



MASS BAY GIRLS LACROSSE LEAGUE

North, MetroNorth, MetroWest South,
MetroWest North, and South
Division Meetings

October, 2012



MASS BAY GIRLS LACROSSE LEAGUE

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Welcome

Welcome to the annual division meeting. Please make sure that you signed in. If you did not attend the annual meeting, please log on to www.mbgll.org to review the presentation. Our members voted on different proposals at the annual meeting and those results are incorporated into the Division Meeting presentation below.

Mission

The mission of Mass Bay Girls Lacrosse League is to promote girls youth lacrosse in an environment that emphasizes fun, while developing skills, teamwork, good sportsmanship, and integrity.

- Create a weekly match schedule for member teams
- Promote the growth of girls' lacrosse throughout Eastern Massachusetts and provide appropriate services for mature programs
- Cultivate and assist additional towns to start girls youth lacrosse programs
- Train girls' youth lacrosse coaches and umpires
- Nurture a player's skills as they develop
- Manage the growing competitiveness among coaches, players, and spectators

New Initiatives

Collective Leadership

- With 5 volunteers stepping off of the MBGLL board this year, the future of MBGLL's leadership is in a critical position. MBGLL is moving to collective leadership.

US Lacrosse Gold Stick Standards

MBGLL is again working with US Lacrosse to pioneer US Lacrosse's Gold Stick Standards.



Collective Leadership

What is collective leadership?

Collective leadership allows all member towns to share in the direction and implementation of MBGLL.

Specifics

MBGLL has created volunteer positions for various duties that are necessary to effectively run this league. Registering a team with MBGLL is contingent upon each town volunteering for a core board and/or a committee position.

Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Core board positions require a 2 to 3 year commitment. Committee positions require a 1 year commitment. Towns will have the option of staying with their current committee position in future years or they may opt to volunteer in a different capacity.



US Lacrosse's Gold Stick Standards

US Lacrosse continues to focus on the youth game and rules. At the annual meeting, our members voted to begin the journey towards complying with the Gold Stick Standards. Currently, we do not meet many of the administrative requirements. Those should be fairly easy for us to implement. MBGLL is working with US Lacrosse, its New England Chapter, and EMWLUA to try to improve the umpire situation in our region, which is a major impediment to complying with the standards.



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Continuing Initiatives

Sportsmanship and Compliance

- Developed guidelines to support programs, coaches, parents, and players who foster MBGLL's mission, program, and spirit of the game

Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA)

- Established a partnership with PCA to support MBGLL's Good Behavior Enforcement initiative

MBGLL Rules Certification

- Created an opportunity for coaches to learn more about US Lacrosse and MBGLL Rules

Technology

- Continued improvements to League Athletics
- Continued improvements to Arbiter Systems

MBGLL Select Program

- Continue to grow and expand the program



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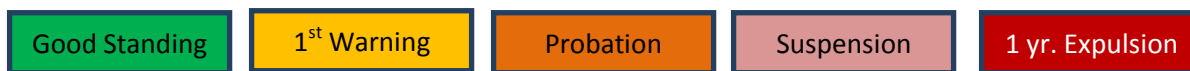
Sportsmanship and Compliance Policy

Mission: To encourage good MBGLL member behavior

In order to encourage good member behavior and to protect those towns that have followed MBGLL's mission and spirit of the league, MBGLL's board developed this system to ensure that all teams support and nurture our league's efforts.

Note: MBGLL's goal is to communicate and resolve issues; ***not*** to penalize towns.

Enforcement System:



Good Standing No warnings or issues

1st Warning MBGLL has issued a town a warning regarding its financial standing, behavior, or other issue

Probation MBGLL has issued a 2nd warning either regarding the 1st warning that was not fixed or for a separate issue. Towns must meet with MBGLL board's review committee before permitted to re-enroll the next year.

Suspension Teams are expected to continue to honor the remainder of their schedules; however, they are prohibited from participating in additional events throughout year (such as jamboree). Towns must meet with MBGLL's board's review committee before permitted to re-enroll the next year.

Expulsion MBGLL is expelling all of the town's teams from the league for one year

Definition:

MBGLL Review Committee will consist of three to five board members.



