

### **13. Eligibility**

#### **a. Mission**

It is DFWL's goal to create a funnel-up program in which a player plays for the DFWL program that keeps him within the same system that he will play for within THSLL. Therefore, the DFWL eligibility rules will mirror the THSLL eligibility rules as closely as possible.

#### **b. Who Can Play**

All male students enrolled in kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grades in public or private schools or home school programs are eligible to play on a DFWL Member Program Team.

#### **c. Where to Play**

The DFWL Member Program that a player plays for is determined based on DFWL priority order, which is 1) school enrolled in full-time, 2) home school district, and 3) closest member program. A player may only play for one member program each season. This sequence, along with specific exceptions, is further defined below.

- i. First Priority: A player shall play for the public or private school in which he is enrolled full-time if that school has a lacrosse program.
- ii. Second Priority: If the player's school does not have a lacrosse program, the player shall play for the member program in whose school district he resides. No member program is required to accept a player who does not meet their own published eligibility requirements.
- iii. Third Priority: If the school the player attends does not have a program and the player's home school district does not have a program, the player shall play for the member program that is geographically closest to his residence as measured by the program's school address or home field, whichever is closer.
- iv. Home School Exception: A player enrolled in a home school program shall play for the Home School Athletic Association (HSAA) lacrosse program if such program exists. If HSAA does not have a program, a home school player shall follow Rules 13c(ii) and 13c(iii) above to determine which program he will play for.
- v. Dallas Deuces Exception: Players who attend St. John's Episcopal School, Cistercian School, Good Shepherd, or any Dallas Parochial School may choose to play for Deuces or may follow Rules 13c(i-iii) above to determine which member program they will play for. Siblings of current Deuces players and siblings of current Jesuit College Preparatory School students may also choose to play for Deuces or may follow Rules 13c(i-iii) above to determine which member program they will play for.

#### **d. Hardship Waivers and Transfers**

- i. When registration closes at the beginning of each season, a program's roster is final and the players on that roster may not transfer programs within that season.

- ii. If a player changes schools, moves to a new residence, or falls within an enumerated exception in Rule 13c, that player may transfer programs between seasons following the priority guidelines stated in Rule 13c. However, that player may also choose to remain with the program he played for in the season immediately prior if the player still meets that program's own published eligibility requirements.
- iii. A player wishing to play for a member program other than one dictated by Rule 13c must request a hardship waiver. A hardship waiver request must be submitted to the Board in the form of a written statement explaining the reason for the request and must be accompanied by a written response from *both* the program that the player would play for under Rule 13c *and* the program that the player desires to play for. Hardship waivers will be considered by the Board on a case-by-case basis and must be voted on by all Board members before they are approved.
- iv. When a new member program is created, players who fall into this program under the guidelines set out in Paragraph 13c above may choose to join that new program or may choose to remain with the program they played for in the season immediately prior if the player still meets that program's own published eligibility requirements.