



**Awards Handbook for Area Chairs**  
Last updated November 2016

**US Lacrosse Mission:** As the sport's national governing body, US Lacrosse provides national leadership, structure and resources to fuel the sport's growth and enrich the experience of participants.

**US Lacrosse Vision:** We envision a future that offers everyone a lifelong opportunity to enjoy the sport of lacrosse.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section A: High School Area Criteria</u>	Page 4
<u>Section B: Area Chair Eligibility, Roles and Responsibilities</u>	Page 5
<u>Section C: Player Awards</u>	Page 6 - 9
<u>ALL-AMERICAN</u>	
<u>ALL-ACADEMIC</u>	
<u>JACKIE PITTS AWARD</u>	
<u>BOB SCOTT AWARD</u>	
<u>Section D: Coach Awards</u>	Page 10
<u>Section E: Voting Procedures</u>	Page 11
<u>Section F: Grievance Procedures</u>	Page 12

**New US Lacrosse High School Awards pages Coming Soon!**



The awards handbook is maintained by US Lacrosse staff and the Men's and Women's Coaches Subcommittees. The awards process is administered locally by the US Lacrosse Area Chairs<sup>^</sup>. The subcommittees through the chairs, oversees the selection of four (4) award/recognition categories. Each area\* is required to participate in all awards on an annual basis.

*\*An Area is defined in many ways; it could be an entire state, part of a state, a county, association or metropolitan, regional or chapter area. All areas are approved by the Coaches Subcommittees.*

Area Awards (mandatory participation for each award)

1. All-American Award
2. All-Academic Award
3. Head Coach of the Year
4. Bob Scott/Jackie Pitts Award

National Awards (optional)

1. Gerald J. Carroll, Jr. Award
2. Sue Stahl Award

**All forms can be found online on the All American Pages on USLacrosse.org.  
<http://www.uslacrosse.org/participants/players/high-school.aspx>  
The site will be updated by February 1.**

<sup>^</sup>The term area chair encompasses Boys' High School Area Chairs and Girls' High School All-American and All-Academic Chairs.



**SECTION A—HIGH SCHOOL AREA CRITERIA**

**All-American Formula: 1 All-American allotted for every 6 qualified teams**

(Allotted numbers are rounded up at .5 or greater and rounded down less than .5)

**All-Academic Formula: 1 All-Academic allotted for every 6 qualified teams**

(Allotted numbers are rounded up at .5 or greater and rounded down less than .5)

**Allotment Criteria to be a qualified team**

Teams that meet **ALL** the following criteria shall qualify to count towards All-American and All-Academic awards allotment in their Area:

1. Must be a member of a high school varsity team or scholastic club team playing a schedule between January and June.
2. Must monitor player academic eligibility and adhere to standard eligibility criteria for the school's varsity sports in their area.
3. Must be comprised solely of students who attend that school (unless, by governing association rule, players from other schools are allowed to participate on the team).
4. Must be a team in good standing within their area (i.e., not on probation).
5. Must receive recognition from the high school or equivalent administration for a scholastic club (in at least one of the following areas):
  - a. Varsity letters
  - b. Transportation
  - c. Equipment/uniform provision
  - d. Coaches stipend
  - e. Field use

**Annual Contact and Allotment Form:**

The *Contact and Allotment Form* must be completed and submitted online to US Lacrosse on an annual basis to qualify for area awards. This form must include (1) contact information for the area chair, (2) the number of qualified teams in an area and (3) a roster of qualified teams in the area that includes at a minimum the name and email of the head coach for each team.

1. Deadline to submit *Contact and Allotment Form*: February 15<sup>th</sup> annually.

**Create/Separate/Merge New Area Form:**

A current coach or administrator within an established area who would like to create/separate/merge to a new area is eligible to submit a *New Area Form* which allows for the creation of a new area. The form must go through the existing Area Chair(s) and then submitted to US Lacrosse ([gamesadministration@uslacrosse.org](mailto:gamesadministration@uslacrosse.org)) for approval by the Coaches Subcommittee.

1. A new area must consist of no less than 12 qualified teams
2. If a group of teams choose to separate from an existing area they may not leave an existing areas if it would cause the existing area to have less than 12 teams.
3. Deadline to submit *New Area Form*: January 31<sup>st</sup> annually.



