

Policies & Good Practice Guide for Boys' Lacrosse

EL Junior & Schools (North) Committee

JANUARY 2018 (V2)



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INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

This document has been produced to support the junior boys game in the clubs playing in the north of England. These are currently:

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------|
| Boardman & Eccles | Heaton Mersey Guild | Nottingham | Timperley |
| Brooklands Hulmeians | Liverpool | Poynton | Wilmslow |
| Cheadle | Manchester Wacs | Rochdale | |
| Cheadle Hulme | Mellor | Sheffield | |
| Heaton Mersey | Norbury | Stockport | |

It brings together the policies agreed at National Lacrosse Committee, NWLA and Junior and Schools (North) Committee (JSNC) over a number of years. It is intended that it should be updated annually to reflect changes agreed at Committee meetings or the AGM.

The Committee is a sub-committee of North West Lacrosse Association and also receives input from Rules & Referees Committees. The committee can refer any issue back to NWLA and ultimately National Lacrosse Committee for clarification or resolution as necessary. JSNC policies are mandatory on all its clubs. It is expected that all clubs will comply with the rules and practice guidelines. **This guide should be distributed to all Junior Coaches, Team Managers and Officials.**

At present, the JSNC is the only constituted committee of NWLA and English Lacrosse (EL) with a remit for the junior boys game. However it is recognised that there are vibrant and developing junior teams elsewhere in England and local practices have developed. These policies and practice guide are therefore offered in the spirit of developing the game further. It is hoped this document will provide a starting point for discussion on the development of a common set of policies that apply to all junior boys games across England.

VALUES

MANAGERS, COACHES, PARENTS AND PLAYERS, IN PARTNERSHIP, ALL SHARE A RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP DEVELOP CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SPORT OF LACROSSE

WE ALL MUST

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of each young player
- Treat young players equally within the context of the sport
- Place the well being and safety of players and other participant above all other considerations, including the development of performance
- Adhere to the guidelines laid down within the constitution and the rules of the English Lacrosse Association and our own Club

PLAYERS

- GOALS TO SUCCESS -

Player participation

Improvement

Skill development

ENJOYMENT

YOUNG PEOPLE MATTER

ENGLISH LACROSSE BILL OF RIGHTS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS

1. Every young player has the right to participate in the sport of lacrosse
2. Every young player has the right to be treated with respect and dignity by coaches, officials, volunteers and players
3. Every young player has the right to report a designated adult any physical pain or emotional concerns without fear or ridicule
4. Every young player has the right to play in every game regardless of physical ability or the relative importance of the game
5. Every young player has the right to play as a child, and be treated on a level appropriate with the emotional and physical maturity of the player's age
6. Every young player has the right to participate in a safe and healthy environment and have access to proper medical treatment
7. Every young player has the right to be taught the fundamentals of lacrosse by a qualified adult leadership
8. Every young player has the right to have a coach who is more concerned with fun, social interaction and skill development than winning
9. Every young player has the right to have a coach who is supportive and patient, who takes time to work with each player, and allows the player to make mistakes
10. Every young player has the right to have fun

SAFEGUARDING

All participating Clubs, their officers, members, players, volunteers and officials, must adopt English Lacrosse's Safeguarding and Protecting Young People In Lacrosse Policy, Procedures and Guidance to ensure that all those in the lacrosse community have a safe and positive experience. A copy of which has been circulated with this GPG. Further copies are available at: <http://www.englishlacrosse.co.uk/english-lacrosse-rgb/resources-funding/safeguarding/>

Young People – Anyone Under the Age of 18

The Lacrosse Community will ensure safeguarding is in place by:

- Recognising all young people participating in lacrosse (regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have the right to play in an environment free from poor practice, abuse and harm.
- Ensuring all people who work in lacrosse at or for a club (including staff, officials, volunteers team managers and coaches) have a responsibility for safeguarding young people and understand how the safeguarding policy and guidance applies to them.
- Ensuring all individuals working at, or for the club are recruited in accordance with English Lacrosse's recruitment guidance.
- Ensuring all individuals working within lacrosse at, or for, the club are provided with support, through education and training that they are aware of and adhere to English Lacrosse's Code of Ethics and Behaviour.
- Always approach safeguarding with a young person's perspective in mind, ensuring that their wellbeing is the main focus.
- Ensuring that the responsibility of determining whether or not abuse has taken place, lies with the child welfare experts, however it is everyone's responsibility within lacrosse to report concerns.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES - SAFEGUARDING

Each club must ensure the name and contact details of the **Welfare and Safeguarding Officer is available:**

- As the first point of contact for parents, young people and volunteers/staff within the club
- As the main point of contact within the club for the English Lacrosse Child Welfare and Safeguarding Officer
- As a local source of procedural advice for the club, its committee and members

In accordance with English Lacrosse safeguarding guidelines each club must ensure that **all coaches, managers, members, volunteers and officials that work with young people have a valid up to date DBS certificate issued by English Lacrosse. Further information and guidance on recruitment, DBS checks and safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults please go to www.englishlacrosse.co.uk**

- DBS checks can be arranged through English Lacrosse Head Office. Contact info@englishlacrosse.co.uk

PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

- Clubs should be prepared to support junior teams by investing in proper protective equipment.
- Clubs are to ensure parents are aware of the recommendations for the safety of players.

