

Wentzville Lacrosse Club

2020 Season

PURPOSE & MISSION

The primary purpose and mission of the Club is to provide players the opportunity for athletic achievement while developing the important values of sportsmanship, teamwork, fair play, character, leadership and scholastic achievement while fielding competitive lacrosse teams and preparing student athletes to achieve their full future potential at the current and next levels.

The club has also set the goal of growing and popularizing the sport of lacrosse sufficiently such that each high school in the Wentzville School District will be able to field a team and to have the sport recognized by MSHAA as a sanctioned sport within the State of Missouri.

TEAMS

The Wentzville Lacrosse Club currently fields a Junior Varsity team and a Varsity team. Placement and playing time on the Varsity team is skill and merit based.

COACHING STAFF & PARENT BOARD

Coaching Staff:

Program Head Coach & Varsity Head Coach – Chris Benton

Varsity Assistant Coach – Brian Benton

Varsity Assistant Coach – Jeff Benton

Junior Varsity Head Coach – Kevin Benton

Junior Varsity Assistant Coach – Mike Canty

Junior Varsity Assistant Coach – Mac Corbett

Parent Board:

President – Allen Akowicz (Oversees general club operations)

Treasurer – Erik Auger (Maintains the club bank account. Handles debits and deposits from all sources of funding)

Secretary – **OPEN (Records minutes of board meetings. Up to 12 meetings / year)**

Registrar – **OPEN (Maintains registrations and payment for players)**

Field Prep – Buddy Lampley (Reserves, preps and maintains the practice field. Sets up table and chairs for games)

Fundraising – Karen Higginbotham (Heads the organization of the major fundraiser activities, NAR, Golf)

Travel – **OPEN (Organizes the road trip. Includes hotel and transportation planning, and meal planning)**

Uniform Maintenance – **OPEN (Maintains the team uniforms. Includes distribution and collection of the uniforms)**

At Large – **OPEN (Available to assist any of the other board functions)**

COMMUNICATION METHODS

The team organization communicates with players and parents using multiple methods.

- Website: Our site is www.wentzvillelax.com. The front page will be updated on a regular basis alerting players and parents of upcoming events.
- Email: We primarily communicate via email. Emails are sent regularly with additional information of interest for upcoming games, social gatherings, travel, etc.
- Text messaging: Valid cell phone numbers and cell provider information are required.
- Twitter: @wentzvillelax
- Facebook: Wentzville Lacrosse Club
- TeamSnap

2020 SEASON INFO

The 2020 season begins February 17th. The JV Season will end in mid-May at the State Championship Tournament hosted by the Parkway West Club. The Varsity season will end after the Varsity State Playoffs in late May.

Our club will also be doing a weekend trip for the JV and Varsity teams. Dates are April 24-26 and the location is Kansas City. It will entail a Friday departure, two nights in a hotel, game play each day, and a Sunday evening return. Information will be made available as the plans progress.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A player shall be eligible to play lacrosse on the Wentzville Lacrosse Club if:

- The player is currently a student at any of the Wentzville High Schools.
- The player is attending a private school that does not field a lacrosse team but lives in the Wentzville School District.
- The player is homeschooled but lives in the Wentzville School District.
- The player lives in a school district without a team and lives closer to The Club's base school, Timberland HS, than to base schools of other existing club teams. Base schools are determined based on where the majority of the teams' players attend.

An eligible player must be a member of US Lacrosse. All players and coaches must be members of US Lacrosse to participate in practices and games. Register at USLacrosse.org. US Lacrosse Memberships for all coaches and players must not expire before May 31st of the current season.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Players are expected to carry themselves as responsible members of the community while they are representing the Wentzville Lacrosse Club. The expectations and requirements for each player who joins The Club are as follows:

- Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, vaping, and illegal drugs
- Behave in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. Arguing with coaches, parents, fans, or the referees is prohibited.
- Refrain from profane language or gestures
- Maintain proper respect for authority, including coaches and referees at all times

Those players who fail to maintain these standards will be subject to extra conditioning, suspension from the team, or expulsion from the team. The Citizenship Guidelines used by the Wentzville School District will be referred to as necessary. The Club Board and Coaches reserve the right to extend recommended punishments outlined in the Citizenship Guidelines if the violation is deemed extreme in nature.

Likewise, parents are expected to act accordingly. Parents will not heckle or verbally abuse referees, coaches, opponents, or other fans. We strive to be a model organization within the St. Louis Lacrosse Community. So let's all do our part.

PRACTICES & GAMES

Regular practice is necessary for game success. Therefore, like other HS sports, practice will be held Monday – Friday, from 4-6PM or a similar time depending on weather, Daylight Savings, Field Availability, etc. Regular practices on Saturdays should be expected for the first several weeks of the season.