## SECTION B—AREA CHAIR

### **US Lacrosse Area Chairs:**

Area Chair are nominated and selected by the head coaches within their Area/Region.

#### **1. Chair Eligibility:**

- a. The Area Chair must be a current US Lacrosse member.
- b. The Area Chair shall serve a term of 2 consecutive years and are eligible for a maximum of 2 consecutive terms. They shall not serve more than 4 consecutive years. The US Lacrosse Coaches Subcommittees must approve any extenuating circumstances for a chair that needs to extend their term limits.
- c. Area Coaches Associations shall nominate their Chair at the end of season meeting or as soon as the vacancy is recognized. All newly elected or returning Chairs must send their Contact – Allotment Form to US Lacrosse via the online process. New Chairs must be endorsed by the Coaches Subcommittee prior to February 15<sup>th</sup> annually.

#### **2. Chair Roles and Responsibilities:**

- a. Chairs shall support and encourage US Lacrosse membership and be supportive of the US Lacrosse mission and vision.
- b. Chairs shall be a current or former interscholastic coach or administrator within the area they are serving.
- c. Chairs shall represent and serve as the liaison for their coaching organization to US Lacrosse.
- d. Chairs shall administer and oversee the awards process for their area. This includes:
  1. Complete the annual Contact and Allotment Form.
  2. Compile and submit to US Lacrosse the list of ALL High School Varsity and approved Scholastic Club Head Coaches within their area via the electronic process.
  3. Communicate with all head coaches concerning the deadlines and procedures for the awards process.
  4. Distribute a ballot to all eligible head coaches in an area on all the awards, prior to the meeting where voting will take place.
  5. Maintain the confidentiality of the awards process and final results.
  6. Distribute awards to recipients in a timely manner
  7. If needed, Chairs are encouraged to contact US Lacrosse for guidance with extenuating circumstances.
- e. Distribute all communication from US Lacrosse Staff or the Men's and Women's Coaches Subcommittees.
- f. Chairs should attend the annual US Lacrosse National Convention or participate in a USL Webinar for the Recognition Chairs at a minimum once during their tenure.



## SECTION C— Player Awards

### Criteria for ALL-AMERICANS

#### All-American: 1 All-American allotted for every 6 qualified teams

#### US Lacrosse ALL-AMERICAN Definition

US Lacrosse All-Americans are the best players from their area. They exhibit superior skills and techniques, possess exceptional game sense and knowledge, and embody good sportsmanship.

#### Eligibility for Final Nomination

- Players must be members of their varsity lacrosse team or approved scholastic club program.
- Players must have played in majority of their teams' games for the current season.
- Players must be significant contributors to their team.
- Players must be of outstanding character and be in good academic standing in their school
- Any player that has received a diploma from a secondary school will **not** be eligible for All - American status during post-graduate study.
- While not required, strong consideration is given for players who have received All-State, All-County, or All-District Team in current or previous seasons.\*
- Sportsmanship and safe play are attributes that must be considered. In this regard, an account of the number of cards (Women's Game) or Unsportsmanlike fouls (Men's Game) attained by a player in the current season should be considered during nomination and voting. If a player has a substantial amount of cards or unsportsmanlike fouls, it is recommended that the Chair request testimony from the nominating coach as to how the player's fouls are not lessening of their sportsmanship.

*\*US Lacrosse recognizes that the hierarchy of honors differs from state to state. Chairs should contact US Lacrosse if their coaches' association feels adjustments are necessary.*



## **Criteria for ALL-ACADEMIC**

### **All-Academic: 1 All-Academic allotted for every 6 qualified teams**

#### **ALL-ACADEMIC QUALITY DEFINITION**

A US Lacrosse All-Academic Player is one who exhibits exemplary lacrosse skills, good sportsmanship on the field, and represents high standards of academic achievement in the classroom.

#### **Criteria/Eligibility Guidelines: (Must meet ALL of the following)**

- A High School All-Academic Form for the player must be completed and submitted to the Recognition Chair through the online submission process.
- Players must be a **junior or senior**.
- Players must have played in majority of their teams' games for the current season
- Player must be a starter or significant contributor to their team
- Players should have left their mark beyond the lacrosse field and classroom by making significant contributions of service to the school and/or community.
- Player has minimum cumulative (freshman year through application deadline) grade point average 3.7 GPA out of a 4.0 academic scale. If in doubt, please ask the school guidance counselor for assistance determining acceptable GPAs for a 5.0 scale or weighted GPA
- Applications must include a signature from their schools Guidance Counselor and include information on any significant community service that was completed
- A player who violates their school or a programs written contract or code of conduct may be excluded from consideration. Any and all violations must be noted on the player's final nomination form.
- Any player that has received a diploma from a secondary school will **not** be eligible for All - Academic status during post-graduate study.

