

SOUTHINGTON LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

A Non-Profit Association

**P.O. BOX 345
SOUTHINGTON, CT 06489**

Amended and Restated

BYLAWS

**REVISED
November 28, 2016**

ARTICLE I: NAME & AUTHORITY

The name of this entity shall be "**SOUTHINGTON LACROSSE ASSOCIATION**" and it shall operate and perform the Purposes as defined herein under the authority of the Town of Southington, Connecticut's Park and Recreation Department. While this non-profit association may or may not receive monetary funding from the Town of Southington from time to time, and/or be permitted to utilize grounds, and facilities owned, operated and maintained by the Town of Southington, and notwithstanding the SLA being subject to the Rules, Regulations and Policies invoked by the Town of Southington with respect to the use of said moneys or facilities, it is intended that this association shall be otherwise independent and autonomously self-governed, managed and regulated as defined herein. This association is not an agent, subsidiary, d/b/a, or otherwise owned or operated by the Town of Southington.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

1. The object of the SOUTHINGTON LACROSSE ASSOCIATION (hereinafter also, "SLA", "Association" or "Organization") shall be to operate as a nonpartisan, nonsectarian, nonprofit and non-political association; shall be to promote academic excellence, and instill in the participating youth the principles of good citizenship and good sportsmanship and promote the sport of lacrosse for the youth of the area.
2. To provide and coordinate support to the sport of lacrosse.
3. To promote, stimulate, and educate children in the sport of lacrosse.

ARTICLE III: GENERAL MEMBERS

Section 1 Definition:

1. Any person who is above the age of 18 and who has a child enrolled in the SLA program currently, is a parent, step-parent, grandparent or legal guardian, and desires to help facilitate the purposes of this organization is eligible for membership.
2. Must be involved in at least one fundraiser during the year.
3. A resident of Southington, Connecticut or has a child playing in SLA that has properly been waived this rule by a passing vote of the majority of the Board of Directors.
4. Must live up to the objectives, purposes and Code of Conduct of this Association as delineated in these bylaws, or as otherwise published by the Board of Directors.
5. Conforms to any other rules which the Board may see fit to establish regarding

eligibility.

ARTICLE IV: ORGANIZATION Section 1

Players:

a. **Divisions:** The League will consist of each boys and girls programs and correspondingly be divided into the following divisions which correspond to US Lacrosse age groups by birth date; Bantam, Lightning, Junior and Senior or as otherwise practicable based upon player registration and Connecticut Valley Youth Lacrosse ("C.V.Y.L."), Girls Connecticut Chapter of U.S. Lacrosse, or other pertinent participating inter-town League guidelines. In an effort to promote and introduce the sport of lacrosse to town youth prior to participating at the Bantam level, it shall also be a goal of the Association to conduct an in town introductory program to provide these new players with an opportunity to learn the sport in a purely instructional and noncompetitive environment.

If the annual Registration for any particular age/grade Division exceeds what the Board determines to be practical for one team to provide a positive playing experience, the players may be further divided. The appropriate playing level for each of the resulting teams, i.e., Level A, B, C, etc. shall be determined after considering the aggregate player experience and skill level, and the competitive level of play in the particular league in which they are to participate. The method of team assignment and level of play shall be at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors in order to ensure a positive, safe and sound learning experience.

b. **Player Eligibility:** To be eligible to play or practice in the league a player must meet the following general requirements:

1. Is a resident of Southington, CT or has been waived this rule by the Board of Directors, and have a Parent or Legal Guardian as a member of SLA. To be eligible for waiver of the Southington residency requirement, the candidate player's town of residence must not have a youth lacrosse program.
2. Has written permission from a parent or legal guardian.
3. Meets the age requirements as stated under this Article IV of these by-laws.
4. Conforms to any other rules that the Board of Directors may see fit to uniformly establish regarding eligibility.
5. Must have all forms deemed necessary by the Board of Directors completely filled out and signed.

