

# New Hampshire Youth Lacrosse Association Rules

Approved December 2011

## 1. Program Eligibility

- 1.1. Town recreation, school or private "Program" must adhere to the New Hampshire Youth Lacrosse Association age restrictions(except as defined below).
  - 1.1.1 Each Program must have a particular Geo Descriptor that locates the base of their program (i.e. Exeter, Hampstead, Laconia, etc . Town programs may also add an additional name ( i.e. Lakes Region , John Stark, etc. ) but they must have a town that describes their location .
- 1.2. Each Program is considered a league member in good standing having paid the Association fees as determined by the NHYLA. League fees of \$45/team are to be paid to the Treasurer by March 1 along with submission of the Team Compliance and Registration Form. The Team Compliance and Registration Form lists the teams registering for NHYLA league play and states that the teams are formed in accordance with NHYLA player eligibility rules and regulations. Certificate of insurance must be on record with the NHYLA by April 1.
  - 1.2.1 All head and assistant coaches must be US Lacrosse level 1 certified, (including on-line course, on field clinic, Positive coaching Alliance on-line course, and the required back ground check) by April 1<sup>st</sup> .This rule is to be enforced by the appropriate V.P.
- 1.3. A roster of all eligible players must be submitted to the NHYLA (boys or girls VP) by April 1.
- 1.4. Roster-Rosters that include the names, jersey numbers, birthdays and addresses of each player and a Code of Conduct section signed by parent, player and coach must be submitted to the NHYLA. Girls Team Rosters must be submitted to the Girl's VP and Boys Team Rosters must be submitted to the Boy's VP. Rosters must be received by April 1.
- 1.5. The Rosters are to be considered fixed once submitted to the NHYLA. Any changes must be approved must be approved by the Girl's VP for the Girl's Teams and the Boy's VP for the Boy's Teams.
- 1.6 The league does not encourage select teams. A player will play for the organization associated with his town as follows : A. If the players town has a program . He will play for that program : B. If there is no program in the players town , he will play for the program which is associated with the towns high school jurisdiction ; C. If there is no program falling under the high schools jurisdiction , the player will play any program he/she chooses .Players who currently play for a Program shall play for their town, if the town in which they reside launches a new Program.
- 1.7. No Program will be allowed to be a member of the NHYLA who refuses to play a league-scheduled game with another Program in their division. Any Program refusing to play another Program in the NHYLA shall lose the privilege of playing any/all teams in the NHYLA to include participation in the year-end tournament.
- 1.8. Should a challenge arise that questions a programs and/or players eligibility to participate in NHYLA, then NHYLA Officers, or a committee formed by the Officers, will investigate. If it is determined that an organization has purposefully broken rules and regulations of program and/or player eligibility, the organization will be subject to sanctions as determined and subsequently voted on by the Board. The voting of sanctions shall adhere to NHYLA Bylaws Article 3, Paragraph 3.
- 1.9. The NHYLA shall conduct coaches' clinics, one for boys and one for girls. These clinics can be hosted together or separately at the Presidents discretion. These clinics shall be chaired by the Vice Presidents.
- 1.10 The respective VP will award forfeits. No team or organization will be allowed to forfeit games.

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## 2. Player Eligibility

- 2.1. Each player and at least one parent must sign and submit a code of conduct pledge and contract at registration. The town is responsible for keeping the Code of Conduct on file for the current season
- 2.2. Girls will have the option of playing either with the boys using boy's lacrosse rules or playing girl's lacrosse.
- 2.3. Boys will not have the option of playing in the girl's league.
- 2.4. Divisions will be set up by State officials using the following table :( u15 and u13 only)

Teams in age bracket per program Division

1. B
2. A,C
3. A,B,C
4. A,A,B,C
5. A,A,B,B,C
6. A,A,A,B,B,C
7. A,A,A,B,B,B,C

Teams can chose to move up and a written letter requesting this must be received by the February meeting. First year teams may appeal this rule to respective VP of Boys or Girls.

- 2.5 The U11 bracket shall be divided into either "competitive or non-competitive " divisions . Town programs may choose to enter U-11 teams into either division regardless of the number of teams they are entering .If a town program enters 2 or more teams in the "non-competitive " bracket, those teams must be balanced . Towns may enter as many teams as they wish in the "competitive bracket " . Town programs that enter teams into the non-competitive bracket that demonstrates , by team record, a blatant misrepresentation of team skill and experience level will be subject to NHYLA board review and will subject that town program to corrective action .
- 2.6 All players participating in NHYLA must be NH residents.

## 3. League Play, All field play will follow US Lacrosse rules!

### 3.1 General (Boys and Girls)

3.1.1. Home team responsibilities-The home team is responsible for :

- a. Securing Dedicated Scorekeeper and Timekeeper for the game. Preferably this is two separate people , however one person may do both timing and scorekeeping .However under no circumstances can this be a coach or assistant coach of the teams playing the game .
- b. Game clock
- c. Horn-where allowed by local requirements .
- d. Scoreboard visible to both teams benches.
- e. Paying referees
- f. Extra line judges, ball chasers etc, as needed.
- g. Reschedule cancelled games. In the event that the 2 coaches are unable to come to an agreement then either

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coach can approach the perspective VP to set a date. The date chosen by the VP will be final.

3.1.2. Players shall be limited to one team roster to be filed with the VP of their respective division. Players will be allowed to play up from a B- to an A-team within their age bracket for no more than two (2) out of seven (7) league games. Players playing more than two of the A-team's games will be considered a member of the A-team. These players will then be eligible only for the A-team tournament at the end of the season and no longer eligible for the B-team tournament.

