

YOUTH LACROSSE MINNESOTA OPERATING POLICIES - 2016

YLM is a private, not-for-profit organization that administers a youth lacrosse league in the state of Minnesota. Participant players are boys and girls between ages 6 and 15.

2016 SEASON CALENDAR

January 15, 2016 - Deadline for Association registration and dues. Association annual registration & membership fee is **\$500**. YLM has a refundable registration deposit to facilitate the collection of team information. Teams that miss deadlines may also have a reduced schedule as well as forfeiture from state tournament play. A refundable amount of \$350 will be returned (either by credit against next year's season or by check) to associations that complete the following items for **all of their teams** by July 1, 2016:

1. Association leadership contact
2. Final rosters posted
3. Coach registration and certification
4. Chill manager contact
5. Team manager contact.

April 13, 2016 - Registration for pre-season opens on website. Associations will provide the number of pre-season teams, the age levels and weekends they prefer to participate.

April 15, 2016 - Field and Team registrations open on website.

April 18, 2016 - Deadline to declare participation in pre-season play.

May 2, 2016 - Deadline to pay pre-season jamboree team fees (**\$200/team**).

May 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 2016 - Pre-season jamborees.

May 16, 2016 - Deadline to register teams for YLM season. Team fees due. **YLM will not accept late team registrations.**

May 17, 2016 - Coach and CHILL Manager registration open on website. Every Association is required to complete background checks on **all** coaches, certify that **all** coaches are compliant with Minnesota mandated concussion training, verify that all coaches are US Lacrosse members and that **all** Head Coaches have completed YLM certification training. Deadline to withdraw a team. (YLM may refund up to 50% of a withdrawn team's fees on a case by case basis.)

May 23, 2016 - Preliminary YLM schedule released to all Association Directors.

May 25, 2016 - YLM schedule made public. The **first week of the season will be FIRM**. It is possible that the schedule may still change because of team subtractions and official's assignments. It is important to check the schedule regularly throughout the YLM season.

June 8 - 9th, 2016 - Some games may be scheduled for that Wednesday and Thursday night.

June 13, 2016 – Full schedule of YLM games begin.

July 1, 2016 - Final roster due of players' name, jersey number, date of birth and US Lacrosse number. Plus, every Coach, CHILL Manager and Team Manager's name and cell numbers needs to be current on the YLM website. These items are required for each registered team for an association to receive the \$350 registration deposit refund.

July 4 - 6, 2016 – Blackout dates with no games.

July 23 - 24, 2016 - U9 and U11B jamborees. Sites to be determined.

July 25 - 30, 2016 - Statewide B level playoffs.

July 30 - 31, 2016 - State Tournament pool play for all U15, U13 and U11A teams. Sites to be determined.

YLM OPERATIONS

Rules

YLM games follow the US Lacrosse Boys Youth Rules based on the National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) 2016 Boys Lacrosse Rules Book, with some local modifications. The rules can be found on the YLM website under documents, titled - YLM Rules of Play.

Game schedule

Games are scheduled based on information provided to YLM during online team registration in April/May. Required information needed to schedule includes association, age level, team name, field name (if lighting is available), and any applicable field blackout dates. The scheduling contractor will be directed to schedule back-to-back games on available fields. Ideally, double headers will be scheduled back-to-back Monday - Thursday at 6:00 and 7:15 PM. When lighted fields are available triple headers will be scheduled at 6:00, 7:15 and 8:30 PM. U9 games may be scheduled on weekdays as well as Friday or Sunday evenings depending on field & official availability. At the beginning of the regular season, each U11, U13 and U15 team will receive a schedule with 10 games. U9 teams will receive a schedule of 6 games. The games will be scheduled as close to a 50/50 ratio as possible between home and away games. YLM shall endeavor to avoid intra-association games and aims to schedule more cross-district games. Due to the possibility of circumstances beyond YLM control, teams are not guaranteed their full 6 or 10 game regular season. See Appendix 2 for full scheduling policy details.

