

General League Rules

Texas High School Lacrosse League

1.0 Member Teams. The league shall be comprised of member teams. Member teams shall include those organizations paying an annual league dues to Texas High School Lacrosse League, Inc. All such member teams will be entitled to vote at any member team meeting.

2.0 New Member Teams. New member team applications shall be made through the Commissioner, and shall be voted on at the annual meeting or at a special meeting. Only member teams in the Division for which application is being submitted will vote to approve or deny membership to applicants.

3.0 Divisions and Districts.

3.1 Divisions. The league shall be divided into two Divisions - a Boys Division and a Girls Division. Both Divisions shall be governed by all General Rules outlined herein.

3.2 Sub-Divisions. Divisions may be further divided into Sub-Divisions based on the level of competitiveness of Member Teams. Each District will determine which Member Teams participate in a Sub-Division.

3.3 Districts. Each Division shall be divided into three Districts – North District, Central District, and South District.

3.4 Authority. Each Division and District also has the authority to establish supplemental rules governing their Division and/or District.

4.0 Meetings.

4.1 Annual Meetings. The District hosting the League Championships in the upcoming season shall host the annual meeting of all member teams. These annual meetings will be general meetings and open for the transaction of any business, including the election of league officers.

4.2 Special Meetings. Special Meetings of the member teams may be held at such time and place, by electronic or other means as may be determined by the Commissioner. No business other than that specified in the notice of the meeting will be transacted at any such meeting.

4.3 Notice. Notice of the annual meeting or special meeting of member teams shall be mailed by the Secretary (or other officer designated by the Chairman) to each member team not less than fifteen (15) nor more than fifty (50) days prior to such meeting. Notice shall be sent to their last known address as it appears on the books

or records of the league. Such notice shall state the purpose for which the meeting is called and the time and place where it is to be held.

4.4 Quorum. The presence of one half of the active, annual fee paying member teams will constitute a quorum at all meetings of the member teams. The act of a majority of the member teams present at any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the member teams, except as otherwise specifically provided by these rules.

4.5 Proxy Representation at Meetings. A member team may designate another member to vote on their behalf at any meeting. Proxy authorizations must be submitted in writing prior to the start of any meeting. The proxy authorization must be signed by an authorized representative of the member team.

5.0 Officers.

5.1 Number. The officers of the league shall be a Commissioner, Treasurer, and Secretary. These officers will serve as the officers of Texas High School Lacrosse League, Inc.

5.2 Elections. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting, except for the filling of vacancies as provided for in Rule 5.4.

5.3 Removal of Officers. Any officer may be removed from office at any time either for or without cause by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the team members, given at a special meeting.

5.4 Vacancies. If any vacancy of an office shall be caused by reason of death, resignation, disqualification, removal or otherwise, replacement shall be made by election by the members at a special meeting. The replacement shall be for the partial term to be effective until the next annual meeting.

5.5 Terms of Office. Elected Officers shall serve for one year and shall take office immediately following election. The Commissioner shall be limited to two (2) consecutive full terms, (excluding any initial partial term). Amendments to these General Rules may allow for consecutive full terms greater than two(2).

6.0 Duties of Officers.

6.1 Commissioner. The Commissioner shall be the chief executive officer of the league and shall have charge of the general affairs of the league. The Commissioner shall preside at all team member meetings, appoint all special committees and task forces and serve as an ex-officio member of all such committees and task forces.

6.2 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive all dues and donations received and shall make an accounting of these funds as well as periodical accounting as the

Commissioner shall request. The Treasurer shall perform all other duties as may be assigned by the Commissioner.

6.3 Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the league; give all notices in accordance with the provisions of these rules; shall be custodian of league records; shall maintain and distribute the rules of the league to all members; and, in general, perform all other duties as may be assigned by the Commissioner.

7.0 Rule Making. The rules of the league shall define league divisions and districts, govern league play, govern league pre season events, govern league post season events, and govern any and all related activities of the league. These General Rules shall be revised or amended at any meeting of the member teams in accordance with the requirements of Section 4. Boys Division Rules shall be revised or amended the act of a majority of the Boys Division member teams present at any meeting. Girls Division Rules shall be revised or amended the act of a majority of the Girls Division member teams present at any meeting.

8.0 Dues. Each member team must submit annual dues payments to the Treasurer prior to the first official game of each season played by a member team. Failure to pay dues may result in forfeiture of league games. The dues amount shall be established at the annual meeting of member teams.

9.0 Eligibility. Players enrolled in grades 9 through 12 are eligible to play on a varsity team. Players enrolled in grades 9 through 11 are eligible to play on a junior varsity team. Students from, first, a school, or second, a State of Texas recognized Independent School District, with an active team must play for that member team. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved by the Commissioner and the appropriate District Coordinator.

9.1 Students enrolled at a private or parochial school without an active team are to play for a team within, first, the school district, or second, the Independent School District within which said student lives.

9.2 Students enrolled in a home school or correspondence must first enough information about the academic program so that the District Coordinator can determine whether the student is undertaking an academic program reasonably comparable to that of a public, private or parochial school.

9.3 Players have a total of four(4) seasons of eligibility during high school. The District Coordinator and Commissioner will determine if a player is eligible.

9.4 Players who switch enrollment between schools of Member Teams must wait two(2) weeks before participating in team events such as practice and/or games.

