

ILLINOIS YOUTH LACROSSE LEAGUE

The Illinois Youth Lacrosse League (IYLL) is sanctioned by US Lacrosse.

IYLL follows and is guided by [US Lacrosse rules and regulations](#). US Lacrosse is our governing body and we refer to USL for guidance on best practices for development, competition

The IYLL and its leadership team in cooperation with participating IYLL directors groups, will be responsible for the oversight and operations of the league and shall conduct the business of the league to assure that all matters and games are conducted in the best interest of the IYLL, community organizations, teams, players, coaches and managers participating in the IYLL.

IYLL Rules and Regulations is a live document that is constantly reviewed and improved. Each year after division meetings and before the start of the season, the document will 'freeze' to insure no rule or regulation changes occur during a season. The document opens again post playoffs and after season review and feedback is submitted.

MISSION

1. To operate a fair and competitive league specifically designed for community-based lacrosse clubs.
2. To develop and promote the development of lacrosse in Illinois by offering, establishing, and maintaining the highest standards of excellence and sportsmanship in the individualized and team play.
3. To improve and promote lacrosse through cooperation with US Lacrosse and other local, state, and national governing bodies.
4. To promote excellence in sportsmanship, and personal conduct among lacrosse players by establishing and maintaining the highest standards for participating teams and players as a condition for membership in the League.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

1. All IYLL teams must have ALL players and sideline coaching staff properly registered as current members with US Lacrosse.
 - a. All players and coaches must be current US Lacrosse members for the duration of league games and playoffs.
 - b. All IYLL member clubs must have a US Lacrosse Level 1 Certified coach on sideline for all games.
2. Signed Team rosters are due to the league by specified yearly dates.
 - a. Roster dates found on ["Important Dates"](#).
 - b. Roster submission is done using the IYLL roster template found on the IYLL website.
 - c. After final roster submission, no new player may be added to a team roster after the roster due date without the approval of the IYLL.
3. IYLL Teams must prioritize IYLL games over all other games, leagues, and tournaments.
 - a. Member clubs are welcome to participate in outside IYLL events such as tournaments, game days and league.

- b. IYLL member clubs are expected to prioritize IYLL games should a scheduling conflict arise.
- 4. IYLL Teams are expected to follow US Lacrosse rules and regulations.
 - a. The IYLL reserves the right to enforce rules and regulations concurrently or in addition to any US Lacrosse rules and regulations.
- 5. All registered IYLL teams must have submitted full payment for participation before the release of the final schedule. Any teams that have not paid in full by the required deadline will be subject to removal from the schedule for that season.

USL MEMBER VERIFICATION AND ROSTER SUBMISSION PROCESS

- 1. IYLL teams are responsible for their player and coach membership verification.
 - a. Verification Options
 - i. USL integrated registration platform (Sportengine, League Apps, SI Play etc)
 - ii. Use a batch registration program with US Lacrosse
- 2. IYLL teams Directors will submit roster of USL member players to IYLL using the US Lacrosse roster submission template located at www.il-yll.com
 - a. Roster information submitted to IYLL will include:
 - i. Player Name
 - ii. Team, Division, Level
 - iii. Uniform number
 - iv. DOB
 - v. US Lacrosse member number

IYLL ZERO TOLERANCE SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

- 1. In an effort to make IYLL an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all participants, The Illinois Youth Lacrosse League has implemented an “Absolute Zero Tolerance Policy” with respect to the behavior of the players, coaches, referees and parents participating in or viewing a game. We are instructing any official who officiates a IYLL game to adhere to certain points of emphasis relating to sportsmanship. This policy is designed to require all players, coaches, officials, team officials, administrators, spectators and parents to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all IYLL sanctioned games. We are instructing all Referees to carry out the following:
 - a. **For Players:**
 - A personal foul for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:
 - i. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
 - ii. Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.

