

The Bees Youth Boys Lax Program (Spring)

This document details the Bees Youth Boys Lacrosse Program as well as expectations.

MISSION

- Our mission is to teach the game of lacrosse at competitive and developmental levels.

TRY-OUTS

- We do not have tryouts!
- Everyone is welcome!

AGE GROUPS

- There are three age groups:
 - Bantam (3rd and 4th grade with some potential younger kids that are ready to play up)
 - Youth (5th and 6th grade)
 - Middle School (7th and 8th grade)

TEAMS

- We have two to three Teams per age group, depending on the number of participants:
 - Team A: This is a competitive team that consists of the highest skilled players in the respective age group, in addition to underfilled positions in which extra players are needed. This team is a competitive team and will be entering tournaments with the goal of winning championships.
 - Team B: Consists of intermediate skilled players with the goal of player development
 - Team C: Consists of novice skilled players with the goal of player development

EXPECTATIONS

- Teams within the three age groups noted above are arranged based upon skills and talent, rather than grade level or teammate preference.
- If the number of participants is low for a season, only an A and B Team are created,
- If we have three teams, and the talent is above novice, we may operate one A Team, and two B Teams.
- We operate the program based upon an “open door” philosophy, where players may float to a higher level OR lower-level team. This term means some players may play up on a Team and some players may play down on a Team. There are numerous reasons for these arrangements which include:
 - (1) Talent and skill advancement during the season warranting elevating a player to a higher-level Team
 - (2) A need for players on a lower OR higher-level Team due to player absence at a game or tournament

- (3) A need for more players on a lower OR higher-level Team due to the need for larger rosters at tournaments.
 - (4) There may be a need for a player to move down a level to work on skills at a slower pace.
- We have multiple practices throughout the week at varying times and locations to help with scheduling conflicts. Although we know players may have other sports and conflicts during the season, we ask players to attend as many of the practices as possible. For players that are playing on the A team within an age group, we ask that they try to limit the absences to a greater degree. Additionally, we ask players to limit absences two weeks prior to the larger tournaments. For those playing on the older teams, absences due to other sports conflicts should be fewer to non-existent. If the commitment level is an issue, please talk to the proper age groups coach as there may be ways to work through the issue.
- The organization's coaches are consistent overall, but attendance may vary at each practice due to other commitments.
- Players moving through the program and progressing to older teams will encounter different learning obstacles. Moving from Bantam to Youth involves moving from a small field with 7 total players to a field three times the size and now with 11 players and additional rules. Going from Youth to Middle School you deal with bigger players and have to adjust to more potential contact. At each level we have to make sure to continue to teach position specific skills while still working on the fundamentals like passing and catching.
- Players are expected to be respectful to coaches and fellow players at practice. Players who talk belligerently to coaches or purposely harm other players will be reprimanded and parents will be notified.
- At games and tournaments, good sportsmanship is required.
- We ask for flexibility by families during the entire season, as practice, game, and tournament dates change based on weather, accidental miss-schedules by the organizations we rent the fields, tournament bracket changes, and referee availability.
- The organization prides itself on its acceptance of concerns and constructive criticisms. Please feel free to communicate them to the managers and coaches via our emails and cell phones. Please do not use our Team App to communicate personal concerns with them.

TRAVEL

- Team A players may travel to a few tournaments that are ~1-2 hours from BBH, while also playing games locally.
- Team B & C players may travel to a few tournaments that are ~1 hour from BBH, while also playing games locally.

PRACTICES

- Practices for each team (A, B, C) within an age group will be held at the same time, unless there is a special situation, For Example – all youth (5/6 grade) players will have the same practice day and time.
- Within each age group, the teams (A, B, C) begin practice as a group with warm-ups. At some practices, Teams A, B and C will run drills and skill sessions as a complete group. At other

practices, the Teams may be separated out, so that each Team can work on drills focused on their present skill level, while developing higher level skills.

- See Expectations Section for Practice Expectations.

COMMITMENTS

- BBH Boys Lacrosse plays in the Northern Ohio Lacrosse League (NOLL) and all players within the club are expected to abide by league rules. The league states that players are only allowed to play for one community-based team during the season (i.e. If you play for BBH, you are not allowed to also play for another community-based team like Strongsville, Revere or Hudson).
- Participation in non-community teams, including CYO, is permitted. However, the club asks that our players prioritize BBH practices, games and tournaments to ensure that we have enough players for productive practices and competitive games.

TOURNAMENTS

- There may be instances when teams within an age group participate in different tournaments.
- There may be some instances where a tournament or group of games are more of a competitive format to where only the A team participates.
- Registration is arranged by the organization well in advance of the season to guarantee a spot.
- The number of teams registered for a tournament are based on BBH club registration numbers and will assume that the majority of the players will participate in the tournament.
- The organization is notified the days of the weekend the tournaments are scheduled. The organization typically does not know the times of the games for a tournament until 1-2 weeks prior to the tournament weekend. Please be flexible if the times change, as it is not atypical for game times to change days to even hours before the tournament. So, please plan for playing the entire day.

MANAGEMENT

- We manage our Teams via a team app. The app we will likely use is GameChanger. There will be one Team for each age group, where games and practices are posted. The schedule can be directly synced to your Apple or Google calendar. The app also has a communication function that we use for communication purposes. Please review the Expectations section regarding the use of the App.

VOLUNTEERS

- To successfully accomplish our mission, we need as much help as possible.
- Opportunities to help the team include coaching, managing the team app, helping at tournaments, running the score board, clothing orders, etc.
- At tournaments, there may be times where multiple teams within each age group are playing at the same time or back-to-back. This would be where there would be a need for a group of coaches for the A team and for the B team. When those times arise, we may need some parents to assist us.

COACHING

- Most of our coaches began with no lacrosse experience, with one or two of our coaches playing the sport.
- For those who would like to become a coach, please convey your interest to the organization.
- New coaches will be mentored into the system as assistants. The organization will teach you, while gaining your fresh point of view, to incorporate into our system.
- Due to other commitments, coaches are not expected to attend every practice. Having numerous coaches allows the organization to have various practices to accommodate everyone's personal schedules.
- If we do not have people volunteer, then we may need to limit our program's numbers or alternatively pay outside coaches which would significantly increase the player registration fee.

REGISTRATION

- Player registration fees include:
 - Uniforms for new players
 - Winter indoor turf time
 - Any indoor field house time
 - Practice field fees
 - This fee is a per-player-fee from the City of Brecksville for use and maintenance (mowing and painting) of the various practice fields.
 - League fees
 - Tournament fees
 - Referee fees for games
 - Goals
 - Balls
 - Additional coaching/team equipment
 - Ladders, Cones, Ball Bags, Crease rings, Etc.
 - Insurance

PERSONAL EXPENSES

- Uniform replacement due to wear and tear or going up a size in uniforms for returning players the subsequent year.
- Protective equipment, to include, but not limited to elbow pads, gloves, helmets, shoes, shoulder pads, athletic supporters/cups, mouthpiece, etc.
- We will have goalie gear for younger and new players to use but we ask if you are training or playing out of season and not with the club that you purchase your own goalie gear.
- There may be times when we fundraise for large items like tents or large cost equipment.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Date