6. Both the player and his/her parents (or guardian) must sign the SLA Code-of-Conduct.
7. Must have all assessments paid by the terms agreed upon by the Board of Directors. (Assessments are non-refundable unless voted on by, and passed by, a majority of at least three (3) voting Board of Directors members.)
8. Player and at least one parent or guardian must be involved in at least one SLA sanctioned fundraiser during the year.
9. Violations of the code of conduct or other rules in these bylaws by a player will result in either suspension for as many games as deemed necessary by the board and the coach, and or removal from the program depending on the seriousness of the situation.

Section 2 Coaches:

a. Appointment of Coaches: Each team will be supervised by a head coach to be appointed by the Board of Directors. Each head coach shall select his assistants subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. All coaches and assistants shall be on a volunteer non-compensated basis. Such coaching personnel shall be selected on the basis of the following qualities:

1. Their own good character.
2. Their ability to work with young athletes.
3. A reasonable knowledge of the game of lacrosse.
4. Must live up to the objectives, purposes and Code of Conduct of this Association as spelled out in these bylaws. Any coach violating a recognized Code of Ethics or Conduct provision as adopted by the Board of Directors, may be suspended and/or dismissed. Said coach shall have the right to a closed hearing before the Board of Directors prior to a final and binding vote by the Board of Directors. Such suspension or dismissal must be passed by a majority of three (3) voting Directors.
5. Must have all forms deemed necessary by the Board of Directors completely filled out and signed and have undergone a background check.
6. Conforms to any other rules which the Board may see fit to establish regarding eligibility.

b. Coaches' Responsibility:

1. Each head coach shall be responsible for the actions and safety of his assistants and players. The head coach has the option to release and/or

suspend any assistant or player for behavior in violation of the Code of Conduct or otherwise deemed detrimental to the team or league. Upon invoking an assistant or player release/suspension, the Board of Directors shall be immediately notified and advised of the particular circumstances. The Board of Directors shall have the discretion to uphold or revoke such release/suspension. Will be responsible for all SLA assigned equipment and its return at the end of the year, and the collection, maintenance and help in the inventorying and proper preparation of the equipment for seasonal storage and maintenance.

2. To keep records of all equipment and distribution and up keep.

3. For regular season and playoff games (non-Jamboree), only Coaches and recognized assistants shall be allowed on the same side of the field as the team during any game play. It is the responsibility of the Coach to inform the parents and other guests of this rule and to, along with the game official(s), enforce this rule.
4. Conduct themselves at all times within the Code of Conduct and as true ambassadors of the sport of lacrosse, youth athletics and sportsmanship.
5. Familiarize yourself with, and abide by, the playing of any special local rules issued annually, as well as the NCAA rules. The Board of Directors in their discretion may for example, implement special rules unique to each Division specifically tailored for age group or skill level which are intended to promote the objectives of SLA. Violation of these rules may result in your suspension from the program.
6. Regularly attend Board of Directors meetings. It is vital that coaches attend and that they promote the attendance of team parent representatives at all meetings. Attendance, constructive criticism and suggestions by parents and team supervisory personnel are always welcome and encouraged.
7. Following the Code of Conduct, coaches shall train and direct players not to question a game official's decisions by word or action. Teach them respect by your own actions. Preach and practice respect for the game of lacrosse, respect for fellow teammates, respect of opponent players and coaches, respect for officials and the importance of good sportsmanship at all times.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS and OFFICERS

Section 1 General Powers:

The property, affairs, and business of the SLA shall be managed and controlled and shall be exercised by or under the authority of its duly elected Board of Directors. Such service shall be on a volunteer and non-compensated basis.

Section 2 Composition:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the *President* of the SLA, *Boy League Vice President*, *Girls League Vice President* (optional), the *Secretary*, and the *Treasurer*. All five (5) of said positions are otherwise known as "Directors" of the SLA.

Section 3 Powers:

The Board of Directors shall:

- a. If the Board of Directors feels it is necessary, appoint a person to each Officer position listed in Section 9 of this Article below. Each person appointed as an Officer must be voted on by the Board of Directors approved by the majority of at least three (3) voting Directors.
- b. Hold annual business meetings in the month of October open to all members to develop and implement the work of the SLA, to elect Directors, and to adopt an annual budget for the working of the organization.
- c. Hold monthly meetings open to the general members.
- d. Designate standing committees (and their respective chairpersons) of the Board of Directors, and create and fill ad hoc positions as they deem appropriate.
- e. Solicit and accept nominations of persons for election as Directors and submit those nominations to the general members at least twenty (20) days prior to the annual meeting. (See Article VI, Section 1.)
- f. Have the authority, by vote of the majority of at least three (3) voting Directors, to suspend or suitably deal with any violation of the spirit of these Bylaws and the Code of Conduct by any Director, Officer, general member, coach, parent or player whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interests of the program.

