

**Team Handbook of Policies and Rules adopted by the
WHSBLA Board of Directors**

MISSION STATEMENT

**To organize, develop, and promote boys
high school lacrosse in Washington, and to
honor the game by instilling the values of
scholastic achievement, sportsmanship, and
individual development.**

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Revision date: October, 2009

Board of Directors:

**Vern Smith, President and Eastside Rep.
Ian O’Hearn, At-Large Rep.
Ryan Kelly, Metro Rep
Rob Hawley, Westside Rep
Peter White, Northside Rep**

**Brandon Fortier, Division I Rep
Kevin Martin, Division II Rep
Daniela Colter, Executive Secretary**

Programs Represented by the WHSBLA for the 2009 Season:

<u>West Region</u>	<u>Metro Region</u>	<u>East Region</u>	<u>North Region</u>
Curtis (D-I)	Bainbridge (D-I)	Bellevue (D-I)	Lynnwood (D-II)
Gig Harbor (D-II)	Blanchet (D-II)	Eastlake (D-I)	Mukilteo (D-II)
King's Way (D-I)	Franklin (D-II)	Eastside Catholic (D-I)	North County (D-II)
Klahowya (D-II)	Garfield (D-II)	Issaquah (D-I)	Northshore (D-I)
Lake Tapps (D-I)	Highline (D-II)	Lake Washington (D-II)	Providence (D-II)
North Kitsap (D-II)	Lakeside (D-I)	Liberty (D-II)	San Juan (D-II)
Puyallup (D-I)	Nathan Hale (D-II)	Mercer Island (D-I)	SilverLake (D-II)
Port Angles (D-II)	Roosevelt (D-II)	Mt. Si (D-II)	Skagit Valley (D-II)
South Kitsap (D-II)	Seattle Prep (D-I)	Overlake (D-I)	Snohomish (D-II)
Stadium (D-I)		Redmond (D-II)	Stanwood (D-II)
Tacoma (D-I)		Sammamish (D-II)	Whatcom (D-II)
Vashon (D-I)		Selah (D-II)	Woodinville (D-II)
		Skyline (D-I)	
		Tahoma (D-I)	
		Three Rivers (D-II)	
		Wenatchee (D-II)	

1.0.0 NAME OF ORGANIZATION

1.1.0 The name of this organization shall be the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association, hereinafter referred to as WHSBLA, and this shall be its official Handbook.

2.0.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WHSBLA

2.1.0 The responsibilities of the WHSBLA shall be to organize, develop, and promote boys high school lacrosse in Washington. It shall further be the responsibility of WHSBLA to supervise and administer boy's high school lacrosse in Washington.

3.0.0 TEAM QUALIFICATIONS

3.1.0 **OVERSIGHT** – Each program will operate under direction from a host school; i.e. AD and/or ASB oversight of the program – OR – If no support from a host school, then under a Board of Directors who oversees eligibility and coaches/player conduct.

3.1.1 Teams newly admitted to the WHSBLA and not working under direction of a host school must establish a Board of Directors by the October meeting following their first season of varsity play as a provisional member.

3.1.2 At minimum, the Board of Directors will include a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The board may also include other officers or representatives.

3.1.3 The varsity head coach may not hold one of the above named positions and may NOT be a voting member of this board.

3.2.0 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT and CERTIFICATION (COACH'S PACKET) -**

Ultimately it is the responsibility of each program's HEAD COACH and the person overseeing the program as outlined in Rule 3.1 above, to ensure that their program is abiding by all league policies.

3.2.1 Each year it is the duty of the Head Coach to attend the mandatory coaches meeting in February and submit a properly completed Coach's Packet.

3.2.2 In the Coach's Packet, each program and their Head Coach must Acknowledge that they have reviewed and will abide by all league by-laws and policies adopted in the league handbook and addendum.

3.2.3 Each program will certify that it meets all Team Qualifications as outlined in Rule 3 of this handbook and that their coaches meet all qualifications as outlined in Rule 7 of this handbook.

3.2.4 As outlined in the Coach's Packet, each program will gather and keep a binder/notebook from the first day of practice through championship weekend. This notebook will contain proper documented proof (hard copies) of Team and Coaches Qualifications.

3.3.0 **INSURANCE** – Each program must certify and have available for inspection, proof that each player has medical insurance and the program has liability insurance from the First Day of Season through championship weekend. (see Addendum). For example: US Lacrosse or K&K insurance.

3.4.0 LYSTEDT LAW - Every program and coach must comply with RCW 4.24.660 (the Zachery Lystedt Law).

3.4.1 Each program must certify and have available for inspection, proof (hard copies) showing all players and parents in the program have reviewed, signed and returned a concussion and head injury information sheet.