HELMETS, GLOVES AND ARM GUARDS

- Helmet and lacrosse gloves are mandatory for all players. It is strongly recommended that players wear boxes, arm pads and shoulder pads for protection.
- Throat guards, boxes and chest protectors are mandatory for goalkeepers. Goalkeepers may choose to wear padded shorts and other pads including leg protection that is moulded to the body.

MOUTHGUARDS

- Mouthguards are mandatory for all Junior players. **Players without a mouthguard will be prohibited from playing.** Players removing their mouthguard during a game will be subject to a technical penalty. Dispensation may be granted subject to suitable medical evidence.

LACROSSE STICKS

- All sticks must be legal - it is the responsibility of coaches to ensure that all players have legal sticks.
- At U12 sticks do not have to be the same length as those for the senior game but must be a minimum of 36 inches. Note - dispensation may be sought for U14 and U16 where a disability may affect the ability to use a standard stick length.
- From September 2015 defence sticks for U12 players are not permitted. Any stick (including head) over 42" will be deemed to be a defense stick.
- It is **recommended** that defense sticks at U14 and U16 should not exceed the height of the player.

REGISTRATION

- All players Year 7 and above, officials (managers, coaches & referees) and volunteers must be registered with English Lacrosse. English Lacrosse annual membership costs £30 per adult and £15 per junior player for 2017. Players year 6 and below do not need to have English Lacrosse membership but must be registered with their club and with Junior and School (JSN share this information with EL). Membership for all registered players includes annual insurance. Year 6 players and below are insured via their registration with EL via JSN.
- Club officials are responsible for ensuring that all their junior players are registered with English Lacrosse and JSN, however it is the responsibility of each member to ensure that annual EL membership is renewed. Players without EL membership will not be insured and will not be eligible to participate in JSN, NWLA, NEMLA or EL games or events.

English Lacrosse annual membership is available at: <http://register.englishlacrosse.co.uk/registration>

- Managers/club representatives are responsible for ensuring all their players are registered before the beginning of the season and that new players are registered before they play any games.
- Officials of JSNC may request confirmation of a player's details from the EL and/or the player, where there is a dispute, over the age of the player.
- Clubs must provide the Junior and Schools Secretary and Registration Officer with a list of registered players, (a template is available for download on League Republic), at each age group by the 1st October each year. This should be updated and resubmitted as new players are registered. Failure to comply with this will result in exclusion from cup competitions.

TEAMS

- The JSNC organises games for teams in the following age groups:
 - U16s (school years 10 & 11)
 - U14s (school years 8 & 9)
 - U12s (school years 7 and below)
 - U10's (school years 5 and below)
- The Committee supports the development of U8 and U10 teams and will arrange development events, tournaments and triangular matches when possible.
- Age is defined as the age on 31st August each year.
- Clubs that agree to pool players to form one junior team must inform the JSNC . Players remain registered to their own club during a merge.
- Where a club is unable to field a full side for a match, its opponents must agree to play with reduced numbers or loan players to help balance the teams.

DISPENSATIONS

- The age dispensation policy is in place to nurture and support the progress of new players. It is intended to enable players to participate by allowing them to play within a different age group should they
 - be new to the game
 - be small for their age
 - have a disability
 - be any other reason agreed by JSNC Dispensation Committee
- Clubs must apply to the JSNC for dispensations by email using the JSN Dispensation Form (available to download from League Republic) to the Secretary and Chairperson
 - Dispensations will be assessed by the Dispensation Committee. This committee is made up of the Chairperson and two other members, one of which will be an EL employee. All members of this subcommittee will be nominated at the beginning of the season. The dispensation committee will assess the dispensation application within ten days of receipt and advise the Club of its decision within this time.
 - Information on interim dispensations will be sent to Clubs by the JSNC Secretary and reported at the next JSNC.
 - Clubs will be informed of the Committee's decision in writing (to the Club Secretary and to the relevant Junior representative) and be recorded in the minutes.
- Dispensations granted at the start of the season are usually in place until the end of December. There may be occasions where a shorter dispensation is applicable. Clubs wishing to continue a dispensation from January must resubmit the dispensation form during December. The Dispensation Committee will reassess applications.
- Managers/Coaches must inform the opposition of any players with dispensations in the week preceding the game.
- The opposing club has the right to object to a dispensated player. The reasons for this must be sound and fair.
- Coaches should point out dispensated players to the opposing coach and referees on the match day.
- Dispensated players must not be allowed to dominate the game and the opposition does have the right to request that the player is withdrawn during the course of the game if this happens.
- Dispensations are not permissible for cup games and any other competitions.
- Players are allowed to play in age group one year higher than their age would usually allow. No formal dispensation is needed for this. However coaches must be aware of the risks and taking account of the size and skill of the player.
- Junior players may not play senior lacrosse until their 16th birthday.

