



MEMBERSHIP POLICIES

Rights and Obligations

The Ontario Lacrosse Association

ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

Membership Policies

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Governing Structure

Objective

B2.01 To govern, promote, develop and foster the game of lacrosse at all levels and in all forms, to all residents regardless of race, sex, creed, age or economic status throughout the Province of Ontario.

C2.08(a) The Ontario Lacrosse Association condemns and refuses to ignore or tolerate any expression of racial, cultural or religious bias by all involved in the game of lacrosse, and furthermore will discipline any league, zone, association, team coach, player or referee found to be involved in an incident of a racial, cultural or religious nature. The severity of the incident is to determine the level of disciplinary action taken. This may include suspensions, fines and/or removal of association membership effectively banning those responsible from league play for a determined period of time.

Structure

The Ontario Lacrosse Association is a non-profit corporation, the affairs of which are managed by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors are elected by the Membership at the Annual General Meeting, as defined by the OLA By-laws. The Ontario Lacrosse Association is governed by its member-approved Constitution, By-laws and Rules and Regulations

Board of Governors

The Board of Directors sit on the membership board named the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors consist of the Board of Directors and duly elected representatives of Clubs and Associations (including but not limited to Minor Associations, Referee Association, Leagues and Zones).

B4.01(a) The Board of Governors of the Corporation shall consist of a President, Immediate Past President, Zone Directors, League Commissioners, one Ontario Lacrosse Referee Association Representative and eight (8) Vice Presidents for the following positions: -

- First (1st) V.P. Administration (Major)
- Second (2nd) V.P. Administration (Minor)
- Third (3rd) V.P. Finance (Operations)
- Fourth (4th) V.P. Administration (Field)
- Fifth (5th) V.P. Technical (Coaching)
- Sixth (6th) V.P. Technical (Officiating)
- Seventh (7th) V.P. Development
- Eighth (8th) V.P. Promotion

B4.01(b) The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors annually.

B4.02 The Board of Directors of the Corporation shall consist of the President, Immediate Past President and eight (8) Vice Presidents.



Meetings of the Board of Governors

B6.02 The Board of Governors will meet quarterly. A special meeting of the Board of Governors may be called by the President or at the request of three or more Governors. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors meetings will be held in conjunction with the Semi Annual meeting, in May, in September and in conjunction with the O.L.A. A.G.M. Dates for all Board of Governors meeting will be published by January 15th annually.

Board of Directors

B4.02 The Board of Directors of the Corporation shall consist of the President, Immediate Past President and eight (8) Vice Presidents.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

B6.06 The Board of Directors will meet regularly throughout the year a minimum of ten (10) times, in addition to any special meetings called by the President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors

Parliamentary Authority

B8.01 The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

Membership Defined

C3.01 The Corporation shall be composed of Club, Minor Associations, and individuals who have been accepted as members and who agree to abide by and comply with the Corporation.

Article III: Members B3.01 – B3.06

Members are Clubs or Associations, Individual Members and Life Members

Financial & Administrative Obligations

B3.02 Membership may be renewed annually on payment of the entry fees and any outstanding bonds or assessments incurred and on submission of a completed membership form(s).

Membership Eligibility

Clubs and Associations

B3.01 Any Major, Senior, Junior clubs or Minor Associations may become a voting member of the Corporation by making application to the Executive Director of the Corporation and being accepted by the Board of Directors. To qualify, the applicant(s) shall submit a completed application form signed by the owners of the club, or officers of the Minor Association accompanied by the annual entry fee and performance bond as set out for the category in which the team wishes to compete.

Membership Policies

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B3.01(c) Any new minor association that has been accepted by the Board of Governors will be subject to a probation period which will be reviewed annually as necessary by the Minor Council. B3.02 Membership may be renewed annually on payment of the entry fees and any outstanding bonds or assessments incurred and on submission of a completed membership form(s).

B3.03 The Corporation may accept for membership, Club(s), Minor Associations(s), or players whose base of residence is outside the Province of Ontario subject to compliance with the regulation of the Canadian Lacrosse Association, the Corporation, and all government laws.

B3.04 As a condition of membership any club, minor association, officer, player or any combination of same shall agree to abide by the regulations of the Corporation and the rulings of the Board of Directors and its committees. A breach of this condition of membership shall be subject to a review by the Board of Governors who will determine appropriate action.

B3.04(b) Regulations of the Corporation as they apply to Minor Associations would include all items referenced in B3.01(b) and ALL minor associations must hold an Annual General Meeting, which would be publicly communicated to its members at least 30 days in advance, and would include a reviewed financial reporting on operations to all its members. The AGM Minutes, attendance record and financial statement will be provided to the OLA office upon request.