3.4.2 Each program certify that every person who is or will be coaching any of the high school teams for the program (varsity, JV, frosh/soph) have complied with the training requirements of the Lystedt law (review video, read fact sheet for coaches, and take/pass quiz).

3.5.0 BACKGROUND CLEARANCE - Each program must certify and have available for inspection, proof that all members of the coaching staff have undergone a Washington State Patrol background check prior to any contact with participants.

3.5.1 The certification must be signed by whomever is accountable for the program. In most cases this will be the school athletic director or program board president. If there is no one accountable for the program other than the head coach (in the case of a first year program), the Board must review the background check.

3.6.0 CODE of CONDUCT - Every program will certify and have available for inspection, proof that it has a written player's Code of Conduct in place.

3.7.0 LEAGUE DUES, REFEREE FEES and REGISTRATION FEES

3.7.1 Every Provisional and Regular Membership team will pay league dues and a registration fee to be determined by the Board. Provisional Membership teams who are new to the League play will pay one-half dues the first year they are recognized by the League. The registration fee will be paid by the February membership meeting. League Dues will be paid by the 2nd Monday of the season.

3.7.2 Every team in the League shall pay fees to the League Secretary to cover referee expenses for all scheduled home games. These fees are determined under contract between the League Board and the referee association (WALOA). These fees must be paid in full by the 2nd Monday of the season or, by prior arrangement with the League Secretary, may be paid one-half (1/2) by the 2nd Monday of the Season and one-half (1/2) on April 15.

3.7.3 In the unfortunate event that a team must fold during the season, the league dues and registration fee will be kept by the league but unearned referee fees will be returned to that program.

3.8.0 VARSITY – Each program may have only one Varsity team to compete in either Division I or Division II.

3.8.1 All subsequent teams established from the same program will be established as Junior Varsity or Freshman/Sophomore teams.

3.8.2 Junior Varsity will be comprised of players from any grade.

3.8.3 Freshman/Sophomore teams will be comprised of 9th and 10th grade players.

4.0.0 ADMISSION OF NEW TEAMS

4.1.0 New teams will enter the League as a Division II member providing they meet all the criteria set forth in Article III.C.2.a-e of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association Bylaws.

4.2.0 A team not meeting the criteria set forth in Article III.C.2.a-e may play a JV schedule or schedule exhibition games on their own. No team may compete with any member team if not in compliance with RCW 4.24.660 (the Zachery Lystedt Law).

4.3.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

4.3.1 When a new team forms, all players attending schools deemed within that new team's designated boundaries must play for the new team with the exception of seniors who may play their final season for their original team.

4.3.2 When a team divides and a new varsity team is formed, only seniors will be grandfathered to the old team. Juniors, sophomores, freshmen and new players to the League, must play with the new team.

5.0.0 LEAGUE ALIGNMENT

5.1.1 The current structure of the league is two division levels, Division I and Division II. This structure shall remain in place unless changed by the general membership per Article IV of the Bylaws.

5.1.2 The Board is given the duty per the Bylaws to reassign programs to Divisions as is deemed best for the league by the Board. Due to the dynamic nature of growth in the league, the Board will re-evaluate each year the placement of teams within each Division.

5.1.3 Furthermore, it is the duty of the Board to create and structure Conferences within each Division as is deemed best for the league by the Board in terms of managing regular season and post-season play.

6.0.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

6.1.0 AGE LIMITS – A player must be of appropriate age requirements.

6.1.1 A player must be under 20 years of age by March 1st of the lacrosse season.

6.1.2 Player must be in at least 9th grade to participate in high school lacrosse.

6.2.0 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ELIGIBILITY

6.2.1 Players must be enrolled in school half time or more; this includes approved "running start" programs

6.2.2 A player is eligible for four (4) consecutive years after entering or being eligible to enter the 9th grade.

6.2.3 Students who do not attend school or who fail to, or are deemed ineligible to participate shall forfeit their eligibility during that period and shall not be provided any additional period of eligibility except as may be provided through the appeal

process. If additional eligibility is granted as under no circumstances will eligibility be extended longer than one (1) additional year beyond the fourth consecutive year of high school (grades 9-12.)

6.3.0 PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY: The program (team) for which a student-athlete is eligible is determined foremost by the school in which the student-athlete attends.