\*The head coach must fully complete and submit the US Lacrosse All-Academic application, Nomination Form through the online system.

#### **ALL-AMERICAN AND ALL-ACADEMIC NOMINATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE:**

1. Contact & Allotment Form submitted to US Lacrosse: **February 15<sup>th</sup> annually**
2. Head Coach Roster submitted to US Lacrosse: **February 15<sup>th</sup> annually**
3. US Lacrosse Distribute Certificates : **April 1<sup>st</sup> annually**
4. Awards nominations due to Area Chairs: **Varies by area, see USL website**
5. Awards results to US Lacrosse from Area Chairs: **June 15<sup>th</sup> annually**
6. USL National Announcement of Awards: **July 1<sup>st</sup> annually**

*Note: Areas may announce their awards locally once they have received confirmation from US Lacrosse that submissions were accepted. This permits local recognitions on a local level to coincide with end of the season banquets or varying school calendars across the country.*



## **US LACROSSE JACKIE PITTS AWARD** **Women's Game Player**

This award recognizes a senior player in each area who truly honors the game of lacrosse, is invested in the development of the game in her community, is an exceptional player who continually strives to improve her game, and is an exemplary member of her team. She exemplifies the spirit of the game, on and off the field. Academically, she is an outstanding student and a valued role model in her school.

### **Criteria**

- High School Senior (Post Graduate students are not eligible)
- Resume and/or Letter of Recommendation referencing athlete's contribution to lacrosse within her community
- Resume and/or Letter of Recommendation referencing athlete's commitment to personal development within the game.
- Player is a starter or significant contributor (plays over half a game on average).
- Player has a cumulative (freshman year through application deadline) grade point average of 3.0 GPA out of a 4.0 academic scale. Please ask the school guidance counselor for assistance determining acceptable GPAs for a 5.0 scale or weighted GPA. (A minimum number of Honors, College Prep, or AP classes are not required)
- Athlete can be, but is not required to be an All-American or All-Academic candidate.
- Coach members must complete the Jackie Pitts Nomination Form. Jackie Pitts Forms that are not filled out completely will not be considered.
- One Jackie Pitts Award Allowed Per Area

### **NOMINATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE**

1. Nominations to Area Chair from Area Coaches: **Varies by area, see USL website**
2. Submissions to US Lacrosse from Area Chairs: **June 15<sup>th</sup> annually**
3. USL Announcement Regional Awards: **July 1<sup>st</sup> annually**



**US LACROSSE BOB SCOTT AWARD:**  
**Men's Game Player**

This award recognizes a player in each area who goes above and beyond in service to his team, school, and community. This player exemplifies the fundamentals of lacrosse, works hard to improve his game and is a leader both on and off the field. A player from each area will be recognized and honored with the Bob Scott Award. Each of these award winners will be finalists for the National Bob Scott High School Player of the Year Award.

**Criteria**

- Players must be members of their varsity lacrosse team or approved scholastic club program.
- Nominees may only be Seniors
- Areas may only select one player (co-award winners will not be accepted)
- Players must be of outstanding character, be in good academic standing in their school (eligible) and demonstrate good sportsmanship and safe play.
- Nominations should include a biographical resume, including years of lacrosse involvement and his contributions to the game, school, and community.
- Nominations should also include a letter of recommendation from their HS Principal, Athletic Director, or a current teacher.

**NOMINATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE**

1. Nominations to Area Chair from Area Coaches: **Varies by area, see USL website**
2. Submissions to US Lacrosse from Area Chairs: **June 1<sup>st</sup> annually**
3. USL Announcement Area Awards: **July 1<sup>st</sup> annually**



## **SECTION D— Coach Awards**

### **US Lacrosse Coach of the Year**

This award honors those Head Coaches in each area from both the men's and women's game who exemplify the ideals of the game of lacrosse. The award is intended to recognize the individuals overall coaching performance and contribution, not just coaching wins - although they may be considered. The Selection process is to be administered by the Area Chair in conjunction with the player awards.