Each team, Varsity and JV, will play roughly 16 games during the season. Game schedules will be posted on TeamSnap.

Practice location is Bluebird Meadow Park in Dardenne Prairie at 1668 Henning Road
Home games are played at Heartland Park in Wentzville at 100 William Dierberg Drive

ABSENCES

Regular attendance at all practices and games is expected. The Coaching Staff should be made aware of ALL absences. Unexcused absences will be addressed by the coaching staff. **Players** should be the ones who contact the coaches in the case of an absence. Contact information for the coaches will be provided.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT and GAME DAY VOLUNTEERING

The main desire of the Club Board and Coaching Staff is for the players to be a successful team for their school district. This can only happen if the club is successful FOR your player. We need to continue to build a strong club that allows our players to strive for higher levels. Parental involvement is fundamental to meet that goal. Therefore parental involvement is mandatory. There are several opportunities to participate during the season.

Game Day Positions

- Game & Practice Field Preparation
- Score Keeper
- Timer
- Play Caller

Each home game requires 4 to 5 parents. This means on each home game date where the JV and Varsity are playing, we need 8 to 10 parents to help out with the different jobs at the game. For road games, 2 to 4 parents are required as score keepers for both games. Please be prepared to sign up for two slots during the season in one of the above positions. We use an online App where you can sign-up for a particular task on a particular date. A \$100 volunteer deposit will be required. Once the family has fulfilled two game activities, the \$100 will be returned to you. A buyout option is available to families who choose to not be involved in game day activities. The buyout is \$100 per family. A roster of positions will be available for you to register. If you're not sure what you want to do, then the club will assign you to a particular position. Training will be provided.

COSTS

The membership fee for the 2020 season will be \$625. Two fundraiser opportunities per year will be provided to help offset the cost of dues.

- Coaching Staff Salary and Expenses
- Practice Field Rental
- Game Field Rental
- Game Referees
- Athletic Trainer for each game
- MSLA Dues
- Varsity Jamboree
- JV Tournament Entry Fee
- Replacement Equipment such as goals, nets, balls, etc.
- Website and TeamCaller Service
- Game Film
- Banquet and Awards
- Senior Night Awards

Each player must also provide a \$200 Uniform Deposit. All checks should be post-dated for June 1st 2020. All checks will be held until the end of the season. When all uniforms have been returned in good condition, the check will be returned to the player or will be shredded if desired. No uniform items will be issued to a player until a deposit check has been submitted.

DUES REFUNDS

The refund schedule will be as follows.

If the player quits before the first practice on February 17th, a full refund will be issued. Refunds for dues paid by credit card will include the 3% fee charged during online registration.

If the player quits before March 1st, the refund will be \$200.

If the player quits March 1st, or any time thereafter, no refund will be issued.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

Each player must have the following equipment:

- Shoulder Pads
- Elbow Pads
- Navy Blue (Predominantly) Gloves
- Stick
- Mouth Guard
- Cup
- Cleats
- Running shoes
- Navy Blue Helmet. The team has several Cascade Helmets available for purchase at significantly reduced cost.

All players will receive a practice jersey, a home uniform, and a road uniform to use during the season. All uniform items must be returned at the end of the season.

FUNDRAISERS

Since we are a club sport, we need to fundraise in order to provide a memorable high school team experience for all of the boys. This includes doing a weekend out of town road trip. Weekend travel opportunities are not something typical from clubs similar to ours in Missouri.

The success of our major fundraiser is necessary to travel. We schedule a fun social evening for the parents and their friends to get together and have a good time while helping to support your sons' lacrosse habit. Our fund raiser is called "A Night at the Races". It is a horse racing event that is very interactive and very fun. It is scheduled for March 14th, 2020. Each family is asked to fill a table of 10 with their friends and neighbors, and to solicit donations from businesses for auction baskets, round prizes, etc. More information will be made available as the event approaches. Funds raised at this event directly fund our travel.

Other fundraisers will be TJ's Pizza and Desserts. We do one event in the Fall/Winter and another just before Easter. These are very easy for the boys to participate in. We schedule these so that orders will be submitted and returned in time for the holiday they precede. Funds raised by the each player participating will be applied to their dues for the season. \$2 per item sold will be applied. The player must have paid dues and the player must remain a club member for the entire season.

We also host a golf tournament during the summer. Date and golf club location is TBD. Funds from this event are directed towards the Club's general operation costs.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

Please feel free to contact Allen Akowicz with any questions or concerns with anything discussed here. You may contact him by phone at 636.439.0341 or via email at admin@wentzvillelax.com.