Tournament Schedule

All U15, U13 and U11A teams in good standing (payments, contact info, coach requirements, deadlines met etc) are eligible for the YLM State Tournament. The YLM State Tournament will be July 30 - 31. General format is intended to be seeded pool play followed by elimination games on Sunday. The YLM Tournament Director will identify host sites and provide guidance to host on levels of staffing and amenities needed.

Scheduling

Once games are scheduled, the game dates/times/locations are given to the referee scheduling contractor, who will input them into Arbiter for assignments.

Officials

Lacrosse officials who work YLM games must be certified by the UMLOA and US Lacrosse. In addition, they must be trained in the YLM rules modifications. Officials will wear regulation uniforms. Officials will be paid centrally by the YLM. Officials will need to complete an I-9 form and have it on file with YLM in order to be paid. The referee scheduling contractor will keep track of how much each association has pre-paid, how much each association has paid out, and will refund, credit, or donate any over-payment. Contact information for officials assigned to each game will be posted on the assignor's website. In the event of a game cancellation the home team is required to inform officials as indicated in Association Responsibilities and Re-scheduling.

Non-YLM Weekend Tournaments

Non-league tournament providers may reference YLM teams, rules and policy provided there is:

1. A Tournament Director's name & contact number is published with the tournament details.
2. A Director of Officials is named (this can be set up through YLM Officials Assignor)
3. Any ejections or suspensions are to be carried over into YLM league or State Tournament games if they occur.

DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES

Each district will consist of member associations. Districts are determined by geography and association size. The board has the responsibility to divide districts as fairly and evenly as possible in terms of number of teams in each division and driving distances. Each district will have games scheduled for up to seven divisions (U9, U11A, U11B, U13A, U13B, U15A, U15B). At times, "A" teams may be placed into different districts than their assigned geographic districts. District directors are responsible for mediating any disputes between district associations. When necessary, the District Director will work directly with the Vice President of Operations and/or President to determine disciplinary or other actions.

ASSOCIATION RESPONSIBILITIES

Payments:

Association membership fee - \$500/association, covering YLM administrative costs, including the website and webmaster. A maximum of \$350 is refundable to associations that meet their responsibility to provide team contact information by July 1, 2016.

Association Team Fees:

Pre-Season Jamborees: All age groups: \$200/team. Provides up to 3 potential weekends of pre-season scrimmages for a total of 6 games, 2 officials for each scrimmage, RefPay, assigning fees.

U9 team: \$425/team. Provides 6 game schedule, 2 officials for each game, RefPay, assigning fees and year-end jamborees.

U11B: \$550/team. Provides 8 game season, 2 officials per game, 2 playoff games, RefPay, assigning fees and year-end jamborees.

U13B, U15B: \$650/team. Provides 10 game season, 2 officials per game, 2 playoff games, RefPay, assigning fees and State Tournament fees for qualified teams.

U11A, U13A & U15A: \$750/team. Provides 10 game season, 2 officials per game, RefPay, assigning fees and State Tournament fee.

Officials

Associations should promote a game culture that supports and respects officials at every level, players, coaches, parents and leaders. See Appendix 3.

Coach Requirements

1. All coaches must be background checked completed through their own association annually.
2. All coaches need to complete state required online concussion training.
3. All Head Coaches need to be YLM Certified and it is recommended that all coaches also complete the YLM Certification.
4. We encourage completion of US Lacrosse Level 1 training.
5. Associations are required to document and submit to Operations VP by July 1, 2016.

YLM Certification: YLM will provide an online training module designed for returning coaches. All new coaches must attend an in-person certification. Returning YLM coaches may complete the online refresher course or an in-person course. Full set of coach responsibilities can be found in Appendix 4.

CHILL Manager Requirements

Each team is required to have a designated CHILL manager present at each game, who has completed the online CHILL manager training. Chill Manager responsibilities can be found in Appendix 5.

Administrative Leaders and Team Managers

See Appendix 6 for guidelines to coordinate smooth running of each association and team. Additionally the administrative Team Manager should bring the “Game Start Sheet” to the score table 10 minutes before game time to be signed by each official, coach and Chill Mgr, keeping each sheet on file until end of state tournament. Game Start Sheet can be found under the “documents” tab at the YLM website.

