

**Sport Alliance League / Club Conference Bylaws (Subsection E.)**  
***Greater Howard “Club” Lacrosse Conference***

Conference Commissioner – Ricky DuBois  
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Click here for [League Website](#) – or type [www.ghclacrosse.com](http://www.ghclacrosse.com)

**Updated: DECEMBER 2025**



**League Description:** The Greater Howard “Club” Lacrosse Conference (GHCLC) hereinafter referred to as the “Conference” or “League” provides an in-season league option for teams seeking a high level of lacrosse. GHCLC is a cooperative effort between the Maryland Youth Lacrosse Association (MYLA) and Howard County Recreation & Parks Department to enable local teams to play within a competitive environment preparing for their summer tournament circuit.

<b>Spring 2026 Key Dates</b>	
Registration (Payment) Early Bird Deadline:	January 9
Registration (Payment) Final Deadline:	January 30
Player & Coach Roster Submission Period:	January 26 – February 13
Schedule Requests Deadline:	February 16
Preseason In-Person Meeting	March 4 (Tentative)
Opening Day for 2030, 2031, and 2032	March 22
Opening Day for 2033 - 2036	March 21

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**All GHCLC rules below are league specific and serve as supplemental guidelines or clarifications to the HCRP Sport Alliance League / Club Conference Bylaws.**

## **I. MEMBERSHIP**

Howard County Recreation & Parks sponsors lacrosse programs that guarantee placement for all players on a first come first serve basis to the extent it can provide coaches and facilities. Howard County Recreation & Parks has players and teams ready for more advanced regional play beyond the typical intramural recreation lacrosse program. The select / travel component of these programs are automatic members of the Conference (i.e. HoCo Lax, Severna Park).

The conference committee can accept members among other Community Sport Organizations (CSO) as well as Independent Clubs Sports Organizations (ICSO) upon application to assure a competitive balance play that provides the best competition for this higher level of skilled players. Accepted members must understand and accept all rules; meet financial obligations of the Conference, provide evidence of liability insurance. 1<sup>st</sup> year membership is probationary. As of 2014, ICSO's must be multi-team programs (not all teams from an ICSO are required to play in the GHCLC). CSO and ICSO administrators that meet the requirements of the Howard County Coaches and Administrators Registry are eligible for consideration for the Competition Committee – contact the Conference Commissioner to apply.

## **II. COMPETITION COMMITTEE**

For the 2026 season, the Conference has established a “Competition Committee” to support and advise the Conference Commissioner on team placement for competitive balance, rostered player exceptions (if any), play-in game advisement, specific age group knowledge or experience, etc.

## **III. ORGANIZATION & CLASSIFICATIONS OF PLAY**

Conference play does not lead to any further levels of competition outside of the program and all play occurs within a regular season and a post season. The regular season is a round robin format of play among teams in divisions within grade groupings with an age requirement as determined by the Conference. A team's performance in regular season play is a factor in post-season tournament placement by the Conference. Post season placement may differ from the regular season placement.

The Conference is a grade-based league with an age requirement. Players who are participating in any high-school level program such as a high school freshman, JV-B, junior varsity, or varsity team are eligible for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade (2030) division **if** they meet the proper Age/Grade requirements.

**Please visit the GHCLC Home Page for Age/Grade Guidelines. <https://www.ghclacrosse.com/>**

If entry applications and field availability results in high number of teams within a grade grouping, the “Conference” will determine need for levels of play within a grouping and subsequently place teams known as “Division Alignment”

**Graduating Years 2030, 2031 and 2032 will play league games on Sundays.**

**Graduation Years 2033 - 2036 will play league games on Sundays.**

<b>Boys</b>	2036	2035	2034	2033	2032	2031	2030
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## **IV. ROSTERS**

Rosters will be submitted via the Sports Engine website.

Each player's full name, date of birth, grade, parent's cell number and jersey number must appear on this form (these fields are required when filling out form). Incomplete rosters will not be accepted. Duplicate jersey numbers will NOT be accepted.

Each parent of Community Sport Organization and Independent Club entered teams is to accept HCRP waiver via the web or however stated by the Conference. Coaches must ensure each player has agreed to terms to the waiver, and also have that team approved by the Conference Manager before a player/team can participate in a conference game.

Failure to confirm roster certification during that process will result in forfeiture of every game until they are on file with the Conference. Referees will not be assigned to any game in which a team does not have a certified roster on file with the Conference.

Any additions or deletions must be put in submitted via the Add/Release Form to the Conference Commissioner before the player is eligible to play. Additions must include all information and waiver forms required with the original roster submittal. No player may be added after the second game of the season. (March 28 and March 29). Players may only play for one team in this conference. Any player on more than one roster will result in the forfeiture of all games scheduled for both teams and the removal of the player from the conference. Each coach should check with the player's parents to ensure that the player is only on one roster.

Players released require approval from the "Conference" before signing on with another team. The team shall officially release a player in writing on the "release player" form before the "Conference" can consider approval for another team.

### **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

Any team rostering an ineligible player shall automatically forfeit each game in which the player participated and/or appeared on the official roster. If a team uses a player under an assumed name, that team shall be suspended from the league. Each game played with that player and all scheduled games not played shall be forfeited to the opponents.