- 6.3.1 A player must play for the team affiliated with the school that he attends. Refer to Team Boundary Document in Addendum.
- 6.3.2 A player attending a public school without a lacrosse program is eligible to play for the team determined to be the closest public school-affiliated program within established school district boundaries. Refer to Team Boundary Document in Addendum. All players attending any given public school shall all be eligible and play for the same program.
- 6.3.3 If two or more lacrosse programs exist within a school district, the board shall determine which public schools feed which lacrosse programs based on school boundary lines.
- 6.3.4 A full-time student in a private school not offering lacrosse shall participate at the resident public school that the student would normally attend, except in the case of a Seattle resident student attending private school in Seattle (Refer to 6.3.5). Furthermore, in an effort to promote the establishment of future lacrosse programs, the Board may rule to place student-athletes attending private schools outside of Seattle in the same program.
- 6.3.5 Those Seattle resident students attending private school in Seattle shall play for the program located nearest their school as determined by the Board. Refer to the Team Boundary Document in Addendum.
- 6.3.6 Home based instruction students are categorized as private education students (Refer to 6.3.4.).
- 6.3.7 A student-athlete determined to be ineligible for a given program, is not eligible to compete for that program at any level.
- 6.3.8 A student-athlete may be determined eligible for a given program, but not immediately eligible to compete at the Varsity level unless meeting the requirements of the Residence Rule and/or Transfer Rule.

6.4.0 RESIDENCE RULE: In order to be eligible to participate for and/or represent a program at the varsity level, the student-athlete of that program must be residing within the boundaries of a school that represents that program (per Team Boundary Document in Addendum) and shall attend that school while having a residence with the family unit. This rule is intended to create an equitable environment in which teams can compete. This rule is also intended to prevent athletic recruiting, prevent students from choosing schools for reasons of lacrosse, and to promote the various family units as the best environment for students to live in while attending school.

- 6.4.1 **RESIDENCE** – The place where the family unit has established its home and/or place where the student is habitually present and to which, when departing, the student intends to return.
- 6.4.2 **FAMILY UNIT** – The adult(s) who has/have custody of the player for a period of at least one (1) year and with whom the student resides.

6.4.3 A student who cannot meet the Residence Rule requirements is eligible to compete at a sub-varsity level.

6.5.0 TRANSFERRING STUDENTS – The Transfer Rule is preventative in nature and is devised to eliminate the incentive to transfer schools when the motivation is for lacrosse purposes and after a student has initially chosen the school of his choice while he has been living with the family unit. The Transfer Rule protects students who have previously participated in competition at a school from being replaced by students who transfer for lacrosse purposes and further protects students from “team-shopping” by students and recruiting by other teams. Any transfer from one school to another (even within a district) must be reviewed by the league board to determine eligibility.

6.5.1 The following students who are attending a school shall meet the residence rule requirement (6.3.0) and transferring student rule requirements:

- A. A student whose transfer is based on an immediate change of residence to a new school due to an actual physical relocation of and with the family unit to a different residence and preceded by termination of all occupancy of their previous residence.
- B. A student attending public school outside of his residence district for one (1) calendar year or more is eligible thereafter in a school of that district provided the enrollment is continuous.
- C. A student whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) reside at different abodes as the result of a divorce or court approved legal separation is allowed one (1) transfer between parents or guardians after entering the ninth grade without being restricted to sub-varsity competition for one (1) year. Any subsequent transfer shall be governed by the transferring student rules and procedures.
- D. A student who is under commitment to the Department of Social and Health Services, a student who is on juvenile parole status and a student who has been adjudicated as a ward of a juvenile court where residence is the result of assignment by the government entity charged with his care.
- E. A student whose release has been ordered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction on the basis of a special hardship or detrimental condition.
- F. A student who has a residence change following the death or disability of the family unit in order to reside with a relative.
- G. A student upon enrollment to the initial first level of a private school from a public school.

6.5.2 A student attending a school for one (1) calendar year or more is eligible in the same school during subsequent attendance, so long as the enrollment is continuous.

6.5.3 A student coming to this country for a one-year cultural/educational experience is eligible at the varsity level for one (1) year only in the school in which he/she has been placed, provided all other rules of eligibility have been met and the student has not graduated from the high school equivalent in his/her home country. F-1 Visa students remaining for more than one (1) year will be considered transfer students. Graduated students can not compete interscholastically at any level (i.e., varsity or sub-varsity).

6.5.4 A student-athlete who cannot meet the Transfer Rule requirements is eligible to compete at a sub-varsity level.

6.6.0 SUB-VARSITY STATUS – Ineligibility pursuant to section 6.3 shall be effective for one (1) calendar year from the date of enrollment. This ineligible status only prohibits a student from competing at the varsity level.

6.7.0 HARDSHIP – The Board is given the authority to make specific exceptions to those player eligibility regulations contained in Article 6.0.0 of this document and amended as necessary; provided, such exceptions are based upon hardship conditions.