Uniform Requirements

Rules can be found in Appendix 1. YLM requests associations to adhere to rules as they replace their uniforms.

Player Eligibility

All YLM players are required to be current US Lacrosse members. YLM associations are created by town, suburb, or public high school attendance area. To be eligible for an YLM team, a player must reside in the town, suburb, or high school attendance area of his/her lacrosse association. This is considered the “Residing Community.” If a community does not have a youth lacrosse association/YLM team, players must play for the next nearest lacrosse association, determined by the distance from city/town hall to city/town hall. Any player wishing to participate in a program outside of his/her Residing Community, must submit a YLM Boundary Waiver to VP of Operations prior to registering for the season. The YLM divisions and age requirements are as follows:

On or after 9/1/2000 - U15

On or after 9/1/2002 - U13

On or after 9/1/2004 - U11

On or after 9/1/2006 - U9

U15 and U13: The baseline requirement for forming teams is that whenever there is more than one team registered within an association's U13 or U15 age division, there shall be an A team and a B team. A waiver from the VP of Operations will be required if any association is considering forming two B teams.

U11: Associations may voluntarily form U11A teams. In this case, U11A should expect increased travel to play other U11A teams and potentially repeat match-ups.

U9: To provide skill development and understanding of the game, U9 coaches required to establish weekly practices and provide proof of schedule if requested. YLM does not support game only U9 teams.

Ineligible 9th Graders

The following ninth-grade players are not eligible for YLM play:

- A ninth-grade player who played 9/10 or higher during the spring season.
- A ninth-grade player who is playing in a high school league simultaneously during the 2016 summer season.

Boundary Waivers

Occasionally, players are open-enrolled into a public school outside of their Residing Community. Likewise, a player may attend a private school outside of their Residing Community. In any such situation, if a player is seeking to play for a program outside of their Residing Community, they must complete an online Boundary Waiver and submit it to the VP of Operations. Approval will be required by the VP of Operations and both the receiving and departing associations. Waivers are granted on an individual basis and not all waivers are approved. Waivers must be submitted prior to the start of the season and prior to player evaluations. Waivers submitted after that time may not be considered.

Team Formation

YLM is considered a "town team" league. Teams created specifically to be traveling teams that draw players from any regional, multi-town, or state-wide pool are prohibited from YLM participation.

Team Composition

Multiple teams at one developmental age level, whether it is U9, U11B, U13B or U15B must be created in a fashion that attempts to equalize the teams' skill level, termed the YLM's Acceptable Methods of Determining Team Composition (AMDTC). No such requirement is needed for "A" teams. If an association only has one team in any particular division, that team does not have to conform to the guidelines for team composition, listed in Appendix A.

Any association suspected of violating the AMDTC will be subject to YLM board investigation and may be asked to provide documentation of how teams were divided. Examples of proper documentation include verification of the use of outside evaluators, copies of the evaluations, and method of evaluation. Failure to provide such documents will lead to possible team or association sanctions, fines, or suspension of the team or association from YLM. If the YLM board finds that the association has violated the AMDTC, the association will have one or more of the following consequences:

If more than half the season is remaining, members of the YLM board will re-distribute the players, determine new team rosters, and the new teams will be allowed to complete the season, including district playoffs and possibly the state tournament. If less than half the season is remaining, all teams at the same grade level (of the association in violation) will finish the regular season with their current rosters, but not be eligible for district playoffs or the state tournament. If an association is found to be in violation in one season, they will be on probation for the following season.

Probation includes:

Having a YLM board member present at player evaluations or drafts for all levels.

Having YLM board approval of rosters prior to the beginning of the season.

If an association violates the AMDTC policy at more than one age level in the same season, the association will not be allowed to play in YLM for a period of at least one year. Players from that association will be allowed to play for the closest neighboring community per the boundary rules and as long as they have approved waivers.

Game Day Substitutions

YLM recognizes that in summer, occasionally a team may have a very short bench on game day. In order to avoid cancellation or postponements, the coach with the short bench (15 players or less), may, with advanced approval from opposing coach, pull in substitute players as long as they are from the same association and not from a higher skill or age division. The number of substitutes a coach may pull in is limited to bringing the bench size up to a maximum of 16.