GIRLS

- Traditionally junior boys' lacrosse in the North of England has been a boy's only sport.
- The JSNC support the development of Girls Lacrosse in the region and Clubs should not encourage girls to join a boy's team at the expense of the girls' game.
- However, in recognition of legislative changes and the importance of securing viability of clubs and in the interest of all junior players,
 - Girls may play in junior boys games in U12 and U14 teams.
 - There is no restriction on the positions girls may play.
 - The girls playing in junior boys teams must wear the same protective equipment as boys and are not allowed additional items.
- The JSNC does not currently sanction girls as players at U16 level on health and safety grounds.

PERSONAL CONDUCT

- Players are expected to display sportsman like conduct and to follow the JSNC Code of Conduct which has been adopted from the English Lacrosse Respect Policy. (Appendix 1).
- Bullying, intimidation, abusive language and uncontrolled play are not acceptable on or off the field by players, coaches, managers, referees, parents or spectators.
- Parents and spectators are expected to:
 - respect the rules of the game respect the referee's decisions
 - provide good role models for players
 - follow the relevant Code of Conduct (Appendix 2). From September 2015 JSN requires all clubs to use a suitable document to ensure that players and parents sign a code of conduct.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- JSNC has a sub- committee of up to 4 members with a Chairperson, JSNC Chairperson, JSNC Secretary and a further volunteer member. A quorum of 3 is necessary for a disciplinary hearing.
- The disciplinary procedures are set out in Appendix 3.

TRANSFERS

- Transfers between Clubs at junior level are discouraged as they could have a negative impact on the development of junior lacrosse as a whole and the viability of the smaller Clubs.
- Managers and coaches MUST NOT approach junior players, or their parents, from other Clubs.
- Players are encouraged to be loyal to his/her Club. We acknowledge that moves are inevitable. Clubs losing a player should be aware of the situation and be given an opportunity to retain the player if possible and desirable.
- If managers and coaches are approached by a junior player and parents, the new Club should immediately discuss the situation with the player's current registered Club.
- Should it be mutually agreed that a transfer is in the best interests of the player, then the procedure will be identical to the transfer of senior players in NEMLA clubs within the NWLA region. The Junior Transfer form should be used. (Available for download from League Republic). Copies of the transfer form should be sent to:
 - the secretary of the JSNC who will report it at the next committee meeting.
 - the Club Secretary.
- After January 14th 2018 Junior transfers will only be permitted within the nominated transfer windows as implemented by NWLA. These currently are:
 - Post Season 15 May to 31 July inclusive
 - Mid-Season 15 December to 14 January inclusive
- Players transferring from another Region are not confined by these transfer dates but the transfer system must be used i.e. submission of signed transfer form. Changes of club are permitted in instances of families relocating or of a player returning to the game following a long absence.
- It is the responsibility of the manager of the new Club to ensure that the player is registered with the EL for his new Club, players should not play for a new club until an acknowledgement of the transfer has been received from JSNC.
- Transferred players must amend their annual EL membership to reflect any change in playing club.

MANAGERS AND COACHES

ROLE OF MANAGERS AND COACHES

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Always promote the appropriate code of conduct and positive aspects of the sport e.g. fair play to players, officials and spectators alike.
- Never condone violations of the laws of the game.
- Take responsibility for the attitude and conduct of players on and off the field. They should support the referee at all times.
- Make clear to players and parents what is expected of them and what they can expect of the Club.
- Set the standard of appropriate behavior. Sign a club code of conduct.
- Must be aware of the Junior Disciplinary Procedure and that inappropriate behavior will be reported to the JSN Disciplinary Committee
- Are subject to the JSNC's disciplinary procedures.
- Are responsible for the conduct of the spectators. They should encourage spectators to support their team in a positive way. No spectator should 'put down' the opposition or the match officials.
- Should ensure that spectators and parents are not infringing the bench and penalty areas. All spectators/parents should be encouraged to view from the opposite side of the pitch where practical.

RESPONSIBILITIES TO PLAYERS

- Develop an appropriate supportive relationship with each player based on mutual respect and trust.
- Ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the players.
- Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Check players' equipment to ensure it is legal, comfortable, safe and effective.
- Ensure that players are aware of the rules of the game.

MATCHES

PITCHES AND SURFACES

SURFACES

- Lacrosse can be played on grass or artificial surfaces. Generally most Clubs will offer a grass pitch but may offer an artificial one if the grass pitch is unplayable or reserved for another game.
- The visiting side does not have a right to veto a decision to play on an artificial pitch even for cup and tournament games subject to the Cup Competition rules.
- The manager of the visiting side should be advised at least 72 hrs before a game if there is a possibility the game will be played on an artificial pitch so that players can be told to bring appropriate footwear.

