



## MYLC POLICIES

### FRIEND REQUEST & SIBLING PLACEMENT

#### FRIEND REQUEST AND SIBLING PLACEMENT POLICY

The Middleton Lacrosse Club is committed to creating balanced, competitive teams while fostering a positive, inclusive environment for all players. Our team placement process prioritizes skill equity, team balance, and the overall needs of the program. At the same time, we recognize the importance of family logistics and social connections, particularly for younger players. This policy outlines how sibling and friend requests are handled, explains the structure of our practices and programs, and describes the decision-making process to ensure transparency and fairness.

#### SIBLING REQUESTS

- Siblings in the same age group will automatically be placed on the same team to support family logistics and convenience.
- If a family prefers that siblings be placed on separate teams, this preference must be communicated directly to the appropriate program coordinator (boyscoordinator@middletonlacrosse.com for boys programs or girlscoordinator@middletonlacrosse.com for girls programs) before team assignments are finalized. Failure to notify the club in advance will result in siblings being placed together by default.

#### FRIEND REQUESTS

- Each player may submit **one reciprocal (mutual) friend request exclusively during the registration process** via the official registration form.
- For a request to be considered, both players must request each other, and both requests must be submitted before the registration deadline.
- **Friend requests must be submitted at the time of registration. Requests made directly to coaches, coordinators, or board members—at evaluations, practices, games, or any other time—will not be accepted or considered.**
- The club will make every reasonable effort to accommodate mutual friend requests when doing so does not conflict with higher priorities.
- Friend requests are **not guaranteed**. Primary considerations in roster creation include:
  - ☐ Competitive team balance
  - ☐ Skill equity across teams
  - ☐ Overall program needs (e.g., total number of players, coach availability, and positional requirements)
- Non-mutual or late requests will not be considered.

#### PRACTICE AND PROGRAM STRUCTURE

All teams within the same age group/program practice at the same times and locations, and players are welcome and encouraged to attend any and all practice sessions offered within their program, regardless of their assigned team. Because practices are shared across teams, team placement has no impact on practice scheduling, practice attendance, or families' ability to arrange carpools for practices. Coaching philosophy, drills, and instruction are consistent across all teams in a program to ensure equitable development. Younger players naturally form new friendships quickly in this environment, and the shared practice structure encourages players to meet new teammates, build broader friendships across the program, and contribute to the overall growth, strength, and sense of community within Middleton Lacrosse. As players progress through the age groups, all participants eventually funnel into a single



team per gender at the higher levels. This policy is intended to create a supportive and dynamic experience that extends beyond any single team assignment.

## REQUEST REVIEW AND DECISION PROCESS

All requests (sibling and friend) are reviewed confidentially by the program coordinators and/or club board. Final roster decisions are made at the sole discretion of the coordinators and board, with the primary goal of fielding balanced, competitive teams while supporting program sustainability. No appeals will be considered once teams have been announced. After the first week or two of practices, coaches—in consultation with the board and youth coordinators—will announce team placements.

Questions about this policy or the team placement process should be directed to the appropriate program coordinator (boyscoordinator@middletonlacrosse.com for boys programs or girlscoordinator@middletonlacrosse.com for girls programs).

The information on this page is to be included on the Middleton Lacrosse Website.

Updated and approved by MYLC Board 01/2026