### **Criteria/Eligibility Guidelines**

1. This award is only available to Head Coaches
2. Areas may only select one men's coach and one women's coach (co-award winners will not be accepted)
3. Nominees must be members in good standing within their area and a member of US Lacrosse
4. Nominees must demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship on and off the field at all times.
5. Nominees must demonstrate excellent rapport with their players, officials, and other coaches at all times.

### **Gerald J. Carroll, Jr. Award**

The Gerald J. Carroll, JR. Exemplary Coaching Award was established in memory of Gerry Carroll. Coach Carroll spent a good part of his brief 46 years playing and coaching lacrosse, greater than his love for the sport, however, was his commitment to give back to the young, and the lifetime of lessons he took from the game. The Carroll Award measures the success of a coach not in victories but in the care and guidance given to the balanced development of young men who play the game.

1. Nominees must demonstrate support and care for players in their growth and development as young adults and leaders on and off the playing field.
2. Nominations will be taken until **November 21<sup>st</sup> annually**. All nominations should be sent to US lacrosse and should be submitted with the following:
  - Name, School, and Contact Information of Nominee
  - Nominee's Lacrosse Resume
  - Two Letters of Recommendation from Individuals other than family members
3. The recipient is chosen by a committee comprised of Carroll friends and family. The award will be presented at the US Lacrosse Convention in January. The recipient receives a plaque and his name is added to the sculpture trophy displayed at the Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

### **Sue Stahl National Coach of the Year Award**

Women's Lacrosse Coach of the Century, International Federation of Women's Lacrosse Association Coach of the Year, former head coach of the U.S. national team from 1988-2005, inductee of the United States, Virginia, and Pennsylvania Lacrosse Halls of Fame.

1. Nominees must demonstrate support and care for players in their growth and development as young adults and leaders on and off the playing field.
2. Nominations will be taken until **November 21<sup>st</sup> annually**. All nominations should be sent to US lacrosse and should be submitted with the following:
  - Name, School, and Contact Information of Nominee
  - Nominee's Lacrosse Resume
  - Two Letters of Recommendation from Individuals other than family member



## SECTION E— VOTING PROCEDURES FOR ALL AWARDS

### **VOTING PROCEDURE:**

1. The Chair shall inform all head coaches regarding the date, time, and location where a written ballot vote will occur and shall give at least two weeks' notice prior to the meeting. If a face to face meeting cannot occur due to uncontrollable circumstances then a vote can be sent out by electronic ballot to the head coaches in an area.
2. The Chair will send a list the of awards to be voted on, as well as a list of individuals who have been nominated and deemed eligible for those awards prior to the meeting. If a vote is not being conducted at a face to face meeting and is instead being conducted by electronic ballot it shall be open for at least one week or until all head coaches have returned their votes.
3. Coach members will rank the players on the final ballot from 1 (highest) to X (lowest) based on the number of players on the ballot.
4. The Chair will tally the points per nominee and the award slots will be filled based on the points received.
5. TIE votes will be resolved as follows: a vote by the area chair or regional representative to the US Lacrosse Coaches Subcommittee should the area chair have a conflict that would preclude them from voting.
6. *If the quantity of submissions for All-Academic for a given area is substantial, an area may elect to use a committee to vote or narrow the pool of nominations to facilitate the voting process.*  
**(CAN BE USED ONLY FOR ALL-ACADEMIC AWARD.)**



## SECTION F— GRIEVANCE PROCESS

### **US LACROSSE GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

US Lacrosse will review all formal grievances that have been submitted to the Area Chair and to [gamesadminstation@uslacrosse.org](mailto:gamesadminstation@uslacrosse.org). A formal grievance can only be submitted by the head coach or school administrator.

Grievances must be submitted in writing to the Area Chair within 2 weeks of the official US Lacrosse announcement. The following information must be included in/with the grievance.

- a) Name and Position of individual filing the grievance. (anonymous submittals will not be reviewed)
- b) School/Club Name and Address
- c) Reason(s) for grievance:
  - 1) Process
  - 2) Ethics
  - 3) Other (please explain)
- d) Any documented proof relevant to the grievance