PITCHES

- The home Club must carry out a risk assessment on the pitch before the game and make safe any apparent hazards. The visiting coach/manager and referee must be informed of any outstanding issues before the start of the game. The weekly EL risk assessment form MUST be completed for all junior games these forms need to be safely stored by the home team for a period of three years.
- The home side grounds man will decide whether a pitch is playable in good time to allow managers to inform their teams. Before and during a match, ultimately a decision on whether a pitch is fit for play rests with the referee. (When a home team pitch is not playable clubs are asked to switch the fixture if the away team have a playable surface in line with NEMLA policy).
- From September 2015 all U12 games are to be played on a smaller pitch. The recommended maximum size of this pitch has been distributed to all clubs. For a copy of the recommendation please email jsnlacrosse@gmail.com

SAFETY & FIRST AID

FIRST AID

- Each team **must** have:
 - player contact details and completed medical consent forms at pitch side for ALL TRAINING SESSIONS and GAMES
 - an adequate first aid kit pitchside – this must comply with HSE minimum guidelines. There are many options to purchase sports first aid kits with bags that can be refilled as needed. Ice (or equivalent pack) must be available for injuries.
 - a mobile phone to call the emergency services and/or parents of an injured players
 - It is recommended that each club/team should have access to a defibrillator. The recommendation is that this should be accessible to be deployed within three minutes. Please ensure that you risk assess access to medical equipment.

- The first aid kit for the home side must contain the address and clear directions to the nearest A & E department, as well as the address and post code of the Club.
- Each side must ensure that someone with a valid first aid certificate (preferably for sports injuries) or a medical or nursing qualification is available to assess and/or offer first aid.

CONCUSSION POLICY

- English Lacrosse has a policy in place to help clubs and officials recognise and act on the symptoms of concussion. Each NWLA club has been sent a copy of the concussion policy which has been produced by the Chief Medical Officer. This policy must be followed. A copy has been circulated with this GPG. Further copies are available here: <http://www.englishlacrosse.co.uk/english-lacrosse-ngb/resources-funding/library/medical/>

ACCIDENTS

- Each Club must have an accident book / accident form and
 - any injuries must be entered promptly in the accident book / accident record of the home side, this should be signed by both team managers.
 - managers should ensure information on any injuries and treatment is recorded promptly in their own Club's accident book.
- The accident book / accident form should record (sample is available for download on League Republic)
 - summary of how the accident happened
 - the action taken and who took it
- Where parents/carers are not present, managers are responsible for ensuring that parents are informed of the accident and any advice given. All clubs should ensure that they hold adequate medical consent forms from all junior players.
- Reporting incidents and emergencies – At this stage there is no requirement for accidents to be registered with Junior and Schools but this may change. It is important to have a process in place that can be adapted quickly if needed.
- Referees will record incidents that are medical emergency where an ambulance is called or a player goes to hospital. This information should be recorded by both teams.

HYDRATION

- All Clubs should make their players aware of the importance of adequate hydration. (Coaches and Managers should be aware of, and support the observance of religious practice)

FIXTURES

- There is no league for junior matches and all matches except cup and tournament matches are considered “friendlies”
- The JSNC appoints a Fixture Secretary to arrange all the junior fixtures and cup draws.
 - it is the fixture secretary’s responsibility to keep the club junior contacts informed of the fixture list and any changes made during the season.
- Each club must provide the JSN Secretary with:
 - contact details for the club’s junior contact at least one month before the first match of the season. This information will be shared with all clubs and must be used solely for the purpose of arranging and confirming fixtures. A document will be circulated to all clubs at least six weeks prior to the start of the season.
 - Clubs must provide contact name and mobile number for the person from EACH junior team responsible for texting in results to League Republic
- At the beginning of the season U12s short triangular matches may be arranged to provide experience for players and enable coaches and the Fixture Secretary to assess the strengths of the teams.
- From September 2015 JSN Fixtures secretary will arrange U10 fixtures.

PRE MATCH ARRANGEMENTS

- Team Managers must confirm the fixture in the week before a match
- Team Managers must indicate in advance whether any players have a dispensation authorised by JSN Committee. The manager/coach of the opposing side has to agree to the dispensated player participating in the game. This player(s) should be identified to the opposing coach and referee before the game.
- Where clubs cannot field a full team, managers are encouraged to discuss this with the opposing team and, if possible, reach an agreement about how to play an 8 or 6 aside match. Players may be loaned to the other side to enable a match to be played.
- Matches will be cancelled if the pitch is deemed unplayable. **Clubs are asked to switch fixtures if the away team have a playable surface in line with NEMLA policy.** Two qualified referees must be in attendance at all Junior games. The game must not go ahead if there is only one or no referees. A report must be sent to Junior and Schools secretary to advise of the cancellation of a fixture due to lack of referees.

RESULTS

- Nominated Managers/Coaches must respond by midnight of the day of the game to the text message requesting results . The results will then be automatically recorded on the League Republic website.

REFEREES AND OFFICIALS

REFEREES

For all Junior games and Cup Competitions both home and away teams must provide a qualified referee. (Previously there was a regional agreement that 'competent' referees without qualification could referee junior games this is no longer the case) – **ALL REFEREES MUST BE QUALIFIED and REGISTERED with ENGLISH LACROSSE. In the event of only 1 referee being available the game must not go ahead as this is in breach of the rules and may invalidate insurance for officials, club representatives and participants.**

▪ Referees in junior games

- should show an understanding of the needs of junior players.
- are encouraged to explain their decisions to players and coaches.
- should be aware of the guidelines for officials (Appendix 4).