Individual Members

B3.05 Any person eighteen years of age or over who is a resident of the Province of Ontario and who has been nominated by a Director, Member Club or a Minor Association is eligible for election to the Board of Directors.

B3.06 Any person who has been elected or appointed an officer of the Corporation shall become a member of the Corporation.

Life Members

B3.07 The objectives, criteria and life member entitlements shall be those approved by the Board of Governors as part of the O.L.A. Life Membership Policy. (See OR6.01)

Obligations of Members

Harassment

All OLA members must abide by the OLA Harassment Policy ⁱ

OR3.01(a) The OLA is committed to promoting a sport environment in which the terms and conditions of participation are equitable and non-discriminatory. Every participant has the right to be treated with dignity and respect and to work, train and compete in a environment conducive to productivity, self-development and performance advancement based upon individual interest and ability. The OLA will foster a sport environment free of harassment on the basis of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital/family status or an offence for which a pardon has been granted.

Code of Conduct

All members of the Ontario Lacrosse Association must abide by the OLA Code of Conductⁱⁱ

Code of Conduct B3.08 – OLA CODE OF CONDUCT

This code of conduct identifies the standard behaviour which is expected of all OLA members and participants, which for purpose of this policy shall include all players, guardians, parents, coaches, officials, volunteers, directors, officers, committee members, convenors, team managers, trainers, administrators and employees involved in OLA activities and events.

Criminal Record Checks

OR4.01 – CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK (CRC) (Vulnerable Sector)ⁱⁱⁱ

OR4.01(a) All OLA bench personnel (coaches, staff, trainers, etc.) and all OLA certified officials (box and field) who are 18 years of age as of January 1st of the current year who coach or officiate athletes 17 years of age or younger must submit a current Criminal Record Check (Vulnerable Criminal Record Check) (CRC) upon registering for the current year. For previously approved individuals, an Offense Declaration must be submitted as per OR4.01(b). It is the position of the OLA that all OLA member clubs with additional registered volunteers who have direct contact with athletes 17 years of age or younger also submit a CRC. All OLA employees and Staff must submit a CRC.

Provincial Fees & Financial Obligations

All teams are subject to an annual membership fee to participate in the Ontario Lacrosse Association Leagues and Provincials.

Fees & Bonds R4.01(a) (Junior to Major teams)

The annual membership fee shall be as follows:

Major \$1132 \$1160 \$1177

Senior Series \$963 \$987 \$1002

Junior "A" Series \$1009 \$1034 \$1050

Junior "B" Series \$883 \$905 \$919

Junior "C" Series \$594 \$609 \$618

Women's Sr. \$310 \$318 \$323

*Payment of the above fees and any other obligation to the Corporation shall entitle a team to two votes at the Annual General Meeting.

MR1.01(a) (Minor Lacrosse teams)

Each year, the preceding year's Annual Membership fees for the O.L.A. Intermediate, Midget, Bantam, Pee Wee, Novice and Tyke teams shall be indexed to the change in the Consumer Price Index for the period covering the preceding twelve (12) months ending August 31st in the current year, and are payable upon registration at the Annual Meeting or by June 1st (Refer also to MR2.02). Each year, the preceding year's Annual Membership fees for O.L.A. Paperweight teams shall be indexed to the change



in the Consumer Price Index for the period covering the preceding twelve (12) months ending August 31st in the current year, and are payable upon registration at the Annual Meeting or by June 1st. (Refer also to MR2.02)

MR1.01(b) In any year, the Annual Membership Fee (the “Fee”) for new Associations operating on a house league basis only shall be the preceding year’s Fee indexed to the change in the Consumer Price Index for the period covering the preceding twelve (12) months ending August 31st in the current year. Such status entitles these associations to OLA/AGM voting rights.

Membership

Major, Senior, Junior clubs and Minor Associations

B3.01 Any Major, Senior, Junior clubs or Minor Associations may become a voting member of the Corporation by making application to the Executive Director of the Corporation and being accepted by the Board of Directors. To qualify, the applicant(s) shall submit a completed application form signed by the owners of the club, or officers of the Minor Association accompanied by the annual entry fee and performance bond as set out for the category in which the team wishes to compete.

Minor Associations

B3.01(b) The completed application form submitted by the officers of the minor associations must include the following:

- List of Association Executive Officers
- Profile of the Association
- Scope of Lacrosse Operation
- Constitution & Bylaws
- Detailed Operating Budget
- Partnership Support
- Not for Profit Status

B3.01(c) Any new minor association that has been accepted by the Board of Governors will be subject to a probation period which will be reviewed annually as necessary by the Minor Council.