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Examples of Inappropriate Behavior

- ❑ Failure to attend required meetings
- ❑ Failure to comply with coaching requirements
- ❑ Having a Select team play a Recreational team without mutual agreement of both coaches
- ❑ Failure to play a game because of a lack of desire to drive the distance
- ❑ Canceling a game the same day (unless due to weather or field closure)
- ❑ Failure to adhere to the home team's responsibilities
- ❑ Refusal to play double-headers, round robins, or other special games that result from a scheduling requirement
- ❑ (If the home team's field is closed and the opposing team's field is open) Failure to give up the home game and move to the opposing team's open field
- ❑ Repeated unsportsmanlike conduct from the town's board, coaches, players, and/or parents
- ❑ Withdrawing a team after registration closes
- ❑ Failure to create evenly balanced teams if more than one team at same level in a league
- ❑ Posting scores and standings
- ❑ Asking for 2 officials for a "select" game if your town has not entered a MBGLL Select team in our league.
- ❑ Other unsportsmanlike conduct not in keeping with MBGLL's mission or spirit of the game



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Town Requirements:

Each town must have a least one representative at the following meetings to remain in good standing.

- Annual and/or Division Meeting in Fall
- Spring Scheduling Meeting
 - Each town must submit a coach's roster to their division director at this meeting. Roster should contain the following information for each head and assistant coach
 - Team name
 - Coach's name
 - Coach's e-mail address
 - Coach's cell phone number
 - Coach's US Lacrosse number
 - Copy of required certifications or proof of completions of required courses
- Each coach must register with MBGLL on www.mbgll.org (under individual registrations)
- End of Season Wrap-Up Meeting
- Have no outstanding invoices for registrations or umpire fees

Note:

- Towns will have to meet these requirements annually
- Look on www.mbgll.org for a submittal form for each coach

MBGLL Recreation Program, Coach's Requirements

- All coaches, all age groups (Head and assistant coaches) must complete US Lacrosse Level 1 Online course (currently free)
- All coaches, all age groups (head and assistant coaches) must complete the Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) online or in-person course
- All head and assistant coaches must attend the pre-season Rules Q. and A. sessions or the US Lacrosse/MBGLL Rules Certification course **annually**.
- U13 and U15 head coaches must attend US Lacrosse Level 1 Coach's Clinic (in person)

Notes:

- If a coach has already completed US Lacrosse and PCA training, he/she simply needs to submit completion certification to division director
- Towns will have to meet these requirements by April 7, 2013
- New Member towns will have two years to comply but must take the PCA (one time) and Rules Q & A (or Rules Clinic) annually



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MBGLL Select Program, Coach's Requirements

- All head coaches must become US Lacrosse Level 1 Certified
- All assistant coaches must have completed the US Lacrosse Level 1 online, in-person clinic, and PCA online or live course.
- At least one representative must complete the US Lacrosse/MBGLL Rules Certification course and all other coaches must attend a Rules Q. and A. session and/or the US Lacrosse/MBGLL Rules Certification course annually.

Notes:

- **If a coach has already completed the requirements, he/she simply needs to submit completion certification to division director**
- **Towns will have to meet these requirements by 2013**
- **Any new towns submitting a Select team must comply immediately (no phase in)**



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Positive Coaching Alliance

MBGLL believes in the importance of the Positive Coaching Alliance within our league and all coaches must comply by 2013. MBGLL hopes that the adoption of PCA league-wide will (1) ensure our mission of teaching the game in a positive way, (2) help to decrease unsportsmanlike conduct, and (3) will teach athletes life lessons.

- MBGLL encourages participation in the live clinics
- MBGLL is also offering a certain number of on-line registrations (first come, first served)

To kick off this initiative, MBGLL is sponsoring

- 3 live **Double-Goal Coaching** clinics (*mandatory for all coaches by April 7, 2013*)
- 1 live **Triple Impact Athlete** clinic (*recommended for all players, especially those in the MBGLL Select program*)
 - MBGLL is offering the Triple Impact Athlete course to players within our league. It is a fantastic opportunity for 5th through 8th graders to focus on training skills, nutrition, and the spirit of the game. Recommended for **all** MBGLL Select players
- 1 live **Second Goal Parent** clinic (*recommended for all parents*)
 - Held at the same time/location as the Triple Impact Athlete clinic, this course will introduce the positive coaching initiative and how parents may help deliver the same message as the coaches to their athlete(s).



MBGLL Rules Certification

MBGLL developed a Rules Certification for its members so that coaches may become better acquainted with the US Lacrosse/MBGLL rules that we use in our league. This is required for MBGLL Select coaches and recommended for recreational coaches. Coaches must comply by 2013.

MBGLL Rules Certification Components

- US Lacrosse/MBGLL Rules Clinic
- Positive Coaching Alliance Double-Goal course
- Completion of the US Lacrosse on-line Youth Rules Test (open book, minimum score 85%)
- Submit proof of all requirements to MBGLL's Secretary to receive certificate of completion.