- iii. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.
- iv. Any physical contact using the body or the stick after the whistle has blown.
- v. Receives a game misconduct penalty during the game, the IYLL Field manager will submit an incident report for IYLL review. Following review, additional investigation with penalized player/coach, head coach or director, and opposing team head coach may be required.
- vi. Any "Fighting" penalty assessed in a IYLL game will result in an automatic (3) League game suspension for the affected player. (The next 3 consecutive League games).

b. For Coaches:

It is the IYLL's belief that a coach's behavior determines how his players and parents will behave. Therefore, a personal foul for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a coach:

- i. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
- ii. Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time at the rink before, during or after the competition.
- iii. Usually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision including walking on the field with intent of inciting the officials, players or spectators. Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.
- iv. Receives a game misconduct penalty during the game, the IYLL Field manager will submit an incident report for IYLL review. Following review, additional investigation with penalized player/coach head coach or director, and opposing team head coach may be required.
- v. Any "Fighting" penalty assessed in a IYLL game will result in an automatic (3) League game suspension for the affected player. (The next 3 consecutive League games).

c. For Officials:

- i. Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited. Officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind. Any official, who cannot or does not wish to enforce the IYLL Absolute Zero Tolerance Policy, will not be scheduled for future IYLL games.

2. IYLL conduct board will review any incidents it deems necessary.

- a. The conduct board is comprised of volunteer member club Directors.
- b. Members of this board are assigned once all teams are registered and from interested club Directors.

- c. This conduct board is responsible for reviewing the code of conduct, sportsmanship, and the reported game incident.
- d. The conduct board will meet the week after the reported incident to review, discuss and provide any outcome of the incident.

COMMUNICATION

1. IYLL will clearly post and communicate league information, updates, schedule and procedures accurately and in a timely manner.
 - a. www.il-yll.com will be the hub for all information related to the current IYLL season.
 - b. Information and updates will be announced via IYLL website, and direct email to member club directors.
2. Club Directors and or Coaching staff are responsible for communicating the following IYLL information to players and family:
 - a. Team schedule
 - i. [Game Day Schedule is located on the IYLL](#)
 - b. Procedures
 - c. Expectations
 - d. Code of conduct/Sportsmanship policy

IYLL SCHEDULING, TIME KEEPER & REFEREE ASSIGNMENT

1. Games will be scheduled and released to Club Directors by the IYLL.
 - a. Games will be scheduled based on division and level teams register for.
2. All league game referees will be scheduled through the IYLL by local referee associations. (RVOA, GLLOA).
 - a. No referee may be related as a parent or sibling to a coach or player on a competing team unless notified and consented to in advance by the opposing team.
3. The IYLL is responsible for supplying a field manager and score/time keeper.

DIVISIONS, AGE ELIGIBILITY, TEAM AND PLAYER PLACEMENT, PLAYER MOVEMENT

3. [Divisions and Age Eligibility](#)
 - a. 08U | 9/1/12 - 8/31/15 | Grades K - 2nd
 - b. 10U | 9/1/10 - 8/31/12 | Grades 3rd - 4th
 - c. 12U | 9/1/08 - 8/31/10 | Grades 5th - 6th
 - d. 14U | 9/1/06 - 8/31/08 | Grades 7th - 8th (no HS players allowed regardless of age)
4. **Team Placement within Divisions**

- a. Teams are placed by community club directors at registration. All team placement are subject to review and movement by IYLL.

5. Division Level Descriptions and Placement Guide.

- a. A Level | Team consists of top players of the Division or 75% of players are highest age or grade
- b. B Level | Team consists of 50% of the highest grade. Team is made of competitive, experienced players
- c. C Level | Team is largely developing players new to the game. Recreational players only.

6. Team Change and Player Movement

- a. Players can only be rostered on one team, including regular season and IYLL playoffs.
- b. Players are able to move up Levels and Divisions.
- c. Players may NOT move down Levels or Divisions
 - i. **12U and 14U**
 - 1. Players are able to move up a level one time, during the season.
 - 2. This is a one time move, and a
 - 3. Player movement must be submitted to IYLL no later than Wednesday prior to game day.
 - 4. Players without a movement form submitted are ineligible to play.
 - 5. Once a player moves up a level, said player cannot move back down a level for the remainder of that season and playoffs.
 - ii. **10U and 8U**
 - 1. Players may move up a level during the season to avoid a forfeiture.
 - 2. Moved players must return to the original rosters for playoffs.
 - 3. Player movement must be submitted to IYLL no later than the Wednesday or 3 days prior to game day.
 - 4. Players without a movement form submitted are ineligible to play.
 - 5. No player movement are allowed for playoffs.