- There must be an appropriate age difference between the referee and the teams being referred i.e. a 16 year old referee should not referee teams older than U12s

- All young or inexperienced referees should be assisted by an experienced referee/ mentor. Clubs are asked to liaise in the week prior to any fixture where a junior referee will be in attendance to ensure that there is a senior referee available.

BENCH OFFICIALS

- **The home team must provide a CBO who will also time penalties.**
- The shirt number of any player committing personal fouls **must be recorded.** Should any incident occur in a game that is subsequently the subject of a disciplinary committee a copy of the match records may be requested.

CONDUCT OF THE GAME

- Junior games play 15 minutes for each quarter.
- When a team is winning by a margin of 5 goals, the losing team may have a free clear from the half way line each time a goal is scored. This is at the discretion of the losing team coach.
- Only the team captain on field or the team coach/manager should communicate with the referees.
- Field Coaching - U12s coaches may step onto the pitch to coach players, but must not impede the game. This will not be permitted in Cup or Plate competitions.
- All Junior Fixtures arranged by JSN (excluding cup competitions and tournaments) are developmental games. Clubs are encouraged to avoid high scoring, one sided games. If one team is significantly stronger than another the coach is asked to employ development strategies to slow

down the high scoring. i.e. player passing round the goal for x number of passes before scoring, players only playing with off hand etc. One sided, high scoring games can be detrimental to the confidence and development of the losing team.

- Take outs (definition – a body check made with force or intent to put the opponent on the ground or running 4 or more steps to contact an opponent).
 - are not allowed in U12 games.
 - are legal in U14 and U16 games, but may be considered unnecessary roughness in the case of size differences between individual players which occur at these age groups.
 - One handed checks at U12 will be regarded as an uncontrolled check, and are not permitted.

CUP GAMES AND TOURNAMENTS

The JSNC organizes:

- Cup competitions for each age group:
 - Under 12s Onondaga Cup and Plate Competition
 - Under 14s Centurion Cup and Plate Competition
 - Under 16s Junior & Schools Cup and Plate Competition
- Six aside competitions for each group
- U10 and U11 tournaments
- U8 and U10 Development tournament

CUP COMPETITIONS

FIXTURES

- The cup competitions are organized by the Fixtures Secretary and are the responsibility of the JSN Committee.
- Dates may only be changed with the consent of JSNC officials.
- Where the home team pitch is unplayable:
 - The game should be switched to the away team ground, or a neutral ground, if a pitch is available (in line with NEMLA policy). The home team will still need to provide a CBO.
 - If no pitches are available the game should be played the following week at the home team ground or follow the same procedure to switch
- The Fixtures Secretary and the Secretary of JSNC must be informed of re arranged matches.
- Traditionally the cup finals and plate final are played on the Flags Festival Weekend.

SURFACES

- Clubs must offer a grass pitch but may offer an artificial one if the grass pitch is unplayable or reserved for another junior cup game. U16 takes precedent over U14 and U14 over U12 with regard to using grass surface. Junior cup games take precedent over other junior games.
- The visiting side does not have a right to veto a decision to play on an artificial pitch for cup games subject to being given at least 72 hours notice and no grass pitch being available on the day.
- The manager/coach of the visiting side should be advised at least 72 hrs before a game if there is a possibility the game will be played on an artificial pitch so that players can be told to bring appropriate footwear.

REFEREES AND OFFICIALS

- The home team must supply
 - At least one qualified registered referee
 - A CBO
- The away team has to provide a qualified registered referee.
- Each team to provide a penalty time keeper

ELIGIBILITY

- All players must be
 - of the correct age group; no dispensations are allowed.
 - registered with the EL prior to the game.
- Officials of the JSNC may check with the EL the age and registration of any player in cup or tournament competition, or ask the player to provide evidence of their age and/or registration.

- Squad sizes are unlimited.
- If there are two or more teams in one age group from one Club in Cup competition:

Club must nominate a first team, second team and so on. Players for each side are to be allocated using the JSNC team sheet (available to download from League Republic). These are to be submitted to the JSN membership secretary 7 days before the Cup draw is made. Failure to do so will mean only one team will be entered in the cup competition. Players may move up from a lower team but once they have moved up they will be considered cup tied i.e. they cannot play for a lower team in future cup games. This includes both the cup and plate competitions. Clubs may apply for a dispensation to break a Cup Tie in exceptional circumstances. Application should be in writing to JSN Chair.

- Managers must use the JSNC template (Available to download on League Republic) and provide team sheets to JSN Chair 7 days prior to the start of the competition. The information must include:
 - Players Name, Date of Birth, EL registration reference number.
 - Shirt Number

TROPHIES

- It is the responsibility of the winning club to have the trophy inscribed and to return it in time for the next years competition.