Section 4 Tenure:

Terms of office for members of the Board of Directors shall be one (1) year from the adjournment of the annual business meeting up to the adjournment of the following annual meeting at which time their successors will take over. If a Director wishes they may run for another term. (The annual business meeting will be in the month of October.)

Section 5 Duties of President:

It shall be the duty of the President of the SLA to:

- a. Direct the affairs of the SLA.
- b. Be the chief Director and preside at all meetings of the SLA.
- c. Attend all functions as the official representative of the SLA.
- d. Be a member ex-officio of all committees.
- e. Perform any and all executive duties incident to the office of the President of the SLA.

In the event of his/her capacity or inability to fulfill the office, and upon certification of this event by two-thirds of the remaining Board of Directors, the remainder of his/her term shall be filled by the Vice President(s) as determined by a vote of the remaining Directors.

Section 6.1 Duties of the Boys League Vice President:

The Boys League Vice President shall:

- a. Perform such duties as are delegated to him/her by the President and other Directors with regard to the operation of the Boys League.
- b. Preside at meetings of the SLA if the President is unable to attend.
- c. Perform the duties of the President in their absence.
- d. Serve as liaison between the teams and the Directors and Officers of the SLA.
- e. Help coordinate fundraising activities and work with the Treasurer and Secretary in keeping up to date records of all fundraisers.
- f. Be one of the check countersigners, along with the Treasurer, for SLA issued checks above the agreed countersignature amount.

Section 6.2 Duties of the Girls League Vice President:

The Girls League Vice President shall:

- a. Perform such duties as are delegated to him/her by the President and other Directors with regard to the operation of the Girls League.
- b. Preside at meetings of the SLA if the President and Boys League Vice President are unable to attend.
- c. Perform the duties of the President if both the President and Boys League Vice President are absent.
- d. Help coordinate fundraising activities and work with the Treasurer and Secretary in keeping up to date records of all fundraisers.
- e. Be one of the check countersigners, along with the Treasurer, for SLA issued checks above the agreed countersignature amount.

Section 7 Duties of the Secretary:

The Secretary shall:

- a. Keep minutes of, including official attendance records from, all meetings of the SLA, copies of the reports from the Treasurer, resolutions, and other material

- related to the transactions of the SLA.
- b. Handle all correspondence, including SLA courtesy and thank-you notes, and supply copies to the President.
 - c. Keep a record of all members and other SLA records, and make copies for other Board members upon request.
 - d. Be responsible for all forms and literature for the SLA.
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- e. Be responsible for the timely filing of all forms, documentation and correspondence with the requisite Town of Southington offices.
 - f. Coordinate and schedule use of Town facilities for Annual Registration events, pre-season gym use, etc. as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 8 Duties of the Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall solely be the official custodian of the funds of the SLA and shall:

- a. Collect all monies due to the organization and deposit all incoming funds in such bank as the Board of Directors may approve.
- b. Issue and sign SLA checks, make payment for expenditures and pay such bills as the President or Board has approved. One of the Vice Presidents shall make such approval in the absence of the President. This includes the responsibility to obtain check countersignature from one of the Vice Presidents for check above the agreed amount.
- c. Send bills and be accountable for all fund transactions of the SLA.
- d. Be responsible for the detailed record keeping of all incoming and outgoing funds (i.e., Assessments, fundraisers, gifts, player registration fees, equipment appropriation, Association or league operating expenses, and member reimbursements).
- e. Make copies of financial records such as invoices, receipts, cancelled checks, bank statements, etc. for other Board members upon request.
- f. Make an itemized report at each meeting and submit copies of that report to the President and Secretary.
- g. Prepare and submit an annual report to the SLA at the annual meeting.
- h. Cause audits to be made periodically, as ordered by the Board of Directors, by an accountant (at SLA expense) or by establishing an audit committee at the end of the SLA year before entering a new fiscal year and/or transferring them to the new Treasurer.