Game rescheduling

In case of inclement weather and/or any other change to the pre-determined schedule, teams should confer with each other to request a makeup date using the designated form. Rescheduling requests should be made as soon as possible, preferably by 8:00am on the first Saturday after the original game date via the YLM website. Please note that makeups are not guaranteed. The YLM calendar includes specific dates for rescheduled games however a reasonable effort will be made to reschedule games on other dates. Full policy can be found in Appendix 2. Non-weather related schedule requests can also be made via the YLM website. This type of request is lower priority and often cannot be accommodated but in cases when it can be granted, a rescheduling fee of \$50 will be incurred by the home team.

Payment of Officials for Cancelled or Suspended Games

Depending upon when officials are notified, they may be paid either a partial or full game fee. In all cases, teams must contact the official and receive a response and the assigner must be notified. Teams must continue to attempt to reach the official until the official is reached. Teams may be responsible for the officials fees if they do not make reasonable efforts to contact the officials and the assigner as early as possible. Details on game fees owed for suspended and cancelled games are posted on the UMLOA website. • Generally if the team contacts the officials (and notifies the assigner) at least 3 hours before the scheduled start, no fee is paid.

- If the team notifies the officials after they have left for the game or after the officials arrive at the game site, the officials are paid half the game fee.
- If the officials are asked to stay on site but may leave before the end of the first half (if the game is played) or within 30 minutes of the start time, two thirds game fee is paid.
- Anything beyond the first half or 30 minutes and the officials will be paid in full.
- Please see the UMLOA website for how back to back games are handled.

Association In Good Standing With YLM

Most youth lacrosse associations are either not-for-profit entities or divisions of a parks and recreation department. YLM does not have any control or influence over the bylaws, administration, or operations of Associate members. However, associations who wish to remain in good standing within YLM must conform to the Operational Policies and other documents contained herein. In addition, associations who wish to remain in good standing must adhere to the rules and policies outlined in the yearly coach training presentation.

To be a member in good standing with YLM, youth lacrosse associations must:

- Pay all dues and fees, submit all required information by designated deadlines.
- Complete all forms by designated deadlines.
- Require all head coaches and CHILL managers to register and fulfill training obligations.
- Submit all team rosters to YLM by the given date.
- Follow YLM's Acceptable Methods of Determining Team

Composition.

- Adhere to the A/B rule as stated in the Association responsibilities section.
- Sign and return a copy of the Arbitration Agreement.
- Comply with and adhere to any additional policies, guidelines, and rules set forth by the YLM board after the publication date of this document.

Appendix A: YLM's Acceptable Methods of Determining Team Composition (AMDTC)

Geography (for use at the U9 and U11 level ONLY). Multiple teams from one association may be divided by public elementary school attendance area. Rosters are subject to YLM board oversight if necessary. Oversight would include, but not be limited to, determining player's addresses and matching them up with elementary schools. Teams will be required to state if they are using this method to divide teams. Double Blind Draft (for use at the U9 & U11 level ONLY).

In a Double Blind Draft, each player is assigned a number.

Coaches determine draft order (and possibly reverse order), then complete a blind draft in which each coach, at his/her designated time, chooses a number from a hat or other device for his/her team. The players whose numbers have been assigned to a roster make up a team. Rosters are subject to YLM board oversight if necessary. Oversight would include asking an association for the paperwork involved in creating and executing the Double Blind Draft. Failure to provide notification of which dividing method was used, or failure to complete the Double Blind Draft as defined here, will lead to possible suspension of the U9 or U11 team/s from YLM.

Blind Evaluation (for use at the U9, U11, U13B and U15B levels).

Players are evaluated by association coaches and/or outside sources, such as high school coaches, coaches/ administrators from another association or a group not affiliated in any way with the evaluating association. All associations are required to notify their District Directors of the date/time of their evaluations. The YLM reserves the right to oversee evaluations and will choose at least two associations per district to observe each year. An example of an appropriate Blind Evaluation is:

Players are assigned a pinnie number and that number is how they are referred to during the evaluation. Skill evaluations will consist of running speed, throwing accuracy, catching ability,

loose ball maneuvers, and teamwork. Players will be ranked with a number system, with higher numbers meaning higher skill. For instance, on a 10-point scale, players will be ranked either a 2, 1, or 0 on each of the five evaluation areas. If applicable, players who qualify for A teams will be pulled out of the player pool. The remaining B players will then be assigned so that each team has an equivalent number of high-scoring players, as well as an equivalent total score.