SIX ASIDE TOURNAMENTS

- Six a Side tournaments are organized by volunteer Clubs
 - an entry fee will be charged to cover cost of medals and the cost of the Head Referee
 - clubs must provide a referee to participate.
 - All players must be
 - of the correct age group; no dispensations are allowed.
 - registered with the EL .
 - Officials of the JSNC may check with the EL the age and registration of any player in cup or Six a Side competition, or ask the player to provide evidence of age and/or registration.
 - Managers must provide team sheets for the organisers on the day, and send a copy to the Junior and Schools Registration Officer prior to the competition. The information must include:
 - EL registration reference number.
 - Name.
 - Date of Birth.
 - Shirt number.
 - A Head Referee will be appointed by the North of England Referees Association for each tournament. The Head Referee will determine whether the pitches are playable or if the weather conditions are safe. Note the hosting Club can declare the pitches unplayable to safeguard their future use.
 - It is the responsibility of the winning Club to have the trophy inscribed and to return it in time for the next years competition.
 - Squad sizes are limited to 10 players.
 - The use of defense (long sticks) in the field if play is limited to 2. At U12 defense sticks are prohibited. (see page 4)
 - In the event of an injury which stops a player continuing leaving the team with only 5 fit players the game and remaining games will be played as 5 A Side. In the event of further injuries the team may borrow players to complete their fixtures but all their games will be considered to be friendlies and the results of all their games will not be considered in establishing placings. In the event the team are in the knockout stages they will have to continue with reduced numbers or concede the game.
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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A COACHES, TEAM MANAGER & CLUB OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT

English Lacrosse is committed to creating a culture for our sport that provides opportunities for all to participate in keeping with the spirit of our game. We all have a role to play in developing this culture. We are asking you to play your part to adhere to and promote English Lacrosse's code of conduct.

We are asking all coaches, managers, and club officials to adhere to and promote English Lacrosse's code of conduct. Coaches, team managers and club officials should be aware of their influence on players of all ages and conduct themselves in a positive manner at all times to promote the positive values of our game of lacrosse.

On and off the field, I will:

- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators
- Adhere to the rules and spirit of our game
- Promote fair play and high standards of behaviour
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour.
- Be aware of my online presence and behaviour and ensure any messages or posts adhere to the positive spirit of our game.

When working with players, I will:

- Ensure all activities I organise are appropriate for the players' ability level, age and maturity
- Explain exactly what I expect of players and what they can expect from me
- Develop mutual trust and respect with every player to build their self-esteem
- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning.
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying
- Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Co-operate fully with others in lacrosse (eg officials, doctors, physiotherapists, welfare officers) for each players' best interests
- Ensure all parents/carers of all players under the age of 18 understand these expectations.

I understand if I do not adhere to the code of conduct, any or all of the following actions may be taken by my school, club, league, and regional association, the National Lacrosse Committee or the English Lacrosse Board:

- Required to meet with the club, league or regional chair
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Monitored by another club coach
- Required to attend an appropriate education course

APPENDIX 1 PLAYERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

English Lacrosse Code of Conduct

English Lacrosse is committed to creating a culture for our sport that provides opportunities for all to participate in keeping with the spirit of our game. We all have a role to play in developing this culture. We are asking you to play your part to adhere to and promote English Lacrosse's code of conduct.

We all have a responsibility to conduct ourselves in a way that honours the 'spirit of the game' by respecting others and promoting high standards of behaviour on and off the field.

As a player, you have a big part to play. That's why English Lacrosse is asking every player to follow this code of conduct.

When playing lacrosse, I will:

- Always play to the best of my ability
- Play fairly – I won't cheat, complain or waste time
- Respect my teammates, the other team, the match officials and my coach
- Play by the rules as directed by the umpire/referee
- Shake hands with the other team and umpire/referee at the end of the game
- Listen and respond to what my coach tells me
- Talk to someone I trust or the school/club welfare officer if I am unhappy about anything at my school/club
- Be aware of my online presence and behaviour and ensure any messages or posts adhere to the positive spirit of our game.

I understand if I do not adhere to the code of conduct, any or all of the following actions may be taken by my school, club, league, and regional association, the National Lacrosse Committee or the English Lacrosse Board.

- Be required to apologise to my teammates, the other team, match official or coach
- Receive a formal warning from the coach, school or club committee
- Be dropped from the team
- Be suspended from training
- Be required to leave the club.

In addition:

My club, school, or regional committee may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the code of conduct.

My club or school could be fined or suspended by the league, region or National Lacrosse Committee.

APPENDIX 2 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

English Lacrosse Code of Conduct

English Lacrosse is committed to creating a culture for our sport that provides opportunities for all to participate in keeping with the spirit of our game. We all have a role to play in developing this culture. We are asking you to play your part to adhere to and promote English Lacrosse's code of conduct.

We are asking all schools and clubs to support English Lacrosse's Code of Conduct to ensure lacrosse can be enjoyed in a safe and positive environment.

Remember that children's lacrosse is a time for developing a love of the game and a sense of fair play. It is also a time for players to develop their technical, physical, tactical and social skills. Winning isn't everything. We are asking you to play your part and commit to the code of conduct at all times.