- i. With input from the Board of Directors, prepare a budget for the fiscal year and submit it to the general members at the Annual meeting for approval.
- j. Track and report on the adherence to the adopted Budget at each monthly meeting.
- k. File all appropriate tax exemptions and/or other forms required by law.

Section 9 Officer Positions

- Jamboree Coordinator
- Fundraising Coordinator
- Webmaster
- Social Media and Marketing Coordinator
- Field Scheduling Coordinator
- Boys Referee Coordinator
- Girls Referee Coordinator
- Coaching Coordinator
- Equipment Coordinator

Section 10 Vacancies:

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for the remainder of the year as follows:

- a. The offices of the President shall be filled by the Vice President(s), in accordance with Article V, Section 5.
- b. All other Board of Director vacancies shall be filled as soon as practicable by a vote of the majority of the attending voting members at a Board of Directors meeting. Those elected shall remain in office until the next annual meeting, at which time office elections are to be conducted.

Section 11 Resignations and Removals:

All Directors and Officers shall be responsible for fulfilling the duties of their position. Failure to do so may be subject to review and replacement of the Director or Officer. All vacancies created due to the removal or resignation of a Director or Officer, shall be backfilled as prescribed in Article V, Section 10 above. All Director and Officers must abide by the code of conduct. Conduct by a Director or Officer in violation of the code of conduct may result in removal from their position by special vote of the remaining Board of Directors members. A unanimous vote of the remaining Board of Directors is required for removal. Once removed from their position, that Director or Officer may not serve on the as a Director of Officer of SLA again.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS Section 1

Annual Business Meeting:

There shall be at least one Annual Business Meeting of the SLA to be held in October at a time and place fixed by the Board of Directors, at which office elections shall be conducted to elect a Board of Directors to preside over the SLA affairs for that fiscal year, and at which a budget for the fiscal year shall be adopted.

A regular monthly meeting shall be held during the month of September to solicit and accept nominations for the Board of Director positions (see Article V, Section 3, paragraph d), and to receive from the incumbent Treasurer a draft budget for that fiscal year, for consideration in advance of the Annual Business Meeting.

Section 2 Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors:

There shall be such meetings of the Board of Directors as are called by the President, open to the general members and generally conducted on a monthly basis. Other meetings may be scheduled and called by the President for the Officers and committees as required to effectuate the business of the SLA.

Section 3 Parliamentary Procedures:

Unless otherwise provided in these bylaws, all actions taken at a meeting of this organization shall be by majority vote. The Parliamentary Authority for the SLA shall be The Scott, Foresman Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised.

Section 4 Notice:

Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least five (5) days previously thereto by written notice delivered personally or sent by mail to each Director at their address as shown by records of the Secretary. Any Director may waive notice of such meeting. The attendance of a Director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a Director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by law or by these bylaws.

Notice for open members meetings called and scheduled by the Board of Directors as described in Article VI, Section 2 above, including the Annual Business Meeting, shall be provided to the general members at least twenty (20) days in advance. This notice requirement shall have been constructively satisfied by any of the following; 1. Date announced at and recorded in the minutes of the preceding Board of Directors meeting, 2. Direct mailings to the active members list maintained by the Secretary, 3. Meeting announcement placed in a town newspaper, or 4. Electronically via

an general members list of email accounts and/or SLA Internet website if such website has been continually operating and updated for the preceding six (6) consecutive months.

Section 5 Quorum:

For the transaction of any business or exercise of any power of the SLA, except as otherwise expressly provided for herein, a quorum is required. A minimum of three (3) Board of Director members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting.

Section 6 Voting and Voting Rights:

Unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws, all business of SLA shall be presented, discussed, debated and voted upon at a Board of Directors meeting. There are three categories of individuals who have voting rights at these meetings:

1. Members of the Board of Directors
2. Officers appointed to specified positions by the Board of Directors
3. General members who have attended more than 50% of the general member meetings called monthly by the Board of Director over the prior twelve months. In order for general members to receive voting rights, their attendance must have been recorded and maintained by the Secretary. For this category only, in special circumstances, the 50% requirement may be waived for an individual by the Board of Directors by unanimous vote.

