

BY-LAWS OF THE MARYLAND YOUTH LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
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BOYS DIVISION

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The By-Laws of the Maryland Youth Lacrosse Association (hereafter called MYLA) consists of a) all the rules and regulations governing MYLA and b) all interpretations of constitutional provisions and by-laws which are found in the minutes of the secretary.

A. LEAGUE STRUCTURE

Tykers	Age 6-7-8	
Lightnings	Age 9-10	(not less than 7)
Midgets	Age 11-12	(not less than 9)
Juniors	Age 13-14	(not less than 11)

B. Age Determination

A player's age prior to December 31 of the coming season is the age in which the player shall play. (E.g., a player in the Junior 13-14 age group may not turn 15 prior to January 1 of the current season.)

C. Entry Requirements

1. Programs with one team in the Tyker, Lightning, Midgets, and Junior age groups are eligible to enter that team in the MYLA.
2. Lightnings - Programs with Lightning teams may enter all teams in the MYLA. Programs are no longer mandated to enter all Lightning teams in the MYLA. Programs may:
 - a.) enter all teams into MYLA
 - b.) enter any number of A teams in the Lightning division. Programs with multiple “in -house” teams may not enter a B level team.
 - c) if a program has 3 or more equal B teams then they must play in the “Super Bs” division.
3. Tykers - Tyker age groups must enter all teams in the MYLA. Programs are not to create a tyker ‘all-star‘ team for entry in the MYLA.

The league alignment criteria is in place for all Midget and Junior teams. If you are entering:

- 1 team - play B (or above)
- 2 teams - play B and C (or above)
- 3 teams - A, B and C (must have A)
- 4 teams - A, B, and 2Cs
- 5 teams- A 2Bs, and 2Cs
- 6 teams - A 2Bs and 2Cs

* The AA counts as an A

Teams not adhering to this alignment are not eligible for the playoffs. (E.g., If a program has 3 Junior teams and places 1 A and 2 Cs then both C teams are not eligible.)

D. Conference Alignments

The Lightning, Midget and Junior leagues shall be divided into A, B and C conferences with the strongest teams in the A division, next strongest B, and least strong C. The Midget and Junior division have AA.

The tykers have the option of playing 7 man or 10 man games. The 7 man tyker games can be played on a smaller field.

E. Conference Re-alignments

Conferences shall be re-aligned for the next season based upon a team’s win-loss record at the end of the past season. The top team with the best record shall move up to a higher conference and the team with the poorest record shall move down. All exceptions shall be approved by the Board. **All programs are encouraged to play at the highest level.**

F. Dues

Annual dues shall be established by the Board of Directors

G. Officials

Volunteer or paid officials may be used in the Tyker division. Tyker coaches may be on the field of play and participate if agreed upon by both teams.

All other league games (Lightning, Midget and Junior) games shall be refereed by SLOA officials.

H. Rosters

Team rosters and league fees shall be submitted to the President prior to receiving game schedules. This needs to be done no later than the Sunday prior to the first league game. A \$20.00 late fee will be assessed to any team that does not submit a complete roster at that time.

Rosters **MUST BE AVAILABLE** for exchange with opposing coaches prior to each game. It is the responsibility of the program to have rosters. A standardized league roster shall be used and should be signed by all coaches to verify the accuracy of the information. The roster should include players name, address, phone, birth date, age, school and uniform number.

Failure to provide a roster at the start of the game will result in a one (1) minute un-releasable penalty.

I. Roster Revisions

Each team is allowed roster revisions prior to the third game of the current season. Any changes made after that date must be approved by the Board.

J. Home Field Responsibilities

1. The home field coach or program shall insure that the playing field is in proper condition (line correctly). There should be a table, a horn, scorebook, a timekeeper, and two times clocks. The scorer's table shall be staffed by no more than 2 people at one time.

2. NOTE: A first aid kit shall be provided by the home team for both teams use. Ice, either fresh or chemical cold packs, shall be available for injured players. A container of Bleach must be available for use on equipment in case of a bleeding injury. Alcohol should be used on the injury itself.

