phone
	14U,12U, 10U or 8U										
(You may ad	d rows to accommodat	te for more team	s)								
Dates your o	club CANNOT play eithe			Date		<u> </u>					Comments
	<u> </u>	eam name)									
		eam name)									
	10U (te	eam name)									
	8U (te	am name)									
(You may add more rows to accommodate for more teams)											
Following questions aren't always possible to achieve		Yes	No						Comments		
Any teams t	hat need to try and stay	together?									
Any teams yo	ou would like to play IE riva	als or friends (not p	romised)								
Would you ra	Would you rather play locally or competitively? If competitively how many out of sea			ason players	does your teams have						
Would you ra	ther play two games in one	e day, or two game	s in one weekend?								

- The more weekend you take off, the less Allison can work with your team's schedule!
- 8U teams are likely to start before spring break just based on team's spring break dates alignment since we are adding a game this season!

Regular Season Home Field	Availability				
Recommended amount of	time allotted for	games			
14U & 12U 1.5 hours 10U &	8U 1 hour				
Date: 3/22		Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1				
	Field 2				
Date: 3/23		Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1				
	Field 2				
Date: 3/29		Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1				
	Field 2				
Date: 3/30		Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1				
•	Field 2				
Date: 4/5		Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1				
,	Field 2				
Date:4/6		Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1	Trefa Italie			
Tiome Freid Availability	Field 2				
Date: 4/12 Passover	110102	Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1	Treta Hame	1101111	10. 0.	
Tionic Field Availability	Field 2				
Date:4/13 Palm Sunday	TICIO E	Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1	Treta Hanne	1101111		
	Field 2				
Date: 4/19	TICIG E	Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1	Tield Name	1101111		
	Field 2				
Date: 4/20 Easter Sunday	TICIU Z	Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1	- Held Hallic	110111.	10. 0.	
	Field 2			+	
Date: 4/26	TICIUZ	Field Name	From:	To: &	
Home Field Availability	Field 1	Tield Name	T TOILL	10. 0.	

Schedule Change Dates

March 8 – ALL MARCH Schedule Changes due

March 14 - ALL APRIL Schedule Changes due

March 28 – ALL MAY Schedule Changes due

NO EXCEPTIONS

Any games needing to be cancelled within 48 hours – please contact WSLA ED MK Benshoof by PHONE or TEXT. Do not just email.

Schedule Changes

- Schedule Change Request
 - Teams should communicate to each other and find a mutually agreeable solution to a change from the published schedule and then submit the change request to scheduler@wslax.org
 - Email agreed upon changes in this format
 - Include <u>admin@wslax.org</u> and all relevant parties on the email
 - SUBJECT: YOUTH SCHEDULE CHANGE
 - Current Game as Scheduled include home team, away team, date, time and location
 - New Game Change include date, time and location

Fines for Games Cancelled within 48 hours



WSLA pays officials for games that are cancelled within 48 hours of the game start by contractual agreement with WWLOA



\$125 fine to program when games are cancelled within 48 hours

Game Day Conduct

Sideline Manager

- Each team (home and away) will provide a sideline manager whose duty shall be to control effectively the actions of spectators not in conformity with the standards of proper conduct.
- Sideline Manager will attend the Coach meeting with the official's pre-game.

MISCONDUCT Yellow Card Protocol

- Sanction Protocol:
- 1st Yellow: Official warning to player, coach and club
- 2nd Yellow; 1st Red: Mandatory 1 game suspension; Call with WSLA Sportsmanship committee, player, coach and club
- 3rd Yellow; 2nd Red: Mandatory 2 game suspension; Face to face WSLA Sportsmanship Committee hearing to determine severity of penalty which could include further game suspension, possible minimum 4 game suspension, possible suspension from remainder of the season (possible to carry over to next season); possible Club fine and sanctions.

