

## ECYLL Coaches Meeting Minutes 28 January 2017

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- 1) The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Northwoods Community Center in Jacksonville, NC. The meeting was subsequently broken into two groups. Steve Otto, regional head of men's officiating briefed the boys' coaches. John Crean, regional head of girls officiating briefed the girls' coaches.
- 2) **Certification requirements:** ECYLL President, Rob McCarthy, provided opening comments to the boys' coaches. ECYLL currently requires head coaches to complete the Level 1 certification online classes and desires them to be fully Level 1 certified by taking the on-field class. In the next 2-3 years, they would like the head coaches to be Level 2 certified. Rob McCarthy is working with the NC chapter of US Lacrosse to increase the number of on field coaches' clinics. The duration of the clinic will be reduced to three hours in the future.
- 3) **Parent behavior and coach yellow cards:** Vice-President Bobbi Webster noted that coaches can be held accountable for parent behavior and be yellowed carded. Two yellow cards can result in the coach being removed from the sideline. ECYLL is still discussing whether an assistant coach can take over or if the team forfeits the game.
- 4) **Coach relationships:** Jon Bradley encouraged the coaches to get to know each other to make it easier to resolve differences. He stated that coaches should assume good intent on the part of the other team's head coach. Gary Greco of Topsail told the group that if there were issues with Topsail the coaches couldn't resolve, to call him. However, he asked for at least one day of reflection before calling him to allow tempers to cool down. This should result in a more effective discussion.
- 5) **Boys rule changes:** Steve Otto briefed selected changes to the boys' rules. In general the old rules for each age group would transfer to the first lower age group under the grouping. In other words most previous U15 rules now apply to 14U, U13 to 12U, etc. Steve then outlined the following specific changes:
  - a. No hard copy rule books will be provided by USL. They can be downloaded or there will be a copy in the next issue of Lacrosse Magazine. Download is 87 pages if printed out.
  - b. Goalie arm pads are now optional for 14U boys.
  - c. Only a single stripe of eye black is allowed. No writing, no designs on face.
  - d. On a foul before the whistle during a faceoff, the other team will receive the ball just over the midfield line in their offensive end of the field.
  - e. If a defensive player steps into the crease with the intent of acting as a goalie it will be a 30 second technical foul. If a goal is scored it will count.
  - f. If a player receives three personal fouls or penalties adding up to five minutes the player is disqualified.
  - g. Not having a mouth guard properly inserted will result in a 30 second technical penalty for illegal equipment.
  - h. In the last two minutes of play, a team leading by four or less goals with possession of the ball, must keep it in the offensive area. If leading by five or more goals they do not have to keep it in the offensive area.

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- i. Point of emphasis this year is coaches staying in the team area. Coaches are only allowed on the field during a player injury, halftime and when warming up a goalie.
  - j. No body checking below 14U. Equal pressure, legal push and boxing out are allowed.
  - k. 14U body checking must be straight up. Lowering the head is not allowed. There can be no intent to take the player to the ground with a body check. If ball carrier lowers head he will be called for unnecessary roughness.
  - l. Blind side body checks are not allowed.
  - m. Stick checks must be done with two hands on the stick.
  - n. Checking must be within three yard of the ball.
- 6) **Girls rule changes:** John Crean briefed selected changes to the girls' rules. The girl's rules were not much different than last year. As in boys rules, the new age groups follow the ruled of the closest previous age group. 14U adopts U15 rules, 12U adopts U13 rules, etc.
- a. Helmets are currently not required however, if a girl chooses to wear one it must be one of the two regulation helmets available. Cascade and Hummingbird are the only two companies currently offering a helmet that meets the standard.
  - b. On the draw the players behind the restraining line cannot initiate play until the ball is in possession of a player. The official will give a windmill arm motion to notify players when they can go beyond their respective restraining lines.
  - c. In the event of a dangerous shot on goal the ball will be given to the defender closest to the event. They will bring the ball past the 8-meter arc to initiate play. This replaces the goalie clearing the ball from within the circle.
- 7) Both sessions adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by Mike Edwards