All qualifying Directors, Officers and general members in attendance shall have one vote and no votes by proxy shall be allowed. Voting shall be by voice vote or roll call at the discretion of the President by simple majority in attendance. A tally of the votes shall be taken and recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Section 7 Order of Business:

Business shall be conducted in the following order:

1. Roll Call/Attendance (Sign-in form may be utilized)
2. Reading of the Minutes of proceeding meeting (may be waived by motion)
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Reports of the Directors and Officers
5. Reports of the Committees
6. Old and Outstanding Business
7. New Business

8. Miscellaneous Issues
9. Adjournment

ARTICLE VII: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Sections 1 Nominations:

Nominations for Board of Directors positions shall be made as described above, and may also be made from the floor of the Annual Business Meeting, provided that the names of all such nominees and the positions for which they are being nominated have been circulated to the general members at least twenty (20) days prior to the Annual Business Meeting, unless the Board of Directors approve the nomination at the meeting.

Section 2 Voting:

There are three categories of individuals who have voting rights at these meetings:

1. Members of the outgoing Board of Directors
2. Outgoing Officers appointed to specified positions by the Board of Directors
3. General members who have attended more than 50% of the general member meetings called monthly by the Board of Director over the prior twelve months. In order for general members to receive voting rights, their attendance must have been recorded and maintained by the Secretary.

The Board of Directors shall be elected by a majority vote of the individuals above that hold qualified voting rights who are present and voting at the Annual Business Meeting. All contested elections shall be by secret ballot. In the event a candidate does not receive a majority, a run-off election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes.

ARTICLE VIII: CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, AND FUNDS

Section 1 Contracts:

The Board of Directors may, by majority vote of three (3) concurring Directors, authorize any Director or Officer, as agents of the SLA, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the SLA and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 2 Checks, Drafts and Other:

- a. All checks, drafts, or other orders for payment of money, notes or other evidence's of indebtedness issued in the name of the SLA shall be prior approved as defined in Section 2 (b) below, and signed by the Treasurer of the SLA and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. All checks above \$2,000 shall be countersigned by either one of the Boys or Girls Vice Presidents.

- b. The President may approve expenses up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00); a quorum of the Board of Directors shall approve all expenses up to twelve hundred dollars (\$1,200.00); all other expenses must be pre-approved by an affirmative vote of those who hold voting rights with a minimum of three Directors in favor.
- c. The fiscal year shall be September 1 thru August 31.
- d. Dissolution of the SOUTHTON LACROSSE ASSOCIATION: Upon dissolution of the SLA, after payment of obligations, the General Members shall decide upon distribution of all monies to go to town youth organizations. A record of the minutes of the meeting at which the SLA was dissolved shall include a copy of the final financial statement indicating how much and to whom all monies were dispersed. Copies are to be given to the appropriate town, state, and federal agencies.
- e. The Treasurer and all Directors able to sign checks shall be bonded, or in the alternative, the Association shall obtain a Crime/Fidelity policy covering for all of its negotiable assets. It is also highly recommended that the Association procures and maintains General Liability and Directors and Officers Liability Insurance.

Section 3 Deposits:

All funds shall be deposited to the credit in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.

Section 4 Gifts:

The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the SLA any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the general purpose or for any special purpose of the organization, and may solicit contributions.

Section 5 Fund Raisers:

- a. All fundraisers must be voted on by the members with voting rights at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting in which the requisite quorum is present as defined in Article VI, Section 5.
- b. A detailed report, including all paid receipts and a profit and loss statement, shall be provided in writing for each fundraiser. This report must be completed within two months of the event. Copies of the report will be provided to the President and Secretary and made part of the official record. It will be the responsibility of the Treasurer and League Vice President(s) to complete such reports or to oversee the preparation of the report by the Committee or fundraiser chair if applicable.

ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES

Section 1 Number:

The Board of Directors shall create such committees as necessary to fulfill its purposes, and such committees shall report directly to the President and/or the person or persons appointed or designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X: RECORDS

Section 1 Books and Records:

The Secretary, on behalf of the SLA shall maintain a complete set of books and records on a fiscal year beginning on the first day of September and ending on the thirty-first day of August in each year.

ARTICLE XI: ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Section 1 Method:

- a. These Bylaws may be altered, amended, added to or repealed at any time by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of those Directors, Officers and members with voting rights present and voting at a regular Board of Directors meeting provided the proposed amendments have been given to the general members in writing fifteen (15) days in advance of meeting.
- b. Amendments may be proposed by the Directors, Officers or any general member with voting rights.

ARTICLE XII: STANDING RULES

1. The Board of Directors, Officers, Coaches, Players/Parents and General Members are expect to obtain and review a copy of the bylaws, including the appendixes, and abide by them.
2. Regular Board of Directors Meetings: Meetings shall be called by the President and conducted in an appropriate venue conducive to an orderly meeting to effectuate the processing of the Association's business.
3. The SLA will also be considered to be a Booster Club for the High School Lacrosse program and all funds or equipment to be donated to it will be voted on by the general membership, at a Board of Directors meeting in which a quorum is present. Examples of qualifying funds include annual academic college scholarship(s) to graduating seniors who were former players in the SLA league, instructional lacrosse clinics, and other programs that benefit the SLA or Booster

Club.

ARTICLE XIII: TEAM ROSTERS Section 1

Definition:

Each team will be comprised of up to but not more than 30 players. A team may have more than 30 players but will be reviewed by the league Board of Directors on a case by case basis. The Board shall have the final authority and discretion on all Team rosters and level of play. A team may have less than 30 players and also may consist of different grade level players, but the following rules will apply.

Section 2 Roster Rules/General Guidelines:

1. SLA shall follow the CVYL guidelines with regard to the minimum and maximum number of players that shall be assigned to each team. If 13 players of the specified Division age/grade have not registered to play for that season, the league may opt to place players of a younger grade on that team roster to fill the additional spots, with executive board approval.
2. Player eligibility for particular age/grade based Team Divisions shall be in accordance with the C.V.Y.L. or other participating League rules.
3. At the parent's request, the league will consider the possibility that their child not be moved up to a higher division of play as long as it is in the best interest of the child. The formal CVYL waiver process to play down must be followed.
4. A coach may request, in a special situation, that additional players play up a Level or Division in a single game ONLY if the coach cannot field 15 players from his own roster.
5. The SLA will attempt to accommodate every child that registers to play and provide as many teams as possible in the program in order to sustain the objectives of the SLA with respect to promoting a constructive and positive playing and learning experience.
6. In order to be eligible to practice or play in any SLA sponsored event, all candidate players must first demonstrate evidence of a valid insurance policy consistent with the guidelines established by the Board of Directors, must have submitted a signed medical waiver in the form prescribed by SLA, and must have submitted a

signed liability waiver in the form prescribed by SLA.

Appendix A:
SLA & CONNECTICUT VALLEY YOUTH LACROSSE, INC.

Code of Conduct

Players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators are to conduct themselves in a manner that “Honors the Game” of lacrosse and demonstrates respect to other players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators. In becoming a member of the lacrosse community an individual assumes certain obligations and responsibilities to the game of lacrosse and its participants. The essential elements in this “Code of Conduct” are HONESTY and INTEGRITY. Those who conduct themselves in a manner that reflects these elements will bring credit to the sport of lacrosse, themselves, their team and their organization. It is only through such conduct that our sport can continue to earn and maintain a positive image and make its full contribution to amateur sports in the United States and around the world. The following essential elements of the “Code of Conduct” must be followed:

- Sportsmanship and teaching the concepts of fair play are essential to the game and must be taught at all levels and developed both at home and on the field during practices and games.
- The value of good sportsmanship, the concepts of fair play, and the skills of the game should always be placed above winning.
- The safety and welfare of the players are of primary importance.
- Coaches must always be aware of the tremendous influence they have on their players. They are to strive to be positive role models in dealing with young people as well as adults.
- Coaches should always demonstrate positive behaviors and reinforce them to players, parents, officials and spectators. Players should be specifically encouraged and positively reinforced by coaches to demonstrate respect for teammates, opponents, officials and spectators.
- Players should always demonstrate positive behavior and respect toward teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, parents and spectators.
- Coaches, players, parents and spectators are expected to demonstrate the utmost respect for officials and to reinforce that respect to players/teammates. Coaches are also expected to educate their players as to the important role of lacrosse officials and reinforce the ideal of respect for the official to players/teammates.
- Grievances or misunderstandings between coaches, officials or any other parties involved with the sport should be communicated through the proper channels and procedures, never on or about the field of play or otherwise in view of spectators or participants.
- Officials are professionals and are therefore expected to conduct themselves as such in a manner that demonstrates total impartiality, courtesy and respect and fairness to all parties.
- Spectators involved with the game must never permit anyone to openly or maliciously criticize, badger, harass or threaten an official, coach, player or opponent.

- Coaches must be able to demonstrate a solid knowledge of the rules of lacrosse, and should adhere to the rules in both the letter and the spirit of the game.
- Coaches should provide a basic knowledge of the rules to both players and spectators within his/her program. Attempts to manipulate rules in an effort to take unfair advantage of an opponent, or to teach deliberate unsportsmanlike conduct, is considered unacceptable conduct.
- Eligibility requirements, at all levels of the game, must be followed. Rules and requirements such as age, previous levels of participation, team transfer, etc., have been established to encourage and maximize participation, fair play and to promote safety.

Appendix B:

SLA SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

SLA recognizes the importance of the Internet in shaping the public's perception of our organization. SLA also recognizes the importance of our Board members, directors, coordinators, members, coaches, and volunteers in leading and setting the tone of social media interactions in a manner that advances SLA's mission and goals.

This Social Media Policy applies to all Board members, executive directors, sport coordinators, sport committee members, coaches and volunteer. This Social Media Policy applies to all social media content posted by SLA Members in their professional and personal capacity to the extent such content is related to SLA. SLA views social media as an important tool for communicating its successes and opportunities for athletic and individual development.

Guidelines

All SLA Members shall abide by the following guidelines when using social media:

1. Be positive and respectful, and always take the high road. When disagreeing with others' opinions, remain appropriate and polite.
2. Do not post content that would harm or damage SLA'S reputation. Remember that even while you are on your own personal time, you are a representative of SLA, and people may interpret your online postings or social interactions as though they were official SLA statements.
3. Use good judgment when posting comments on any official SLA sites. Bear in mind that your comments can create liability for SLA. If you are unsure whether a comment is appropriate to post, either do not post it or obtain prior approval from the Board of Directors.
4. Be smart about what you publish. Once something is posted, it exists online forever. Ask yourself, "would I want to see this published in the newspaper or posted on a billboard tomorrow or ten years from now?" If the answer is "no," do not post.

5. Encourage others to engage in positive interactions on social media. If you are concerned about any SLA Member's use of social media, please bring your concerns to the attention of the SLA Board of Directors.
6. Personally identifiable information (information, such as a name and date of birth and/or a street address which, when taken together, can identify a particular individual) should not be disclosed in any manner on official SLA social networking sites without the approval the SLA Board of Directors.

Violations of the Social Media Policy

The SLA Board of Directors shall have the authority to monitor and enforce this Social Media Policy. The SLA Board of Directors, and any individual appointed by the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to remove any inappropriate or offensive comments from official SLA sites and to block any individual or organization from posting on any official SLA social media platform if they determine, in their sole discretion, that such removal or block is in the best interests of SLA.

Appendix C:

SLA BACKGROUND SCREENING POLICY

Section 1 Mandatory Background Checks

Background checks are mandatory on all people, to include but not limited to; those individuals who are on the Board of Director, all Officers and all coaches/assistant coaches have repetitive access to, or contact with, minor(s), juvenile(s) lacrosse participants.

Section 2 Annual Checks

Background Checks will be performed on an annual basis. System(s) used must check the Sex Offender Registry and Criminal History Records and will be handled by the Coaching Coordinator.