Blind Evaluation example

Team A has 5 players who score a 10 and Team B has 4 players who score a 10, AND the two teams' overall scores are within 1-2 points of each other, the teams will be in compliance with the Blind Evaluation. If Team A has 5 players who score a 10 and Team B has 8 players who score a 10, AND the two teams' overall scores are within 1-2 points of each other, the teams are NOT in compliance with the Blind Evaluation. If Team A has 5 players who score a 9 and Team B has 8 players who score a 9, AND Team B has over 3 points more than Team A overall, the teams are NOT in compliance.

APPENDIX B: ANNUAL OPERATIONAL CALENDAR

October - November - Annual meeting of all associate/affiliate members. At least one member of all associations that participate in the league should be present for this meeting. The agenda includes:

1. Recap of previous season
2. Treasurer's report
3. Presentation of new items for membership to discuss and vote upon
4. Presentation of any new US Lacrosse rules/guidelines
5. Consensus of new rules/policies/guidelines
6. Publication of next season's deadline calendar dates

December - The webmaster prepares the website to accept new information for the upcoming season. This information includes the association membership application and the address to which fees are sent.

January - Board meeting to discuss any incoming associations and implementation of new policies/guidelines/rules approved in October. January is the deadline for association membership applications, including association/team fees. District directors make contact with associations to determine if contacts are the same or changed. Online team registration also opens.

March - Preparation of coach training presentation and CHILL Manager presentation. Board meeting to discuss distribution of associations/teams within districts.

April - Coach training/CHILL Manager training presentation put on website.

Team/coach/CHILL Manager registration open on website.

April - May - Coach training, CHILL Manager training on weekends or weeknights as requested by associations/districts.

May - Deadline for team submissions. Scheduling for the upcoming season. Transfer of schedule to referee scheduler for assignment of officials.

June - Season starts. State tournament planning begins. Board meeting to assign state tournament duties

July - State tournament format posted to the website. B level playoffs. U11 and U9 Jamborees.

August - State tournament. The state tournament is scheduled for the first weekend in August.

September - Board meeting to discuss prior season and any suggestions for new policies/guidelines/rules.

Appendix C: ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made on May 01, 20__, between Youth Lacrosse of Minnesota of 1761 Valley Ridge Trail South, Chanhassen, Minnesota 55317, hereinafter referred to as First Party and YLM Member Association: _____ of _____, _____, Minnesota _____, hereinafter referred to as Second Party.

WHEREAS, the relationship between the parties commenced January 15, 20__ as defined in the YLM Operational Policies document, which is attached and incorporated herein; AND WHEREAS the parties herein recognize disputes and differences may arise between the parties; **AND WHEREAS the parties agree it is in their best interest to appoint an arbitrator to resolve such disputes as they arise;** NOW IT IS AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES HERETO AS FOLLOWS:

The parties hereto agree to refer the following matters and responsibilities to the Arbitrator:

To resolve all disputes and differences under the YLM Operational Policies document.

The Arbitrator shall direct the parties to file statements of their respective claims, legal submissions and reliefs claimed and each party to file his statement of defense in reply to the statements of claims of others.

The Arbitrator shall allow the parties to produce documents in support of their claims.

The Arbitrator shall direct all pertinent documents and documentation be produced by the parties.

The Arbitrator shall allow the parties to be represented by their respective advocates.

The Arbitrator shall not be bound to take oral evidence but if any party or their witness is examined he will be allowed to be cross-examined.

The Arbitrator shall be allowed to make one or more Interim Awards.

The Arbitrator shall make their award within three weeks from their entering upon the reference but can extend the period from time to time with the consent of all the parties hereto obtained in writing.