MBGLL and Eastern Massachusetts Women's Lacrosse Umpire Association (EMWLUA) have collaborated on a coach's youth rules curriculum to teach our coaches the youth rules.



Continuing Initiatives

MBGLL Select

MBGLL received very favorable feedback regarding our MBGLL Select program and we plan to nurture its growth in the upcoming season. Now that towns know about the program, we anticipate that additional teams will join the league.

MBGLL Select will continue to play a 6-game schedule, the last 6 weekends of our season. After registration closes the MBGLL Select teams will decide whether or not they want MBGLL to offer a jamboree.

U15 Select will play with full checking and U13 will play with modified checking.

Games are scheduled late Saturday afternoons. If a team is unable to host a game at this time, they may contact the opposing coach to arrange a mutually agreed-upon change of game-date/time.

Technology Update – League Athletics

MBGLL selected League Athletics as its scheduling tool to manage our operations and communications. We encourage all towns to create a League Athletics account to manage their team registrations and seamlessly integrate with our league site. (Go to www.leagueathletics.com to sign up for your town's site.) Instructions for linking your town's League Athletics site with MBGLL's parent site are found on www.mbgll.org.

You may still register teams with MBGLL if you use a different team registration system. Simply register your teams with MBGLL and we'll work with you to get your fields and contact information set up in our system.

MBGLL also selected Arbiter Systems as its scheduling tool for assigning umpires. By the end of last year, League Athletics and Arbiter Systems were synching fairly well. We will continue to work with both products and tailor them to our needs.



Parity Scheduling

MBGLL implemented parity scheduling for the 2010 – 2011 season to try to create evenly matched games. Our goal was mostly achieved in 2011-2012 except for U11 and the advanced scheduling pools.

We currently have different scheduling pools in each region. What scheduling pools do your division to use?

- Beginner
- Low Intermediate
- Intermediate
- High Intermediate
- Advanced

How do you plan to register your teams, town-by-town?

MBGLL is creating two scheduling pools for advanced teams (North and South of the Mass Pike). Hopefully this will provide enough opportunities for the advanced teams to stay in our league.

Our new divisional scheduling committees will also address the U11 schedule by matching teams with U9 programs against each other. Hopefully this will reduce the number of mismatched games.



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MBGLL Rules Review

Full Checking for U15 Select

MBGLL will allow full checking for the **U15 MBGLL Select program**. The U15 recreational program will continue to use a modified check.

Modified Checking for U13 Select

MBGLL will allow modified checking for the **U13 MBGLL Select program**. The U13 recreational program will continue to prohibit checking of any kind.

No Deputizing of Goal Tenders

Deputies are no longer permitted in youth play.

Small Field Dimensions

At the U9 and U11 levels, the field shall be rectangular, 60-70 yards in length and 30-40 yards in width. Fields should be marked with 8-meter arc, goal circle and center circle. Standard size fields will be used at U13 and U15 levels. U9 teams will receive a 6-game schedule. EMWLUA will assign umpires to all games.

3-pass Rule

U9 and U11 will play with a 3-pass rule and the pass count will reset at a **turnover of possession**. A goalie save (possession) is counted as a turnover.

U13 and U15 will **NOT** play with a 3-pass rule. Umpires are encouraged to call unsportsmanlike conduct on players who repeatedly dominate possession of the ball when other teammates are open.

Evenly Balanced Teams

MBGLL member towns must create evenly balanced teams at the same age/grade level. Stacking and grade-based teams are **not** permitted. So if, for example, you have two U15 teams, the skill and grade levels must be evenly balanced and they must enter into the same scheduling pool. However, your town's U15 teams may enter into a different scheduling pool from your U13 team.



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Key Dates

U9 through U15 Recreation Program

November 15	Team registration available now! Create your 2013 teams, coaches' names, contact information, and field name/availability.
December 15	Last day to pay for team registrations by check. MBGLL, P.O. Box 294, Groton MA 01450.
January 15	Final team registrations due (via on-line credit card payments only). Make sure your fields are activated with address, directions, and status of bathroom facility.
January 16	\$50 late fee applies today for any payment/registration not received by Jan. 15. (Does not guarantee that we can accept a late registration.)
March 30	All grade/age waivers due to your division director by today
April 7	MBGLL games start today (4.7, 4.21, 4.28, 5.5, 5.12, 5.19, 6.2, 6.9) Please honor this game schedule!
June 15-16	MBGLL Jamboree!!!
June 19	End-Of-Season Wrap-Up at Westin Waltham - <i>tentative</i>

Please note that we have a shortage of umpires on Mother's Day. MBGLL might try to schedule games at different times on that day to accommodate umpire scheduling requests.