3. Shall a field be unplayable, the home team must inform the opposing team and game officials two hours prior to the starting time. An effort to reschedule should occur at that time and all parties notified.

4. No parent should be on the bench side of the field at all. Only coaches and players on the roster may be in the team area. One warning by the game official and then an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty will be assessed to the offending team.

5. The home team is responsible for providing a safe site on which to play the game. The safety of the site is not subject to compromise. The decision of the referee in this respect is final.

K. Equipment

NCAA rules apply, with the following exceptions:

1. Stick length for Tykers and Lightning may be 36"-72"
2. Legal length for Midget and Juniors is 40"-42" or 52"-72"

In Midget and Junior games only 4-52+ crosses may be in the game at one time (excluding the goalie).

3. Helmets should have 4 point chin straps (not mandatory).
4. Shoulder pads are mandatory (football pads are illegal on field players).
5. Arm pads are mandatory for ALL players (including goalie).
6. Gloves must cover entire hand.

L. Time of Play

Tyker - 10 minute running clock, with regulation clock the last two minutes of game if score is within 2.

Lightning - 10 minute running clock, with regulation clock the last two minutes of game if score is within 2.

Midget - 8 minute regulation clock.

Juniors - 10 minute regulation clock

There will be an automatic stall warning in effect during the last 2 minutes of regulation play.

M. Time Outs

Tyker, Lightning, Midgets, and Juniors - 2 time outs per half

N. Penalties

NCAA rules apply with the following exceptions;

Tykers may substitute for offending player (who will serve the penalty).

All one handed checks shall be called a slash (whether contact is made or not) and the player shall be assessed a penalty.

O. Four Goal Rule

This rule applies to all leagues and conferences.

If a team is behind by 4 goals, the face-off is suspended. Face-offs shall continue at the beginning of each quarter.

P. Game Schedule

Lightning, Midgets, and Juniors shall play a 10 game schedule. 7 games played on weekends and 3 weekday games when possible. Tykers shall play a 7 game schedule.

NO GAMES SHALL BE SCHEDULED ON EASTER WEEKEND

Q. Official Fees

Teams utilizing SLOA officials will be assessed a scheduling fee per official, to be paid

to the Commissioner of Officials.

Game fees are to be split between each team and are due prior to the start of the game. If only one official is present, the fees are still split. If no official is present, the game may be rescheduled. However, if both teams agree an unofficial referee may preside over the game in order so the game may be played.

R. Rescheduling of Games

No games are to be rescheduled. Exceptions to this are weather and field conflicts such as when two games are scheduled at the same time. All games are to be played as scheduled.

S. Minimum Play

1. All players shall participate to the fullest extent possible and must participate at least the equivalent of one quarter of every game. The coach is responsible for carrying out this rule. Failure to do this results in a forfeiture of the game.
2. If a coach feels, after half time, that the other team has players who have not participated at least one quarter, he/she may request the game official to check with the players in question. If the players say no, they must play either the third or fourth quarter in order for the team to be eligible to win the contest.
3. This rule remains in effect during the playoffs and championship games.

T. Post Season Play

Post season play applies only to Midget and Junior divisions:

In each division the top eight teams shall be eligible for the playoffs. The first round: the top seed will play the eighth seed, the second seed plays the seventh seed, the third seed plays the sixth seed, and the fourth seed plays the fifth seed. The first round of games must take place during the first week of playoffs.

The second round: The winner of the top bracket (1 v 8) plays the winner of the second bracket (4 v 5), the winner of the third bracket (3 v 6) plays the winner of the fourth bracket (2 v 7). These games shall take place the second week of playoffs. The 2 winning teams shall then play in the MYLA championship game.

The MYLA does not award trophies. The winning team may not present trophies at the game site. Teams not complying with this rule will be considered the loser of the game.

U. Substitution

A horn for substitutions may be requested on any out of bounds ball. No horns for substitution may occur: for inadvertent whistles, officials time-out, and non-time serving penalties.

V. Bleeding

Any player who is bleeding must leave the field, and have the injury immediately tended to with cleansing agent and bandage. The player may return with approval from coach.