I will:

- Remember that children play for FUN
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success for both teams
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Remain outside the field of play and maintain a respectful distance from coaches and players, observing team box areas if available
- Demonstrate positivity towards all players and coaches; Let the coach to do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, umpire/referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Be aware of my online presence and behaviour and ensure any messages or posts adhere to the positive spirit of our game.

I understand if I do not adhere to the code of conduct, any or all of the following actions may be taken by my school, club, league, and regional association, the National Lacrosse Committee or the English Lacrosse Board.

- Issued with a verbal warning or appropriate card by a match official
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the school, club or match official
- Required to meet with the school club, league or regional representative or Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an appropriate education course
- Requested by the school or club not to attend future matches
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the school or club along with any dependents.

APPENDIX 3 JUNIOR DISCIPLINARY GUIDE

1. Constitution & Membership of the Junior Disciplinary Committee

- a. The Junior Disciplinary Committee is a sub - committee of the Junior and Schools North Committee (JSNC).
- b. Individual disciplinary issues will be the responsibility of the Junior Disciplinary Committee who will report formally to the JSNC.
- c. The Junior Disciplinary Committee shall consist of the following officers of the JSN Committee:
- d. Junior & Schools Chair, Secretary and the elected Chair of Disciplinary. A fourth member may be added to the committee at any time to provide expertise and guidance on any technical matters or who has appropriate qualifications and expertise on matters presenting a safeguarding concern.
- e. The Disciplinary Chairman will be nominated from members elected by their Clubs to represent them on the JSNC.
- f. At least 3 members of the Junior Disciplinary Committee must be present at any disciplinary hearing. If possible these members should be from neutral clubs.
- g. JSN may refer disciplinary issues to NWLA where an individual is deemed to have brought the game into disrepute, or where there is a breach of equality or safeguarding policies.

2. Remit

- a. Players
 - i. All junior players involved in a junior game.

A junior playing in an U19 or Senior Game is NOT within the remit of the Junior Disciplinary Committee and must be considered by the NEMLA or NWLA disciplinary committee.
 - ii. Type of incidents falling within the remit of the Committee
 - o All expulsion fouls . These carry an automatic ban as detailed in in Section 5a below
 - o Serious incident for which an automatic expulsion foul is not an appropriate penalty for the incident
- b. Managers and Coaches -
 - i. Unacceptable behaviour by coaches and managers in junior games is within the jurisdiction of the Junior Disciplinary Committee
 - ii. Such incidents must be reported by the referee or opposing coach or manager to the JSN Committee Secretary within 5 days.
- c. Parents and Spectators
 - a. Incidents involving unacceptable behaviour by spectators are the responsibility of the coach or team manager. In the first instance it is their responsibility to ensure all spectators' behaviour is acceptable.

- b. Unresolved incidents involving unacceptable behaviour of spectators at junior games will be dealt with by the Junior Disciplinary Committee. The Junior Disciplinary Committee has the right to ban a spectator/s
- c. Parents should be strongly encouraged to notify their child's Club of any actions they intend to take.

3. Reporting Unacceptable Behaviours & Expulsions

Any unacceptable behaviour that results in an expulsion or a breach of the English Lacrosse Respect Policy that results in an official disciplinary report and recommendation for disciplinary action must be reported as below:

- a. All unacceptable behaviour MUST be reported to the JSNC Secretary. Referees/club officials must report all expulsion fouls or any other serious incident occurring before, during or after a junior game as below:
 - i. within 48 hours/ 2 days of the incident by telephone or email to the JSNC Secretary jsnlacrosse@gmail.com (Reports should still be submitted to relevant referee association)
 - ii. followed up formally in writing within 4 days of the incident using the referee incident report form completed in accordance with the referee incident report form guidance (adapted for use by Junior & Schools).
- b. It is the responsibility of the Head/Senior referee to report an expulsion foul or other serious incidents in a junior game. If no referee is more senior by qualification the home referee will be deemed to be the head referee.
- c. Failure to report incidents to the JSNC Secretary may result in further penalties.

4. The Disciplinary Hearing

A disciplinary hearing MAY be called for instances as indicated above where the referee or officials recommend, due to the nature of the incident, that disciplinary action should be taken. A Disciplinary Hearing WILL be called for any player, coach, manager, spectator or official where there have been, in the same playing season, 3 prior instances that have resulted automatic bans.

- a. Cases shall be considered as soon as possible after an offence has been reported.
- b. If the matter is considered serious enough to call for a hearing of the case the following may be invited:
 - i. The player
 - ii. His or her parents
 - iii. Manager/coach
 - iv. The referee and officials
 - v. Any witnesses
 - vi. Up to two representatives from each Club involved shall be invited to attend.
 - vii. A representative of NWLA disciplinary committee or NEMLA where additional experience or guidance is necessary.

- c. At least 3 members of the Disciplinary Committee must be present at the hearing. If possible, these members should be from neutral Clubs.
- d. The Disciplinary Committee should hear evidence from the referee, the two coaches involved and any other significant persons. The Committee may consider oral evidence and written submissions.