6.7.1 Any waiver of eligibility regulations shall be based upon extenuating circumstances, beyond the student's, or where applicable, the parents' or legal guardian's control, that are deemed to have significantly influenced or contributed to the cause of the student's non-compliance with the eligibility regulation(s) involved. The following criteria shall be used to determine if a hardship exists:

- A. A hardship exists only when some unique circumstances concerning the student's physical or emotional status exist and only when such circumstances are not the result of acts or actions by the student or family unit.
- B. The circumstances must be totally different from those that exist for the majority or even a small minority of students.
- C. There must be no reason to believe that the decision and/or the execution of the decision concerning the student's academic status were for athletic purposes.
- D. The burden of providing evidence that a hardship exists shall be borne by the student.
- E. There shall be a direct, causal relationship between the alleged hardship and the student's inability to meet the specific eligibility rule(s).

6.7.2 Procedure for Petition

- A. A petition to move programs must be in writing and submitted by the **player** (not the coach or parent) in the form of a Petition to the Board. The Petition shall:
 - (1) Be written.
 - (2) Set forth all the circumstances surrounding the appeal.
 - (3) Be submitted to the Board directly.
- B. The Board will review the Petition and
 - (1) Grant the Petition.
 - (2) Deny the Petition.
 - (3) Request more information from the player before making a decision.
- C. The decision of the Board shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the player in a reasonable period of time. Any Board member who is involved with the circumstances surrounding a specific eligibility issue will not participate in any vote of the Board concerning that issue.

- D. If a player is attempting to transfer to a given program to play lacrosse and the petition is denied by the Board, the player shall not be allowed to play for that program at any level.

6.7.3 Procedure for Appeal

- A. Any decision of the Board may be appealed to the General Membership under the provisions of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association Bylaws that provides:

- 1) Article IV.E.3:
“Any policy or decision enacted by the Board may be over-turned by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Membership either at a General Membership Meeting or a Special Membership Meeting.
 - a) Any motion to overturn such a policy or decision must be endorsed by a minimum of one-third (1/3) of the General Membership and be presented in writing to the General Membership at least one month prior to any regularly scheduled General Membership Meeting.”
- 2) Article III.B.2:
“Special Meetings may be called for by a majority of the Board or when demanded by a majority of the General Membership.”

- B. In the event the player wishes to contest the decision by the Board, the Coach shall write a letter to the General Membership and forward it to the Executive Secretary for distribution by email. The General Membership shall send their vote by email to the Executive Secretary. If at least 1/3 of the General Membership eligible to vote does not consent to hear the contested petition, the matter shall be closed. If at least 1/3 of the General Membership consents to hear the contested decision, the Executive Secretary shall schedule a special meeting to hear the appeal. At this meeting, if at least 2/3 of the General Membership agrees to overturn the Board's decision, the petition shall be granted.

7.0.0 COACHES

- 7.1.0** The Head Coach of each program in the League will be held responsible for knowing the rules and insuring that all those coaching and acting under the Head Coach comply with the rules of the League.

7.2.0 QUALIFICATIONS

- 7.2.1 The Head Coach of a program shall be at least 21 years old and a high school graduate unless the Board, prior to the First Day of the Season, has granted a waiver.
- 7.2.2 All Head Coaches shall be members of US Lacrosse. It is recommended that coaches attend the yearly clinics provided by US Lacrosse Washington Chapter.
- 7.2.3 All members of the coaching staff must be First Aid certified and CPR qualified.
- 7.2.4 All members of the coaching staff must undergo a Washington State Patrol background check prior to any contact with participants.

- 7.2.5 All Coaches shall read and agree to abide by the WHSBLA Code of Conduct Please refer to Handbook Addendum on website
- 7.2.6 All coaches must be in compliance with RCW 4.24.660 (Zachery Lystedt Law).
- 7.2.7 Coaches must be in compliance with Coaching Certification standards by March 1, 2010. Please refer to Handbook Addendum on website.