9.5 Players enrolled in the eighth grade are eligible to play subject to the approval of the appropriate District Coordinator and Commissioner. If there is a youth lacrosse program within reasonable travel distance to the student's home, every effort should be made to

play for that youth program. Players in the eighth grade are subject to all of the same rules determining the appropriate Member Team for which to play as players enrolled in grades nine(9) through twelve(12). If the Member Team has a Junior Varsity, the eighth grade student must play for the Junior Varsity. Playing as an eighth grader does not count towards the total of four(4) seasons of eligibility.

10.0 Coaches. All member teams must have a designated coach.

11.0 Insurance. All member teams must have liability insurance. Members may not play games without proper insurance. Each member must provide proof of acceptable insurance to their District Coordinator prior to participation in any league activity.

12.0 Improper Behavior. Abusive, profane, or violent behavior or language by coaches, players, or fans at any league function may result in team member, coach, or player suspension or expulsion from the league. This includes behavior not in conformance with the Purposes of the Texas High School Lacrosse League as stipulated in the Bylaws. No alcoholic beverages or any intoxicating substances or intoxicated individuals are allowed at any league functions. Suspension or expulsion punishments shall be decided by the Commissioner and the appropriate District Coordinator.

13.0 Scouting. Coaches of Member Teams may attend games between fellow Member Teams. Acceptable actions include scouting a future opponent by taking written or tape recorded notes. No person with an affiliation of a Member Team is allowed to videotape a game in which said Member Team is not participating. This includes coaches, players, parents and/or outside commercial firms. Coaches may trade videotapes of their own games for the purpose of scouting future opponents with one another.

Boys Division Rules Texas High School Lacrosse League

1.0 Referees. Boys Division games shall only be officiated by officials assigned by the Southwest Lacrosse Official Association. Payment of official's fees shall be the sole responsibility of each member team. Failure to pay official's fees may result in forfeiture of league games.

2.0 Rules of Play. Boys Division games will be played in accordance with all NCAA lacrosse rules, with exceptions approved at the annual meeting of member teams.

3.0 Boys Division Championships. The Boys Division championship shall be determined through a four team playoff of the leagues best teams. The final four teams will be comprised of the champions of each District, with the fourth team chosen by a committee composed of one representative from each of the six (6) first round losing District teams. In the case of a tie, the three (3) District Coordinators will pick the fourth team.

Teams from the same District will not have to play each other in the semifinal round.

The championship weekend host location shall rotate between each District. The Central District shall host the 2000 championships. The 2001 championships shall be hosted by the North District, and the 2002 championships shall be hosted by the South District. This rotation of host districts shall continue in subsequent years.

The championship weekend shall be the second weekend in May.

4.0 Boys Division All-Star Game. The Boys Division All-Star Game will be played at the site of the Championships. Players are selected by the Boys Division coaches of their respective District. Each Team will have twenty-four(24) players, comprised of six(6) attackmen, ten(10) midfielders, six(6) defensemen, and two(2) goaltenders. The District hosting the Championships will select the twenty-four players for one team and the remaining two(2) Districts shall select twelve(12) players each, comprised of three(3) attackmen, five(5) midfielders, three(3) defensemen, and one(1) goaltender. Coaches are provided by their respective Districts.

Players selected to the All-Star Game, but whose team is in the Championships may not play in the All-Star game. These players do not receive All-Star Game apparel.

5.0 Team Texas. By annual vote at the Annual Meeting, the Boys Division will sponsor an all-star team to travel to tournaments. These players may be selected by the Boys Division coaches of each District or by an invitation-only try-out.

The Executive Committee may assign responsibility to organize Team Texas to a volunteer.

6.0 Post-Season Honors. Each District awards All-State and All-District Honors. Each group includes twelve(12) players, comprised of three(3) attackmen, five(5) midfielders, three(3) defensemen, and one(1) goaltender. The All-State players are the first choices to play in the All-Star Game and the alternates are chosen from the All-District players based on position need.

It is the responsibility of the District Coordinator to inform the Host District of the Championships and the Commissioner immediately of the honored players, indicating name, position, team, grade, mailing address and telephone number.

6.0 All-Americans. Each year, U.S. Lacrosse informs the THSLL of the number of High School All-Americans it may name. Selection is done by a committee consisting of the three(3) District Coordinators and three(3) coaches, one from each District. The Commissioner only votes in the case of a tie. Voting is done at the Championships and accomplished by written ballot. Each vote counts one(1) point.

Each year, it will be determined how many nominations are allowed by each District after the total for the THSLL is determined by U.S. Lacrosse. Players must be All-State selections from their respective Districts.

Coaches may present a written recommendation through their District Coordinator or make a personal presentation prior to the vote. Coaches of nominated players may neither vote, nor be in attendance during the vote.

Tie votes will be resolved as follows: (1) If the selectees are in different grades the upperclassman will be chosen; (2) By written ballot with points assigned as follows: 1st – five(5) points, 2nd – three(3) points, 3rd – one(1) point; (3) the Commissioner's vote.

7.0 Academic All-Americans. There is one(1) Academic All-American. Players selected must be a senior varsity player and may not be one of the All-American selections. This award is for academic excellence. The same committee votes for both the All-Americans and Academic All-American. The Commissioner only votes in the case of a tie. Voting is done at the Championships and accomplished by written ballot. Each vote counts one(1) point.

Coaches may present a written recommendation through their District Coordinator or make a personal presentation prior to the vote. Coaches of nominated players may neither vote, nor be in attendance during the vote.

Tie votes will be resolved as follows: (1) If the selectees are in different grades the upperclassman will be chosen; (2) By written ballot with points assigned as follows: 1st – five(5) points, 2nd – three(3) points, 3rd – one(1) point; (3) the Commissioner's vote.