B3.02 Membership may be renewed annually on payment of the entry fees and any outstanding bonds or assessments incurred and on submission of a completed membership form(s).

B3.03 The Corporation may accept for membership, Club(s), Minor Associations(s), or players whose base of residence is outside the Province of Ontario subject to compliance with the regulation of the Canadian Lacrosse Association, the Corporation, and all government laws.



Life Members

OR6.01 Nomination Process:

Nominations for Life Membership must be made in writing, on the prescribed Ontario Lacrosse Association form, and must be in the office of the Executive Director of the Ontario Lacrosse Association no later than 5 PM of the last business day preceeding September 30th of each year. All nominations received by the Executive Director must be date-stamped and hand signed on the date they were received by the Executive Director or his/her designate. The Executive Director must confirm receipt of all nominations by return email.

Officials

OR7.03(e) Referees shall have an Operating Council (association) and shall have first right of jurisdiction over the operations (i.e. discipline, registrations, etc.) of its members. They shall be bound by the Bylaws of the O.L.A. and accountable to both the Board of Directors and the Board of Governors.

Junior to Major Referee Regulations

R18.01 The Referee Assignor shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. He/she shall be responsible to the Technical Director and the Vice President Technical (Officiating) who in turn are responsible to the Board of Directors.

R18.02 A Board of referees shall be appointed by the Technical Director and the Vice President Technical (Officiating) each year for the approval of the Board of Directors. The referee assignor shall appoint referees from the Board of Referees.

R18.03 The list of members of the Board of Referees and their municipalities shall be submitted to each club or association in each series; to each member of the Board of Directors and to the Ontario Lacrosse Referees' Association.

R18.04 Players registered by the O.L.A., coaches, managers, trainers, team executive members, employees or individuals connected with Junior, Senior or Major O.L.A. teams shall not be allowed to referee Junior, Senior or Major O.L.A. games, without the permission of the Board of Directors.

R18.05 No referee shall be assigned to any games until his application is received and approved by the Technical Director of the Corporation.

R18.06 The official referee uniform shall be as specified by the Board of Directors.

R18.07 The referee assignor shall appoint two referees for all games in the Major, Senior and Junior games.

R18.08 The first named of the two referees shall be the senior referee and in case of dispute or disagreement, his decision shall be final.



R18.09 The senior official shall make the original opening face-off.

R18.10 In the event that a referee does not appear in time to officiate at a game, the home club shall immediately notify one of the following: The referee assignor, the series Commissioner or the O.L.A. President.

R18.11 If a referee is late, he shall be fined one dollar per minute to a maximum of thirty dollars. The fine shall commence fifteen minutes before the scheduled starting time of the game. The fine may be waived due to extenuating circumstances.

R18.12 Traveling expenses allowed in addition to the referee's fee shall be as set by the Board of Directors. Referees shall travel together when from the same vicinity.

R18.13 The competing clubs shall each pay half the total fees and mileage of the officials before the game commences. The referees are responsible for the enforcement of this ruling.

R18.14 Referees will be paid travelling expenses in the form of a mileage fee which is to be calculated as the shortest distance on all weather roads between the referee's home and the game site. Referees shall travel together when from the same vicinity. Conflicts between teams and referees in regard to mileage charges shall be settled by the Technical Director of the O.L.A.

Minor Referee Regulations

MR9.01 The Corporation Referee-in-Chief will be appointed by the Board of Directors and be responsible for the carding of the officiating staff.

MR9.02 The Corporation Referee-in-Chief shall be responsible for the appointment of all referees for corporation sanctioned tournaments.

MR9.03 Subject to the decision of the Corporation Referee-in-Chief, no referee shall officiate in a tournament game in which a team from his residential club is a participant.

MR9.04 All referees must be certified by the NLRCP (National Lacrosse Referee's Certification Program) in the current calendar year prior to officiating any games. Referees may be required to undergo a re-evaluation at any time as designated by the Corporation Referee-in-Chief for the purpose of promoting or demoting their classification. NOTE: All referees participating in Winter Leagues will be deemed certified until March 31 of the following year. (Winter League runs from Nov. 1 through March 31)

MR9.05(a) The approved referee assignor shall appoint two referees for all games in Minor Lacrosse, rep and house league. The first named of the two referees shall be the senior referee and in case of dispute or disagreement, his decision shall be final.

MR9.06(b) Referees consistently refusing assignments to games will be disciplined by the appropriate Referee-in-Chief. MR9.06 In those instances where a Corporation referee does not appear for a

scheduled game, the costs involved for the floor time and travelling time shall be paid by the Corporation. Disciplinary action will be taken if the official is at fault.