8.0.0 SEASON

- 8.1.0 **IN SEASON – DEFINITION** – The NFHS Standardized Calendar (also adopted by the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association or **WIAA**) shall be followed for the beginning and ending dates of the lacrosse season. **START** indicates the first day of practice for lacrosse; **END** indicates the final day culminating in the State Finals for lacrosse. See Handbook Addendum for dates.
- 8.2.0 **OUT OF SEASON – DEFINITION** – Out of season is that time during which coaches cannot coach (have formal and organized contact) with high school squad members. Out of season for lacrosse shall be from August 1 until the first day of spring sports (as determined by WIAA). See Handbook Addendum for dates.
- 8.3.0 If authorized by the board, new teams in the League may begin practice on January 1 for the first year only. They must then conform to rule 9.0.0 regarding practice regulations before competing in any contests, scrimmages, jamborees, tournaments, etc.
- 8.4.0 No high school coach of a lacrosse team can conduct practices Out of Season. A practice is defined as any attempt by any coach of a team to teach any phase of lacrosse to their team, or have their team or part of their team engage in any lacrosse specific drills under direction of the coach. This include clinics for future squad members. Coaches cannot have pre-season practices/clinics with their players, including incoming freshmen. Coaches may conduct pre-season clinics for youth and middle school players (grades K-8).
- 8.5.0 A coach may meet with the team prior to the opening day of practice to discuss equipment, insurance, season’s plans, training regulations and any other pertinent information deemed necessary by the coach. This does not restrict fund-raising activities or player information meetings.
- 8.6.0 A coach may sponsor, coach or direct activities with any team members from the day after the final state tournament is complete until August 1st. Therefore, the summer (up until August 1st) is an open contact period up to the beginning of Out of Season.
- 8.7.0 A coach may organize and supervise a year-around conditioning program and/or open field/gym programs.
 - 8.7.1 A conditioning program may include weight training, running and exercising provided it is open to all students and does not include instruction in lacrosse skills.
 - 8.7.2 An open gym and/or field program must be open to all students and it is up to these students to determine the activities that will take place. A coach may be present to supervise/monitor for emergency purposes and may participate in student led open “pick up” play, but may in no way organize, referee or dictate these activities.
- 8.8.0 A high school coach may not officiate any games or scrimmages in which his own players are participating Out of Season.

8.9.0 WHEN OUT OF SEASON – A coach cannot play with or against players from his high school team in any indoor or outdoor game, practice or scrimmage with the exception of Rules 8.7.2 and 8.9.1 below.

8.9.1 Coaches who are alumni of a WHSBLA program may participate in one alumni game per calendar year for that program provided that the game takes place between Thanksgiving and the end of the year and that they, in good faith, participate as a player and not use the opportunity to coach or drill the players.

9.0.0 PRACTICE REGULATIONS

9.1.0 PRE-CONTEST PRACTICE REQUIREMENT - Players must complete 10 practices before participating in any organized competition, including exhibition games, scrimmages or jamborees against an opponent outside of one's own program. For the purposes of this rule, there can be only one practice per day.

9.1.1 No player may participate in any practice unless the player, his parent(s), and all involved coaches are in compliance with RCW 4.24.660 (the Zachery Lystedt Law).

9.2.0 PRACTICE DEFINITION - For the purpose of meeting the pre-contest practice requirements, practice is defined as a regularly scheduled team physical activity designed for the preparation of athletes for the ensuing lacrosse season and must be conducted under the supervision of the head coach or any assistant coach. A practice is also defined as any attempt by any coach of a team to teach any phase of lacrosse to their team, or have their team or part of their team engage in any lacrosse specific drills under direction of the coach.

9.3.0 ALLOWABLE PRACTICE DAYS - Practice days are considered to be Monday through Saturday. Neither Sunday practices nor practices on game days may count towards meeting minimum practice requirements.

9.4.0 WAIVER OF INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS – An individual who participates in any level of WIAA sanctioned post season play-offs and thus cannot meet the minimum practice requirements for the succeeding lacrosse season will be allowed to waive up to a maximum of one-half (5) of the required ten (10) practices only if the available team practice days for the individual involved in the preceding play-offs are insufficient to meet the minimum requirement before a scheduled contest.

9.5.0 COUNTING PRACTICE – For purposes of meeting the pre-contest practice requirement, a player may not begin counting practices until they are cleared and listed as an official roster member of the program for which they intend to compete.

10.0.0 RULES AND REGULATIONS

10.1.0 SPECIFIC CONTEST RULES

10.1.1 Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association will abide by the NFHS (National Federation of State High School Association) rules with the following exceptions:

- A. Goal Specifications: In-ground or flat-bar goals are recommended but not required.
- B. Uniforms: Helmets and gloves must be uniform for Division I. This means that the color scheme must match. Helmets and gloves need not be the same model

or brand. For Division II, although it is strongly encouraged, helmets and gloves need not be uniform. NFHS uniform rule changes are adopted for the 2010 season and all varsity teams must comply (JV and F/S teams are exempt from these new uniform standards). The new rules are as follows:

“All jerseys shall meet the following specifications: Jersey shall be of a single, solid color with the following trim specifications permitted:

- a. Collar, cuffs and waistband may be of contrasting colors, but not more than 2 inches wide.
- b. Side inserts (armpit to waistband) may be of contrasting color(s), but no more than 3 inches wide.
- c. Numbers shall be centered vertically and horizontally and at least 8 inches on the front and at least 12 inches on the back.
- d. Numbers may contain contrasting color trim(s) not to exceed 2 inches (the number shall contrast with the body of the jersey).”