Protests as to the use of an ineligible player must be made within 48 hours of game time during the regular season and within one hour of post-season play. A \$50 protest fee is required. The protest must be submitted in writing to the Conference Commissioner. The protest fee will be refunded if the protest is successful.

### **COACH ELIGIBILITY**

**All Coaches must wear/display their GHCLC League ID when on the field and coaching during Conference play.** This will be enforced by the "Conference" officiating contractor and coaches **not wearing** their ID will be **removed from the field of play.**

### **PLAYER / COACH / SPECTATOR CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

If the game officials hear any use of foul language on or off the field during the game, the team will be given a 1 minute to 3-minute full time penalty. Repeated use of foul language will result in an ejection.

Game officials will not tolerate any form of taunting by players. Anyone who strikes, shoves, pushes, bumps or otherwise physically threatens an official or a member of his/her team or any other team shall automatically be suspended from all Department sponsored activities. All suspensions will be reported to the Mid-Atlantic Recreation & Sports Alliance and will carry to all jurisdictions that participate in MARPSA.

Any player, coach, spectator, administrator who is ejected from a game by an official shall be suspended from any participation for at least 1 game (not including the game from which he/she was ejected). The ejection will be reported to the League Commissioner for review.

The Head Coach is responsible for the conduct of their team and spectators. Failure to act to control spectator behavior will result in the League taking action.

A team member and or spectator may be removed from the immediate field area when deemed necessary by the game official(s) or HCRP staff. Failure to leave the area when requested may result in immediate termination and possible forfeiture of the game.

## V. GAME DAY PROCEDURES

Game set up.

- Requires an official lined field for play; scorer's table/press-box scorekeeper; horn, timekeeper, and a time clock. The scorer's table shall be staffed by no more than 2 people at one time and they must be over the age of 16. Failure to provide this will result in possible movement of all future home games to a HCRP managed site with additional reservation and game set up fees (if fields are available).
  - HCRP handles at HCRP managed facilities
    - Otherwise Home Team provides above

Field Playability Status / Weather Circumstances

- HCRP managed game sites will utilize its field playability / field status recordings. Community Sport Organizations and Independent Clubs using their own home field must inform the conference two hours prior to the starting time. The Conference will make an attempt to move the game. The Home team will be responsible for the rental fee if applicable.
- Below are the 2024 Field Status lines for HCRP managed game sites as well as HCPSS (Howard County Public Schools System).

Blandair Park	MTWTF @ 4pm; S/S @ 7AM with updates (2 hours before game)	410-313-3673
Rockburn/Troy Branch Park	MTWTF @ 4pm; S/S @ 7AM with updates (2 hours before game)	410-313-4455
Cedar Lane Park	MTWTF @ 4pm; S/S @ 7AM with updates (2 hours before game)	410-313-4453
Western Regional Park	MTWTF @ 4pm; S/S @ 7AM with updates (2 hours before game)	410-313-4372

Reporting of Scores

- If you do not have a scorekeeper for your scheduled game, the winning team must report the score to their director. The director can report the score to the Conference Commissioner - Ricky DuBois: [rdubois@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:rdubois@howardcountymd.gov)

## VI. PLAYING RULES

Unless modified by this set of rules, all games will be played in accordance with 2024 NCAA rules. All game balls must state NOCSAE approval. NO NOCSAE, NO GAME. Game rules are decided at the preseason meeting before each season and attached herein as Appendix A. "GHCLC In-Game Rules" will include any exception to the current rules. This document will be approved no later than January 1, 2026 on posted to the league website.

## **VII. SPECTATORS**

- All spectators must view the game from the non-bench side of the field. Only coaches and players on the roster may be in the team area.
- HCDRP managed facilities are smoke free. Playing venues (field, sideline benches, spectator viewing areas, etc) are tobacco free – NO tobacco products
- Blandair Park requires adherence to “Be a GoodSport” program as detailed on field signs.

## **VIII. FOREFEITS**

In the event a team cannot field a team for a game, the coach of that team must notify the Conference Commissioner no later than **12:00pm the day prior to Game Day**. This will allow for adequate time to contact game officials (regarding paying officials) and contact the other team to avoid needless travel to a canceled game. The team that initiates the cancellation shall forfeit that game and loses the game by a score of 1-0. Teams who have forfeited one game may be ineligible for the playoffs.

If a game cannot start because a team has fewer than 10 dressed players, the game shall be declared a forfeit, and the team without necessary personnel shall lose the game by a score of 1-0.

After the forfeit has been declared, both teams may agree to play a “unofficial scrimmage game” with the winning team loaning players to the losing team.

## **IX. MISCELLANEOUS**

**Uniforms** - All teams are required to have two different numbered and colored game jerseys **or** reversible uniforms with numbers on both sides.

**Tie Breaking** - End of season tie breaker procedures:

1. Record/Winning percentage
2. Head to Head
3. Total winning percentage of teams you have beaten
4. Total winning percentage of all your opponents
5. Total goals scored against
6. Coin Toss/Card Draw

**Once a tie is broken, the tie breaker procedures “reset” to the first tiebreaker.**

### **Questions?**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Conference Commissioner, Ricky DuBois, at: (410)-313-4706, [rdubois@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:rdubois@howardcountymd.gov).

**Howard County Recreation & Parks, through its assigned Conference Commissioner, reserves the right to amend the rules and schedules as conditions may warrant. All decisions made by Conference Commissioner are final.**