PRE GAME PROCEDURES

- 1. Coaching staff should arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of the first game.
- 2. Coaching staff will need to acknowledge pregame check with assigned game official.
- 3. Coaching staff is responsible for completing the pregame roster check with the IYLL time keeper.
- 4. Teams should supply first aid supplies for their team.
- 5. Teams are responsible for cleaning up their bench after each game.
- 6. Listed home teams are responsible for endline balls for their game.
- 7. Fans must remain 5 yards from sideline line opposite of player bench

8. No fans or coaches are allowed on end lines.

OFFICIAL GAMES, GAME CANCELTION AND MAKEUP DATES

1. Game Changes

- a. Weekend game changes are to be communicated by IYLL by Wednesday at 9am the week of the scheduled game.

2. Cancellation Procedures

- a. IYLL is responsible for cancellations as a result of weather, field conditions and or acts of God, or facility restrictions or mandates.
- b. IYLL is responsible for communicating cancellations to team directors.
 - i. Team director is responsible for communicating to their respective members.

3. Day of Weather Related Cancellations

- a. Will be announced 2 hours prior to the game start time when applicable.

4. Lightning/Thunder Pre Game, During Game or During any IYLL Organized Event

- a. When thunder or lightning is heard/seen or Thor Guard sounds, the thunderstorm presents danger.
- b. Suspend play and take shelter immediately.
 - i. Once play has been suspended, wait a minimum of 30 minutes after the last thunder lightning or Thor Guard notification prior to resuming play.
 - ii. Any subsequent thunder or lightning inside a 30-minute count, reset the clock and another 30minute count should begin.
- c. If a game reaches half time, the game is official and scores will be submitted.
 - i. See IYLL Official Game below.

5. IYLL Official Game

- a. Games may be called because of weather or other reasons.
- b. If an IYLL game has started and the game has to be stopped for any reason then:
 - a. A game is considered 'Official' once the game has reached halftime. Or once the end of the 1st half or 2nd quarter whistle has blown. At that point the game is official and will be submitted as such.
 - b. Terminated games that have not reached the end of the 1st half or 2nd quarter, will be rescheduled and no game score will be submitted.

2. Rescheduling Games

- a. Canceled games or game days will be announced and rescheduled by IYLL.
 - i. Reserved 'makeup days' are identified and announced with season schedule release.

POST-GAME PROCEDURES

1. Teams meet at half field for handshake
 - a. COVID or social distancing restrictions will override any team handshakes

- i. If social distancing restrictions are in place, teams will gather on their respective halves, and do a 'traditional' lacrosse cheer for the opposing team.
2. Players and Coaches clean sidelines
3. Coaches confirm score with officials/timekeeper
4. Winning team reports scores on IYLL website within 24 hours of game completion
 - a. The IYLL will communicate only with the team(s) director or coach regarding any discrepancy of reported scores.

REGULAR SEASON AND PLAYOFFS

1. All league games shall be played. There shall be no forfeits agreed upon by any teams. If all games are played in a division with a balanced schedule, standings shall be determined based upon points earned during league play. If a tie in position standings exists, the following shall be used to break the tie with 2 teams in the following order:
 - a. Majority winner of head to head league games between the tied teams.
 - b. Goal differential in games played between the tied teams.
 - c. Least goals against in league games.
 - d. Coin Toss
2. All teams will enter the end of season playoff bracket. Single elimination until a champion is crowned.

IYLL RULES FOR COMPETITION

1. All [US Lacrosse Playing Rules](#) will apply.
 - a. Agreed upon modifications to these rules are discussed and finalized during division meetings
 - b. Division meetings are announced yearly on 'Important Dates' page located at www.il-yll.com