C. Field Specifications: Flexibility on field size; however, all field lines and markers (cones) must be present; furthermore, goals must be properly positioned 15 yards from each end line and dimensions of the restraining boxes must be legal (35 yds X 40 yds)

10.1.2 Non-varsity games will consist of four 10 minute stop time quarters, 2 minute quarter breaks, 10 minute halftime, and no more than two 4 minute overtime period.

10.2.0 PLAYER LIMITATION - A player shall play no more than four (4) regulation quarters per day except in the case of a jamboree or jamboree-style tournament as defined in rule 10.5

10.3.0 AMATEUR STATUS - Based on amateur status rules, high school players will face sanctions up to and including forfeiting their season eligibility if they play with any men’s club team during the WHSBLA League season.

10.4.0 REGULAR SEASON CONTEST LIMIT – 20 games plus jamboree

10.5.0 JAMBOREES – A lacrosse jamboree is a series of abbreviated contests during which a squad may play in no more then three (3) abbreviated contests in one day. Each abbreviated contest may consist of no more then four, 10-minute RUNNING CLOCK quarters –OR– two, 20-minute RUNNING CLOCK halves.

10.5.1 In excess of the one allowable jamboree under rule 10.4, each subsequent day of a participation in a jamboree counts as 1 game towards the 20 game contest limit.

10.5.2 Participation in any jamboree must be reported to the league scheduler so the league can ensure that each program is within the limits of rule 10.4.

10.5.3 Jamborees will NOT be posted as part of the master league schedule and those hosting such jamborees must contact and negotiate with WALOA individually to obtain officials for these events.

10.6.0 SCHEDULING

- 10.6.1 League/Division games counting toward playoff standings are scheduled by an assigned scheduler.
- 10.6.2 Games scheduled individually by coaches outside of scheduled league play are considered Non-League games. Such games do not count toward league standings, but will be conducted and played under league rules (and rules of respective leagues when played outside the WHSBLA's jurisdiction). These games are scheduled at the discretion of the coaches involved. However, they must be reported to the League Scheduler so they can be added to the master league schedule for purposes of assigning referees and/or complying with the number of contests limit as defined in rule 10.4.
- 10.6.3 Changes to a scheduled game should be agreed upon between coaches of both teams.
- 10.6.4 Changes to a scheduled game must be reported to the League scheduler at least 48 hours prior to the originally scheduled date and time. Notice of less than forty-eight (48) hours change of time or location played will result in one of the following two scenarios:
 - i. Games played within the same forty-eight (48) hours time frame will result in a charge to the hosting team of \$100.00 payable to WHSBLA. The payment will be split between WALOA and WHSBLA.
 - ii. Games played outside of the same forty-eight (48) hours time frame will require full payment to the assigned officials unless officials can be re-assigned. WALOA will make a good faith effort to re-assign officials and will take into account extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the teams involved.
- 10.6.5 Changes made to the official master schedule after the first two weeks of the regular season will only pertain to games that have already been scheduled and billed. Games added to the master schedule after the first two weeks of the regular season will be billed an additional \$50 administrative fee. This fee is the responsibility of the home team.
- 10.6.6 No games will be scheduled past an 8:00pm start time Monday through Thursday.
- 10.6.7 Doubleheaders scheduled at the same location will be scheduled to start 2 hours apart. However, should the first game run long, teams will be given no less than 20 minutes to warm up, otherwise game will start at scheduled time.
- 10.6.8 Games scheduled Monday through Thursday have a drop dead start time of 8:30pm. In other words, no game should start beyond 8:30pm if being played on a Monday through Friday. Any JV game must be adjusted per rule 12.6.2 to allow play of the varsity game per schedule.

