

WSLA
Washington Schoolgirls Lacrosse Association
2025 GAME RULES

WSLA Youth and High School teams shall abide by the current edition of the 2025 USAL/NFHS Girls Lacrosse or USAL Youth Rule Book as it applies to their level of play.

Teams shall also abide by the following **additional** game rules adopted by WSLA.

Certified Officials: All League and Exhibition games shall be officiated by a USAL certified women's lacrosse official.

Playing Field: The home team shall be responsible for providing a field, game lines, and game equipment in proper condition for safe play and in compliance with the USAL Women's or Girls Youth Rule Book. The home team shall provide a timer.

- If the home team does not have the field ready by the scheduled game time, the home team shall be assessed a delay of game card and the opposing team shall begin the game with a free position.
- If the home team does not have the field ready within 20 minutes after the scheduled start time of the game, the home team shall forfeit the game, unless the start of the game is delayed by use of the field by an earlier contest that finished later than scheduled.

Start of Game: If a team is not ready to play within 30 minutes after the scheduled start time of the game, that team shall forfeit the game unless the team has been delayed because of circumstances beyond their control.

- If a team that has been delayed because of circumstances beyond their control, is ready to play more than 30 minutes after the scheduled start time of the game, the game shall be played if the field remains available and conditions are suitable for execution of a game of regulation time.
- If a team that has been delayed because of circumstances beyond their control, is ready to play more than 30 minutes after the scheduled start time of the game, but the field is not available or conditions are not suitable for execution of a game of regulation time, then the game may be rescheduled if approved by the respective High School Board or Youth League Board.

Overtime Play: When the score is tied at the end of regular playing time for a regular season League game, the game shall end and there shall be no overtime play. When the score is tied at the end of regular playing time for a post-season tournament League game, overtime procedures shall be followed in compliance with the USAL Girls Rule Book.

Game Roster: Each team shall provide the official scorer with a roster of the names and numbers of the players on their team and identification of the starting players at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.

- If a team does not provide the official scorer with a roster of the names and numbers of the players on their team and identification of the starting players at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game, the team shall be assessed a delay of game card and the opposing team shall begin the game with a free position.

Sideline Manager: Each Youth and High School league home and away team shall provide a sideline manager whose duty shall be to effectively control the actions of spectators not in conformity with standards of proper conduct.

- Teams shall identify their sideline manager to the officials prior to the game.
 - At Youth Games the sideline managers will take part in the Captains and Coaches meeting.
 - At High School Games immediately after the C&C meeting, the officials will walk over to the fan sidelines and meet with the sideline managers.

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- If a team does not provide a sideline manager prior to the game, the team shall be assessed a delay of game green card and the opposing team shall begin the game with a free position for a minor foul.
- If a team does not provide a sideline manager prior to the start of the second half of the game, the team shall be assessed a second delay of game green card and the opposing team shall begin the second half with a free position for a major foul.

Player Participation: A player's eligibility to participate in a game is defined in the WSLA Handbook and shall be enforced by the player's coach. Officials are not responsible for or required to determine a player's eligibility to participate in a game. WSLA allows Coaches to determine whether a red-carded player should be present on the bench or absent from the field.

Communication with Officials for ALL Youth Divisions (10U, 12U and 14U):

- Only the head coach or captains may communicate with the officials during the play of the game with one exception: For the purpose of teaching/learning ALL 10U players may speak with the official during the play of the game.
- Head coaches and captains may ask the officials questions prior to the start of the game, during timeouts and during half time.
- Officials shall address questions during timeouts and halftime.
- Coaches, players and other team personnel shall not make comments to the officials during the game.
- Coaches, players and other team personnel shall not make negative comments about the officials or about the officiating during the game.
- Coaches, players and other team personnel shall not make negative comments to the officials after the game.
- A violation of these rules shall constitute a misconduct foul and result in the issuance of a yellow or red card to the head coach.

Additional 14U Rules: Full Field 12v12

- **Mercy rule:** The 4 goal differential mercy rule is optional at this level of play. Each head coach will decide at captains and coaches if their team will use the mercy rule. This decision is in effect for the entire game and cannot be changed.
- **Contact:** Body contact that does not displace or disadvantage an opponent is allowed.

Additional 12U Rules: Cross Field 8v8

- **Passing:** After a team gains possession of the ball or after the team's goalkeeper passes the ball, the ball must be passed at least once, or one pass attempted, before a shot is made.
- **Goalie Clear/Draw:** Following a goal, the goalie will clear the ball. Draws will take place at the start of the game & at the beginning of the quarters.
- **Shooting Space:** Shooting space will be enforced within the 8m above the goal line extended.
- **Offsides:** Teams need to hold two field players behind the midfield line.

Additional 10U Rules: Cross Field 8v8, 4 x 10 min quarters, 5 min half time

- **Passing:** After a team gains possession of the ball or after the team's goalkeeper passes the ball, the ball must be passed at least once, or one pass attempted, before a shot is made.
- **Shooting Space:** Shooting space will be enforced within the 8m above the goal line extended.
- **Offsides:** Teams need to hold two field players behind the midfield line.

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Additional 8U Rules: Cross Field 5v5, 4 x 10 min quarters, 5 min half time

- **Passing:** After a team gains possession of the ball or after the team's goalkeeper passes the ball, the ball must be passed at least once, or one pass attempted, before a shot is made.