MR9.07 The referee shall proceed to the centre of the arena precisely as the time at which the match is advertised to commence and commence the play by facing-off the ball. Prior to the start of the game he should see the names of all players participating are recorded on the referee form and inspect said players and their certificates recorded on the game sheet, if requested.

MR9.08 Referees shall be required to indicate, in writing, on the game sheet their name and assigned number.

MR9.09 Referees fees will be set in accordance with the budget, annually, before the season by the Corporation, and will be communicated to the membership annually

Coaching

Junior to Major Coaching Requirements

R1.10 Teams may have a maximum of six bench personnel on the bench during a game, one of which must be a certified trainer. All approved and carded Bench Personnel must meet the following requirements to participate in OLA sanctioned games:

I. A first year Jr. to Major coach/bench personnel must have successfully completed the Competitive Introduction clinic. This grants the level of 'in training'

II. A second year Jr. to Major coach/bench personnel must have completed and submitted the clinic workbook prior to March 31st of the year following the clinic. This grants the level of 'trained'.

III. A third year coach must have completed the balance of the requirements and be a fully 'certified' Competitive Introduction level coach. Note: Trainers may be approved and carded to participate in OLA sanctioned games as Bench Personnel upon (1) completing and submitting an approved trainers course or (2) approved first aid program in the current or previous two years (as required by the certifying organization).

Minor Coaching Requirements

MR2.12(a) No one but the player in uniform, coach and suitable attired trainers shall be permitted to occupy the bench so provided. Maximum of five (5) non-playing personnel allowed on the bench, one of whom must be a certified trainer. NOTE: Suitably attired shall be defined by each member association.

MR2.12(b) All approved and carded bench personnel must meet the following requirements to participate in OLA sanctioned games;

a) A first year minor coach / bench personnel must have successfully completed Coaching 1 (Community Development) Clinic and completed the accompanying workbook by December 31st of the same year;

b) All coaches coaching Peewee and below need to be Community Coach Development in training or trained



c) All coaches coaching Bantam and above would need to be Competitive Introduction in Training or Trained.(accompanying workbook must be completed by December 31st of the same year.

d) Trainers must have an approved and valid trainer's certificate (or its equivalent) and must be present during all zone, interlock, tournament and Provincial Play. NOTE: All rep teams must have a certified coach and a certified trainer on their bench (however only one certified trainer is allowed on the bench at any one time). In case of emergency, a team may agree to have the opposition team's trainer act as theirs

MR2.12 (c) O.L.A. Technical Director will establish and maintain a data base for all bench staff. By Oct 1 annually, the O.L.A. Technical Director will submit a complete list of all Coaching Clinic attendees and the status of workbook submissions for the current year to each Club/League registrar, copied to the Zone Registrar and Zone Director. By February 15th annually, the O.L.A. Technical Director will submit a detailed record of all bench staff credentials, including workbook status and current C.L.A./O.L.A. requirements for bench staff approval to each Club/League registrar, copied to the Zone Registrar and Zone Director, based on the Club/League's prior year's O.L.A. approved registration cards.

NOTE: All coaching clinics MUST be completed two weeks prior to the Victoria Day holiday.

Operating Councils

OR7.03(a) Each year, the Board of Governors shall establish Operating Councils for the various aspects of lacrosse. At a minimum, they shall establish a Combined Box Operating Council and a Combined Field Operating Council. The Combined Box Operating Council shall divide itself into a Major Operating Council (for the Junior B, Junior A, Major and Senior operations) and a Minor Operating Council (for the Tyke through Intermediate operations). The Combined Field Operating Council shall divide itself into Men's Operating Council and Women's Operating Council.

OR7.03(b) Membership on these councils shall consist of each of the League Commissioners and Zone Directors, from the respective areas that the relevant Council represents. A member of the Board of Directors, as appointed by the President, shall act as Chairperson on each of the Councils. i.e. Officio members of the Councils shall consist of the executive Director, Technical Director, Program Coordinator and the members of the Board of Directors.

OR7.03(c) Each Operating Council (Major, Minor, Men's and Women's) shall have jurisdiction over the operations (i.e. player movement discipline, registrations, etc.) of its constituent bodies. Matters that overlap jurisdiction of an individual operating council shall be dealt with by the Combined Operating Council. However, each Council shall be accountable to both the Board of Directors and Board of Governors.



Attachments

- ⁱ OLA Harassment Policy
- ⁱⁱ OLA Code of Conduct
- ⁱⁱⁱ OLA Criminal Record Check (Vulnerable Sector)