10.7.0 STATISTICS

- 10.7.1 It is the responsibility of the home team to keep the official scorebook.
- 10.7.2 The following statistics will be kept by each team for each League game and reported to the League via Sportability.com by 24 hours after the end of each contest:
 - A. Goals
 - B. Assists
 - C. Groundballs
 - D. Shots on Goal
 - E. Goalie Saves
- 10.7.3 The following definitions (per NCAA) will be used in recording league statistics:
 - A. Goalkeeper saves - A save is recorded any time a ball is stopped or deflected by the goalkeeper's body or crosse in such a manner that had the ball not been stopped or deflected, it would have entered the goal.
 - B. Assists - Any one direct pass by a player to a teammate who then scores a goal without having to dodge or evade an opponent, other than the goalkeeper who is in the crease, is recorded as an assist. There can be only one assist on any goal scored.
 - C. Ground ball - Any ball not in the possession of one team that comes into the possession of the other team in live-ball play can be a ground ball. This may occur on an intercepted pass (the ball does not have to hit the ground) or from a ball checked loose onto the ground. Further, the ball must be obtained under pressure (another opposing player must be within 5 yards of the loose ball). When such a ground ball is obtained, the player gaining the ground ball must be able to perform immediately the normal functions of possession (shoot, pass, cradle). Should any of these conditions not be met, a ground ball may not be awarded. A player cannot drop the ball of his own volition, pick it up again, and be credited with a ground ball. Ground balls should be awarded as part of the face-off play; however, a ground ball is not always awarded when an official signals possession on a face-off play, since his definition of possession does not rise to the standard of that of a ground ball.

11.0.0 AWARDS

- 11.1.0 ALL-STATE DIVISION I** – All-state teams will be selected by the Division I coaches.
 - 11.1.1 First, Second and Third teams will be selected for Division I and will each be comprised of the following: Three (3) attack, four (4) midfield, four (4) defense and/or LSM and one (1) goalie – total 12.
 - 11.1.2 Honorable Mention selections will be left to the discretion of the coaches in a given year.
- 11.2.0 ALL-CONFERENCE DIVISION II** – One All-Conference team will be selected for each of the six conferences in Division II by the respective coaches in each conference.
 - 11.2.1 One team will be selected for each conference and will each be comprised of the following: Three (3) attack, four (4) midfield, four (4) defense and/or LSM and one (1) goalie – total 12.

- 11.3.0 TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS** - The Everett Smith Team Sportsmanship Awards will be voted on by the coaches in the respective Divisions.
- 11.4.0 US LACROSSE/WASHINGTON CHAPTER** – In accordance with the US Lacrosse guidelines the Secondary Schools Area Representative is responsible for coordinating the selection (with input from the coaches) and presentation of the following awards:
- All Americans**
 - Academic All American**
 - Coach of the Year**
 - Assistant Coach of the Year**
 - Person of the Year**

12.0.0 RULE VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

The strength of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association lies in the willingness and ability of the membership to support the rules and regulations adopted and, if necessary, to support the penalties placed upon members, if it is determined that those same rules and regulations have been violated.

Violation of WHSBLA By-Laws, policies, rules and regulations can result in, but is not limited to, sanctions placed upon individual players, coaches and/or programs as a whole. Sanctions can include but are not limited to game suspension, season suspension, forfeiture of games, forfeiture of post-season play (playoffs), probation and expulsion from the Association. Each situation is unique and will be handled at the discretion of the Board. Multiple, repeated infractions and/or those deemed to intentionally defy league policy will result in stiffer sanctions.

- 12.1.0 FAILURE TO SUBMIT COACH'S PACKET** – Failure of the Head Coach to attend the mandatory coaches meeting each February and properly submit all documents acknowledging that their program is in compliance for the pending season may result in sanctions being placed upon the coach and/or the program in question.
- 12.2.0 FAILURE TO PROVIDE PROPER PROOF OF QUALIFICATIONS** - By completing The Coach's Packet, each program acknowledges that they will have a binder/notebook immediately available upon request from the WHSBLA league board from the first day of practice through championship weekend. Failure to provide this notebook upon request or failure to demonstrate proper proof of qualifications may result in immediate suspension of play for the program in question, sanctions placed on the program, sanctions placed on the coach and/or other appropriate action.
- 12.3.0 FAILURE TO PAY SCHEDULING FEES, LEAGUE DUES OR REF FEES**- Failure to pay or to institute a payment plan approved by the Board by the given deadlines may cause the team's games to be forfeited until all fees and dues are paid.
- 12.4.0 FAILURE TO POST ROSTERS** – The failure of a team to post accurate varsity rosters (including player name, number and year) on Sportability.com prior to competing in their first game may cause that team to forfeit each game until the information is posted. Any player competing in a varsity game must be listed before competing.
- 12.5.0 FAILURE TO REPORT TOTAL ROSTER INFORMATION** – The failure of a team to report to the Executive Secretary by the second Monday of the season the entire roster information required (player name, year, home address and school attended) may cause that team to forfeit each game until the information is reported.
- 12.6.0 FAILURE TO REPORT TOTAL CONTESTS** – All games (including jamborees, scrimmages,

non-league and out-of-state) played must be reported to the League Scheduler for inclusion on the master league schedule prior to games being played. Games added after the beginning of the season must be reported for inclusion on the master schedule before the game is played. Failure to report total contests may place the program on probation and/or result in sanctions placed against the program and/or coach.