In the event of any party refusing to participate in the Arbitration proceedings or remaining absent without valid cause, the Arbitrator shall have power to proceed ex-parte against such party.

The costs of the Arbitration proceedings will be divided in the discretion of the Arbitrators.

The Arbitration, subject to what is herein provided, shall be governed by the Federal Arbitration Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto has caused this Agreement to be signed and delivered by its duly authorized representative as of the first date written above.

Youth Lacrosse of Minnesota

By _____, its President _____

YLM Member Association: _____

By _____, its _____

APPENDIX 1 - Uniform Regulations:

Whilst the rules concerning game jerseys need not be strictly enforced at the youth level, the general intent is that as associations replace their uniforms, these rules be applied. The main goal

is to arrive at **jerseys** with regulation number presentation with no multi-colored or patterned backgrounds. Jerseys shall be of a single, solid color with the following trim specifications permitted:

1. Collar, cuffs and waistband may be of contrasting colors, but not more than 2 inches wide.
2. Side inserts may be of contrasting color(s), but no more than 3 inches wide, and extending vertically no more than the armpit to waistband.
3. Numbers shall be centered vertically and horizontally and at least 8 inches tall on the front and at least 12 inches tall on the back.
4. Numbers may contain contrasting color trim(s) not to exceed 2 inches (the number shall contrast with the body of the jersey).
5. The jersey shall completely cover the shoulder pads.
6. Duplicate numbers on jerseys shall not be permitted on the same team.
7. Contrasting colored piping not to exceed 1/8-inch wide is allowed.
8. Jerseys shall be of contrasting colors for opposing teams. The home team shall wear light jerseys and the visiting team shall wear its dark-color jerseys. The visiting team is responsible for avoidance of similarity of colors, but, if there is doubt, the referee may require the home team to change jerseys.
9. Shorts: All players on the same team shall wear uniform shorts of the same dominant color.

Appendix 2 - Scheduling Policies:

General Principles

All games will be scheduled by the YLM Scheduler. The official schedule will be posted on the YLM website and will be updated as needed. DO NOT assume the schedule posted in June will not change. Check back frequently. Also, anyone whose email address is associated with a team will be emailed if there is a schedule change. It is very helpful if coaches and team administrators are set up for those notifications. Associations are responsible for submitting accurate information for the availability of all teams and fields. Associations and teams are responsible for reviewing the initial schedule and notifying the league about any scheduling issues at least one week prior to the start of the season. After the deadline, games will not be rescheduled unless one of the criteria below is met. Once the season begins, games will generally not be rescheduled unless they meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. Fields closed by the field owner.
2. Weather - generally lightning is the reason a game may be canceled. Other weather issues would generally have to fall under item #1 (decision of the field owner) or be a decision of the YLM (as is the case with excessive heat).
3. YLM Leadership determines the game needs to be rescheduled. Examples might include: A situation arises that is clearly unanticipated and beyond the control of the team(s) involved, excessive heat, etc. Examples of situations where games will be considered a forfeit and not rescheduled:
 - Request to reschedule is submitted late.
 - Reschedule request submitted after first day of season and does not meet one of above listed criteria.
 - Coach or too few players are available or a particular player, e.g. a goalie, is not available.
 - Team did not know the schedule or of a schedule change.
 - Team or association policies or rules that are in conflict with YLM policies.

Rescheduling Process

If a game is not played, the home team may submit a reschedule request found on the website under *on-line forms*, which will be handled as follows:

- The request must be complete and submitted through the YLM website by 8 am on the Saturday immediately after the original game date.
- The request should fall under one of the criteria listed above but all requests will be reviewed.
- The home team may suggest dates, but the YLM Scheduler and Assigner of Officials have the responsibility for selecting the date. Games will generally be rescheduled a) on a date when another team in the home association has a game, b) a Friday, or c) during the week of July 4 for games in June.
- Notification of the new game date, time and location will be through the YLM website.

Appendix 3 - Officials and the YLM

Everyone involved with the YLM must be committed to finding, training, and retaining officials or our league simply cannot function.