Official Feedback

- Officials Feedback Form WWLOA.org
- Submit official feedback form WWLOA.ORG
- Both positive and negative feedback

Game Day Notes

Game Report

- Any team that would like to comment positively or negatively about game or conduct on the field please fill out.
- VP of Youth, Tony Duck, sees the reports and follows up as appropriate

Please RESPECT youth officials

Officials will report any Misconduct Yellow or Red cards to WSLA ED



Pin exchange each game at all levels





2 pins awarded to opponent players after the game

Players decide, coach has input



Please pickup your pins today

Youth Jamboree Dates

Youth Rating Jamboree

- March 15th & 16th Bonney Lake HS (Bonney Lake), Marymoor Park, Meadowdale Park (Lynnwood), Glacier Peak*
- Registration will open for the jamboree Feb 1 (9am) –
 An email will go out and it will be on the website under registration
- First come first serve We don't have a cap as of right now (only 12U & 14U)
- Need volunteer programs at ALL locations to man central clock – please contact MK if interested (will get you priority in registration)

Communications

GAME REPORTS (WSLA MANAGEMENT TOOL)

WEBSITE

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Instagram -- wa_glax
- Facebook --- Washington Girls Lacrosse
- Twitter -- @WA_GLAX

Stories – report to pr@wslax.org

- Successes (team, player, program), Moments, Character Building, Commits,
- Out of Season, Clinics
- WE WANT THEM ALL



WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU:

These are **KIDS**

This is a **GAME**

Coaches are **VOLUNTEERS**

Officials are **HUMAN**

NO College Scholarships will be handed out today





RESPECT THE ROOTS TOOLKIT

1: CUSTOM PRE-GAME ACKNOWLEDGMENT SCRIPT A personalized script read by announcers before home games, honoring the Indigenous origins of lacrosse and the Creator's Game.

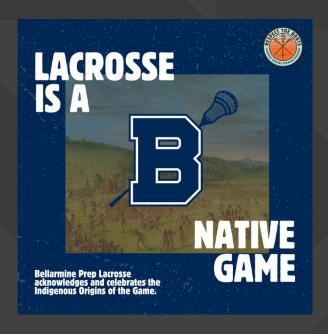
2: HOME GAME BANNER

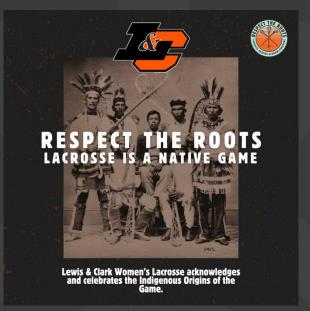
A 3x6 printed banner designed to celebrate and acknowledge the roots of lacrosse, displayed at home games to spark conversations and inspire learning.

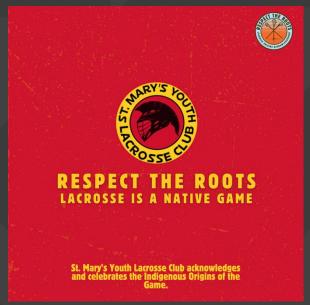
3: SOCIAL MEDIA ASSETS

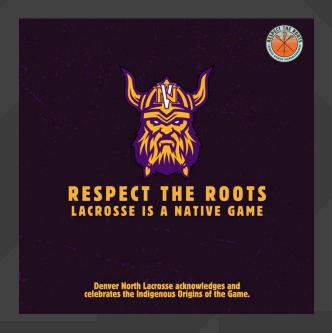
CUSTOM GRAPHICS FOR YOUR PROGRAM TO SHARE,
HIGHLIGHTING YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE INITIATIVE
AND HELPING SPREAD AWARENESS THROUGHOUT THE
LACROSSE COMMUNITY.

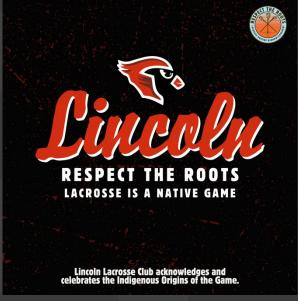


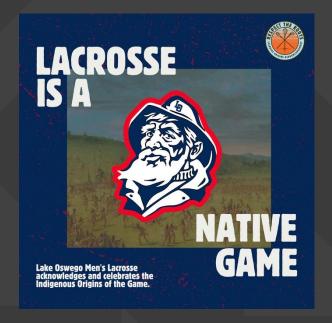














Lewis & Clark Women's Lacrosse acknowledges and celebrates the Indigenous Origins of the Game.



Learn more about the origins of Creator's Game at pnwnativelax.com





LACROSSE IS A NATIVE GAME

PNW NATIVE LAX Lake Oswego Men's Lacrosse acknowledges and celebrates the Indigenous Origins of the Game.





JD Elquist info@pnwnativelax.c om @pnwnativelax