12.7.0 USE OF INELIGIBLE PLAYER – The use of an ineligible player shall result in forfeiture of all games in which that player took part, except as noted in 12.7.2

12.7.1 An ineligible player “takes part” in a game when he steps onto the playing field during competition of a contest in which he is ineligible. Coaches are strongly encouraged to keep ineligible players distinctly away from the sideline area of a contest for which they are ineligible.

12.7.2 The Board may determine that the ineligible player’s participation did not affect the result of the contest in question. In such a case, the Board may rule to let the result of the game stand and impose sanctions on the coach and ineligible player.

12.8.0 MISCONDUCT BY PLAYERS AND FANS

12.8.1 Fighting is defined as a player, substitute, non-playing member of a squad, coach or anyone officially connected with a team deliberately striking or attempting to strike anyone in a malicious manner or leaving the bench or coaches area in order to participate in such an altercation.

A. An individual participating in a fight or any other action deemed flagrant misconduct as determined by the game officials, shall be charged with a three-minute non-releasable penalty, ejected from the game in which the violation occurred and suspended from the team’s **next** game.

1. Per NFHS rules, the ejected coach must be removed from the premises (bench and field area). An ejected player, substitute or non-playing member must be removed from the premises IF there is an authorized school personnel present to supervise the ejected student-athlete. Otherwise, the ejected player must be confined to the bench area under supervision of the coach.

B. If the same individual is involved in a second fight or flagrant misconduct, the penalty is a three-minute non-releasable penalty, ejections from the game in which the fight occurred and suspension extended to the **entire season** or for a minimum of four (4) games which can carry over to the following season if there are less than four games remaining in the season.

Any player suspended for the season has the right to an appeal to the WHSBLA League Board.

C. Upon the result of any ejection, the coach of the penalized team shall notify the president of the Board by email within 12 hours of the ejection.
President: Vern Smith – vasmith@duismith.com

1. Failure of the coach to notify the Board president as required above may result in additional sanctions being imposed as determined by the Board.

2. Any games played or coached after such an ejection and before suspensions have been served will result in the forfeiture of such games.

3. An ejection is not to be confused with a disqualification for collecting 5 personal fouls in one game.

12.8.2 Coaches are responsible for controlling their parents, players, and fans. Coaches will work with game officials to control the players and crowd as necessary to ensure a safe event and to honor the game.

A. Spectators are not allowed immediately behind the bench areas or within or immediately behind the penalty box and table area. If permanent bleachers are present, all spectators and parents are to be located in those bleachers, if possible.

B. Where permanent bleachers are not present, it is strongly recommended that teams be located on the opposing sidelines from the spectators and parents.

12.9.0 REFUSING TO PLAY – Teams are obligated to participate in a contest to its normal conclusion unless the contest is terminated by mutual consent of the coaches and officials involved due to unusual weather or game conditions, or situations which could be hazardous to participants or spectators. Any coach is prohibited from unilaterally refusing to play.

12.9.1 Any coach unilaterally refusing to play will be suspended. The length of Suspension will be determined by the WHSBLA Board. The game in question will be ruled a forfeit.

12.9.2 In the case of a Varsity/JV doubleheader, the play of the JV game shall be adjusted (shorten duration, cancel or reschedule) so that the varsity game is played per rule. When possible adjustments should be agreed upon prior to the start of the first game of the doubleheader.

12.10.0 CONTESTING SANCTIONS

12.10.1 Any decision of the Board may be appealed to the General Membership under the provisions of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association Bylaws that provides:

A. 1) Article IV.E.3:
“Any policy or decision enacted by the Board may be over-turned by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Membership either at a General Membership Meeting or a Special Membership Meeting.

a) Any motion to overturn such a policy or decision must be endorsed by a minimum of one-third (1/3) of the General Membership and be presented in writing to the General Membership at least one month prior to any regularly scheduled General Membership Meeting.”

2) Article III.B.2:
“Special Meetings may be called for by a majority of the Board or when demanded by a majority of the General Membership.”

D. B) In the event the program wishes to contest the decision by the Board, the Coach shall write a letter to the General Membership and forward it to the Executive Secretary for distribution by email. The General Membership shall send their vote by email to the Executive Secretary. If at least 1/3 of the General Membership eligible to vote does not consent to hear the contested petition, the

matter shall be closed. If at least 1/3 of the General Membership consents to hear the contested decision, the Executive Secretary shall schedule a special meeting to hear the appeal. At this meeting, if at least 2/3 of the General Membership agrees to overturn the Board's decision, the petition shall be granted.