5. Sanctions

a. Automatic Bans

- i. For a player participating in all age groups, an automatic ban is for 1 full field game (or more if the offence is deemed very serious) for which the player would normally be selected at junior level. The game must be a recognised EL fixture and must be played. The ban excludes the player from playing in any other organised lacrosse for 1 week from the day the automatic ban starts. A ban implemented at the end of the season will prevent the player from participating in any JSN fixture until the 1 match ban is spent.
- ii. An expulsion foul will result in an automatic 1 match ban which cannot be appealed other than in the case of mistaken identity.

b. When an automatic ban is not appropriate the Disciplinary Committee may:

- i. Impose a ban for a player greater than the automatic ban if the offence is deemed serious enough.
- ii. Recommend no further action.
- iii. Send a written reprimand to the player / manager / coach and his/her Club with a warning as to future conduct.
- iv. For a manager /coach, impose a ban of up to 1 full field game (or more if the offence is deemed very serious) in which the manager/coach would normally participate as a coach/manager.
- v. Penalise a junior team if appropriate.
- vi. Impose a spectator ban of 1 full field game, (or more if the offence is deemed very serious).
- vii. Call for a full disciplinary hearing.
- viii. Refer the matter to NWLA disciplinary committee for regional disciplinary action.

c. Ban - how it is applied

- i. Ban applies to recognised J&S N fixtures issued by the Fixture Secretary fixtures and must be played except as detailed in (ii) below.
- ii. Cancelled and postponed games do not count unless the opposition cancelled due to insufficient players or unable to travel
- iii. The 1 week ban commences from the day of the ban i.e. if a 16 year is banned following a junior game in the morning he is eligible to play for a senior team 1 week later in the afternoon
- iv. Organised lacrosse includes all tournaments run by the JSN, NEMLA, NWLA, ELA, individual Clubs and Academy sessions.

- d. Consideration of the Disciplinary Record
 - i. Reprimands and warnings as to future conduct will be expunged after two years.
 - ii. Bans, reprimands or warnings less than 2 years old will be taken into account by the Junior Disciplinary Committee.
- e. Representations / Appeals
 - i. Any correspondence following a hearing must be addressed to the Secretary of the JSNC.
 - ii. Such correspondence will be considered at a full meeting of that Committee.
 - iii. The JSNC may:
 - o take no action
 - o uphold the Disciplinary Sub Committee's decision
 - o ask the Disciplinary Sub Committee to review its decision
 - o refer the matter to the NWLA disciplinary committee
 - iv. Should the player or club wish to appeal against any appeal decision (final ruling/penalty) the appeal will automatically be referred to NWLA and may in turn be referred to National Lacrosse Committee.

6. Reporting

- a. The JSNC Disciplinary committee chairperson shall inform the player/coach/manager and his/her Club Secretary, in writing, of the Committee's decision and the penalty imposed. This should be done within 5 working days of the hearing.
- b. Where a ban is imposed, the junior manager/secretary of the player's/coach's/manager's Club will inform the JSNC Disciplinary committee Chairperson which game/s the player missed due to the player's suspension. Failure to do this within 14 days of the last game the player missed due to the player's suspension will result in the Club being fined.
- c. Any junior player/coach/manager involved in a serious incident or receiving an expulsion foul in a junior match will be reported to and dealt with by the Junior Disciplinary Committee.
- d. If the above player is eligible to play on U19 or senior teams the Junior Disciplinary Committee shall inform the NEMLA Disciplinary Committee of the incident and the sanctions imposed.

Any junior player involved in a serious incident or receiving an expulsion foul in a senior or U19 game shall be reported to and dealt with by the NEMLA disciplinary committee. **Subsequently** League North Disciplinary Committee shall inform the Junior Disciplinary Committee of any incident involving junior players and of the sanctions imposed.

APPENDIX 4 GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIALS

Referees, Managers and Coaches should

- Recognize the importance of fun and enjoyment when officiating young players
- Explain decisions – young players are still learning
- Appreciate the needs of players
- Be a positive role model
- Recognise that safety is paramount
- Provide verbal feedback in a positive way during games

Referees, Managers and Coaches should not

- Change in the same area as young players
- Shower with young players – agree a timetable for use of shower and changing room with managers if separate facilities are not available
- Be alone with young players at any time – if a young player comes into the dressing room, officials should ensure that another adult is present
- Allow a young player to continue playing if there are doubts about his fitness
- Engage in inappropriate contact with young players
- Give a lift to a player unless there are other young people or adults in the car
- Take a young player to his/her home
- Make sexually explicit remarks to young players – even in fun
- Overly criticise young players or use language that may cause young players to lose self esteem or confidence
- Tolerate verbal abuse

Referees, Managers and Coaches must always report in writing to the Club Secretary or Welfare Officer within 5 days:

- Behaviour of adults which appears to contravene the EL child protection policy
- Verbal bullying by coaches, parents, spectators
- Physical abuse by coaches, parents, spectators
- Inappropriate or aggressive contact by an adult to a young person
- Verbal abuse by a player, coach or parent/ spectator directed at match officials

THE WELFARE OF ALL YOUNG PEOPLE IS PARAMOUNT