3.1.3. A coach or town representative must submit a report of an incident if requested by a respective VP within 72 hours.

3.1.4 Tie breaker for playoffs are as follows:

- h. Wins
- i. Head to Head
- j. Record vs. Common Opponents
- k. Road Wins
- l. Strength of Schedule

3.1.5. Any coach or player ejection from a game must be reported to the appropriate VP within 72 hours after the event .

3.1.6. Any player who leaves the bench area during the game where an altercation is taking place in the playing area shall receive a two game disqualification for the next two scheduled league games or NHYLA event. All altercations must be reported to the respective VP within 24 hours.

## 3.2 Boys Only

3.2.1. No long sticks (42' or longer) will be allowed at the U11 and U9 levels. It is recommended that long sticks not be taller than the top of the players helmet .

3.2.2 Bantam Division: U9 this is a non-competitive league. Multiple teams within the same program should be balanced. The field shall measure 40 yards wide by 50-60 yards long. The middle area of a standard field (restraining line to restraining line) should be used. The wing line shall serve as the goal lines.

## 3.3 Girls Only

3.3.1 Pass Rule;(except U15a) One attempted pass is required after the ball and the ball carrier completely cross the restraining line before a shot can be taken at the goal. An additional pass is not required until the ball leaves the offensive side of the field beyond the restraining line. If a shot is taken before the pass is attempted, it is considered a goal circle violation and the ball is awarded to the goal keeper.

3.3.2 Teams shall play under rule levels as defined by US Lacrosse rules Book current edition with clarification that U11 teams in NHYLA elect to play regulation size field with all appropriate markings .

## 4. Uniforms

4.1. Each team must state their team uniform color at the beginning of each session on their roster to the NHYLA.

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## 5. Referees

5.1. The home team is responsible for securing and paying for certified referees for their home games.

5.1.1 Boys Games -It is required to have 2 qualified officials at all U15,U13 and U11 games. U9 requires 1 qualified official (2 recommended).

5.1.2 Girls Games- It is recommended that all games be officiated by two umpires. It is required to have the umpires for games as follows:

- U15A/B Two qualified umpires for all games
- U13A Two qualified umpires for all games
- U13B One qualified umpire for all games
- U11 Two qualified umpire for all games
- U9 One qualified umpire for all games

5.2. To all towns that play in NHYLA game or scrimmage all officials must be certified by either NHLOA, MDOC or US Lacrosse. Their certification must be current for the year and carry insurance. If no official is present then the game must not be played.

5.3. A referee list will be made available by NHYLA.

5.4. If the referee deems that the game is “out of control” he/she is to stop/end the game.

5.5. All towns must allow US Lacrosse patched officials, whether youth or adult to officiate over games in their town if assigned or hired (they must be current and insured).

## 6. Rules

6.1. The Boy’s VP and the Girl’s VP will interpret rules, arbitrate disputes and manage an exception process and will report their recommendations back to the Board at a special meeting or the next scheduled monthly meeting.

6.2. The Boy’s VP and the Girl’s VP will recommend rules to encourage competitive and sportsman-like play.

6.3. The Boy’s VP will be responsible for exceptions to the boy’s eligibility rules. The Girl’s VP will be responsible for exceptions to the girl’s eligibility rules.

6.4. Changes to the rules must be by agreement of 75% of the Board of Directors (the Executive Directors and towns, schools or private Programs represented at the NHYLA meeting).

6.5. All NHYLA board members are required to attend the monthly meetings of Sept., Oct., and Nov., to be eligible to vote on any proposal at the December meeting. The same person must not necessarily be in attendance but a representative of the member organization’s board must be there so that information will be passed on to that organization. NHYLA officers subject to same attendance requirements as towns.

6.6. All monies, except office operating expenses over \$200.00, will be voted on before spending, by the Board of Directors.

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## 7. Schedule

- 7.1. Each year the board shall determine which week the season will start. The objective is to start the season as late in the month of April as possible.
- 7.2. The league schedule will consist of a minimum 7 game schedule. Any team wishing to play more than the 7 game schedule can do so but only games played against other NHYLA teams in their division will be used for the NHYLA Tournament seeding. The results of all games between teams in the same division must be reported by entering in the current scoring system .
  - 7.2.1 Any NHYLA league games that are not played are not to be scored. Towns may not declare a forfeit (only the respective VP may declare a forfeit) and may not enter any score.
- 7.3. The home team coach has the responsibility to get the final score of all games by entering into the current scoring system, to be used for the tournament seeding.
- 7.4. Season End Tournament- A state tournament will be held consisting of tiers of all teams in a division, consisting of 4 teams per tier. The location will be up for bid or coin toss. Rankings will be by the state league games only. The top four team's winners will be state champions.
- 7.5. Schedules for NHYLA Games will be made on Sundays as the preferred days, except in June, when Saturdays will also have league scheduled games.
- 7.6. Every member organization must be a member in good standing to receive the team schedule at the March meeting. All teams that are scheduled must be registered and appropriate fees paid.
- 7.7. Towns must submit required information per the Rules and By-Laws as requested by the NHYLA. Failure to do so may result in NHYLA Executive Board pulling the current schedule.

## 8. NHYLA All-State Program

- 8.1 All-State players and coaches will be determined as proposed by the Boy's All State Director and the Girl's All-State Director and their committees. All proposals shall be presented to and approved by the NHYLA Executive Board.

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