Facts About Officials in the YLM

1. The number of officials continues to be one of the biggest limitations on the number of games that can be played each year. It is the primary limitation on scheduling and rescheduling games as well as a limit on the number of teams that can participate in the state tournament.
2. A significant majority of the officials working YLM games are high school students in their first or second year of officiating. Far too many officials quit in that first or second year. If a larger percentage of officials continued on to a second and third year, not only would that help the quantity of officials but the quality of officiating would improve as well.
3. The sport is much better off if we keep officials versus trying to find new ones.
4. The single largest reason, by far, that officials stop officiating is how they are treated during games. In fact there really is no other significant reason why officials quit. When high school and college players are asked to become officials, the number one reason, by far, they cite for not pursuing officiating is that they would not want to be treated the way they see officials treated!
5. It is the responsibility of everyone involved to behave in a manner that supports rather than criticizes officials. Players, coaches, fans, parents, administrators and other officials should follow the rule if you cannot say something nice, do not say anything at all.

How You Can Help Improve Officiating

1. Help recruit new officials and encourage existing officials to keep officiating. New recruits can be directed to the Upper Midwest Lacrosse Officials Association website, www.umloa.org.
2. Before the game coaches and Chill Managers should meet and talk with the officials. Establish a cooperative relationship from the beginning and maintain it throughout the game.
3. After the game, provide a genuine thank you to the officials regardless of what happened during the game. They understand that players, coaches, parents and fans are passionate about the game but a true thank you afterwards goes a long way to making the officials feel appreciated. If there were issues with the officiating, do not bring it up at the game site. This is

NEVER a good time for those discussions. Instead bring it up with league administrators. Also, when critiquing officials (or anyone for that matter) remember to follow the rule of thumb to identify three things that were done correctly for everyone that wasn't.

Questions every coach, player, parent and fan should ask of themselves before and after each game:-

BEFORE: Officiating errors happen and frustrate everyone involved (including the officials). How can I keep a positive attitude toward the officials even when I disagree with their calls?

AFTER: Did I support the officials today? Did I behave in a way to encourage the to keep officiating (or not)?

Appendix 4 - Coach Responsibilities

- Complete mandatory YLM Coaching Certification session:- new coaches must attend in-person certification meeting and Returning coaches must complete 1-hour training.
- Make sure your US Lacrosse coaching membership is current.
- Register on the YLM website. You will indicate your team, provide your contact information and verify which certification class you attended.
- Complete the Coaches Code of Conduct which is part of the coach registration on the YLM website.
- Study the YLM rules and US Lacrosse Youth Addendum found in the NFHS handbook.
- Complete the mandatory Minnesota concussion training. the training can be found a www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/Training/index.html.
- Post your team roster o the YLM website.
- If a game needs to be rescheduled, complete the rescheduling form on the YLM website.
- If you are in need of players for a game, follow the YLM substitution rules and contact the opposing coach prior to the game.
- Control your behavior, the behavior of your assistant coaches, your own players and the parents on the sidelines. This includes respecting your opposition and the officials on the field.
- Complete the Level I coaching training through US Lacrosse.
- Complete a background check screening through your Association.

Appendix 5 - Chill Manager Responsibilities

- Register on the YLM website as the Chill Manager. Your contact information and assigned team will be selected with registration.
- Study the Chill Manager description and understand your role on game day.
- Before the start of each home game, report to the officials that you are the Chill Manager.
- Be firm with an recognizable poor parental behavior on the sidelines for either team.
- Report any poor behavior though an Incident Report located on the YLM website. The more detail reported, the easier it is for the YLM to respond.

Appendix 6 - Administrator Responsibilities

- Register on the YLM website as the Administrator and contact person for your association.
- Verify that all registration deadlines have been followed and all checks have been

submitted to the YLM prior to their due dates.

- Make sure there is a designated representative from your association attending the annual YLM meeting each November.
- Be familiar with the YLM rules and Operational Policies so your teams are compliant.
- Follow-up with your coaches to make sure they are all fulfilling their responsibilities before the season starts. This includes verifying that they have all completed the mandatory YLM coach Certification, Minnesota Concussion Training and required background checks.
- Verify that each participating team is registered, has a Head Coach and a Chill Manager assigned.