MBGLL Select Program (U13 through U15)

November 15	Team registration available now! Create your 2013 teams, coaches' names, contact information, and field name/availability.
March 6	Last day to pay for team registrations by check. MBGLL, P.O. Box 294, Groton MA 01450.
April 6	Final team registrations due (via on-line credit card payments only). Make sure your fields are loaded into League Athletics.
April 7	\$50 late fee applies today for any payment/registration not received by April 6. (Does not guarantee that we can accept a late registration.)
April 27	MBGLL games start today (April 27, May 4, 11, 18, June 1, 8) Please honor this game schedule!
June??	MBGLL Select Jamboree??
June 19	End-Of-Season Wrap-Up at Westin Waltham - <i>tentative</i>



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Additional Training

US Lacrosse Level 1	November 10	Ipswich
US Lacrosse Level 1	March 9	Foxboro
US Lacrosse Level 1	March 23	Waltham?
US Lacrosse Level 2	March 24	Waltham?

Register at www.uslacrosse.org

Rules Q. and A.	March 2	Ipswich
Rules Q. and A.	March 10	?
Rules Q. and A.	March 24	Waltham?
Rules Q. and A.	April 3	Wellesley

Register at www.mbgll.org

MBGLL Rules Clinic	Feb. 10	Waltham
MBGLL Rules Clinic	March 2	Ipswich
MBGLL Rules Clinic	March 10	?

Register at www.mbgll.org.

PCA Double-Goal Coach	Nov. 10	Ipswich
PCA Double-Goal Coach	March 10	?
PCA Double-Goal Coach	March 23	Waltham?
Triple Impact Athlete	TBA	TBA
Second Goal Parent	TBA	TBA

Register at www.mbgll.org

Play Date	March 17	Charlestown
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Register at www.mbgll.org

Umpire Training

New England has a shortage of umpires. In 2012, 4% of our games were not covered. EMWLUA offers training for Jr. and Adult umpires during the winter. Training dates will be posted on www.emwlua.org. If every town encourages/sponsors one person to become a certified official, our umpire scheduling issues will disappear. MBGLL encourages every town to assist with this effort to train officials.



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Team Registration

Registration Cancellation Policies

Team registration – **no change**

- No refunds

Town Fees

Team Registrations

- 1st/2nd grade (U9) - \$110
- 3rd/4th grade (U11) - \$150
- 5th/6th grade (U13) - \$150
- 7th/8th grade (U15) - \$150

Jamboree Registrations

\$250 for all teams



Umpire Payment Schedule

League	Certified Adult \$	Jr. Umpire \$	2 Certified Adults \$	Notes	Rules Used
1 - 2 Grade U9	50	30		1, 2, 5, 6	US Lax Level C, MBGLL
3 - 4 Grade U11	50	30		1, 2, 5, 6	US Lax Level C, MBGLL
5 - 6 Grade U13	70	30	50/50	1, 3	US Lax Level B, MBGLL
7 – 8 Grade U15	70	30	50/50	1, 3	US Lax Level A, MBGLL
Select 5 – 6 U13	70	30	50/50	1, 3, 4	US Lax Level B
Select 7 – 8 U15	70	30	50/50	1, 3, 4	US Lax Level A

Notes:

1. All fees split among the teams.
2. EMWULA will try to fill these assignments with Jr. Umpires first.
3. If Jr. Umpire works the game alone, he/she receives \$70. If 2 Jr. Umpires share a game, they split the \$100.
4. EMWULA will try to assign two umpires to these games.
5. If Jr. Umpire works the game alone, he/she receives \$30.
6. No trailer umpires permitted.



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Umpire Payments

Towns will no longer pay officials on game day.

If an umpire no-shows to your game, the home team must notify our scheduler, Robin Volpone (robinvolpone@msn.com), by noon the day after a game. By noon the day after the game, the correct amounts owed officials will be available for downloading in Arbiter Systems. Towns then write and mail checks to officials. (MBGLL will post screenshots and instructions on mbgll.org prior to the start of the 2013 season.)

Closing

We continually encourage your feedback and suggestions for improvement. Thank you to everyone who responded to our summer survey and who voted at the annual meeting. As you can see, MBGLL listened to your opinions and developed the new initiatives based on your feedback.

Please visit our newly designed website, which is now live at www.mbgll.org. Also, please feel free to contact any of our board members with questions and suggestions.

**Thank you for supporting MBGLL.
Have a fantastic lacrosse season!**