Section 3 Repetitive Access

Repetitive access is defined as any supervised contact with participants to include but not limited to the following sanctioned activities; practice, games, competitions and fundraising.

Section 4 Annual Applications

All volunteers applying for positions as a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Trainer, Director or Officer official Volunteer Application provided by the League on an annual basis. It will be the responsibility of the Boys and Girls Vice President to distribute the Volunteer Application, collect, and provide the completed applications to the Coaching Coordinator before the season begins.

Section 5 Accepted Background Checks

All background checks will be performed by any provider, which is either a public or private agency recognized and endorsed by the conference. SLA will pay all associated fees. However, if the volunteer elects to obtain his own State Police Record Check it will be at their own expense. SLA will accept hard copy Criminal History Reports from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police only.

Section 6 Who Conducts Background Checks

All background checks will be conducted by the Coaching Coordinator and will be confirmed by the Board of Director.

Section 7 Commencement of Official Duties

All background checks must be completed before any individual assumes their official duties.

Section 8 Privacy

The background investigation will be conducted maintaining the confidentiality of the search and the privacy of the subject individual. As such point that the investigation reveals a criminal history that should be addressed, the subject will be provided with notice and a copy of the history/report. The information will also be provided to the Board of Directors for review. The subject volunteer will be provided an opportunity to discuss the history/report with the Directors.

Section 9 Criteria for Acceptance

The schedule below will govern all action taken by the Board of Directors regarding information obtained during a background investigation. This action will stem from dismissal to probation.

Section 10 Failure to Submit

Failure to complete and submit the Volunteer Application Form by those required to do so by one week before the start of practice will result in being barred from involvement in any sanction activity of the SLA events for a reasonable time until the check can be conducted.

Criteria For Accepting Or Denying

	VIOLATION	CONDITIONS	ACTION
1.	Any Violation To A Child	Do not accept	Deny
2.	Use Of Firearm In A Crime	Do not accept	Deny
3.	Violent Felony crimes such as but not limited to: Assault with a Deadly Weapon, ADW-Not Firearm-Great Bodily Injury Likely, Armed Robbery, Concealed Weapon, Threaten Crime w/Intent To Terrorize	Do not accept	Deny
4.	Non-Violent Felonies such as but not limited to: DUI, Possession of Narcotics, Transporting & Selling of Drugs, Possession of Marijuana for Sale, Robbery, Forgery, Embezzlement, Welfare Fraud, Perjury, Grand Theft w/Prior Jail	If committed 2 or less years	Deny
5.	Misdemeanors & Felonies	If they are pending action in the courts-which means they have not yet been convicted	Deny Until court action is settled
6.	Spousal Abuse	All committed 5 or less years ago and has other non-violent Felony convictions	4 YEARS PROBATION
7.	Spousal Abuse	All committed 6 or more years ago and has other non-violent Felony convictions	3 YEARS PROBATION
8.	Spousal Abuse	All committed 5 or less years ago with Misdemeanor convictions but NO Felony convictions	2 YEARS PROBATION
9.	Spousal Abuse	If committed 6 or more years ago and no other convictions	1 YEAR PROBATION
10.	Misdemeanors such as but not limited to: Vehicle theft,	If they were committed 1(one)	2 YEARS PROBATION

	Petty theft, Theft, Grand Theft, Burglary.	Or less years ago	
11.	Misdemeanors such as but not limited to: Vehicle Theft, Petty Theft, Theft, Grand Theft, and Burglary.	If they were committed 2 (two) Or more years ago	1 YEAR PROBATION
12.	Non-Violent Felonies such as but not limited to: DUI, Possession Of Narcotics, Transporting & Selling Of Drugs, Possession Of Marijuana For Sale, Robbery, Forgery, Embezzlement, Welfare Fraud, Perjury, Grand Theft w/Prior Jail	If committed 2-6 years ago	3 YEARS PROBATION
13.	Non-Violent Felonies such as but not limited to: DUI, Possession Of Narcotics, Transporting & Selling Of Drugs, Possession Of Marijuana For Sale, Robbery, Forgery, Embezzlement, Welfare Fraud, Perjury, Grand Theft w/Prior Jail	If committed 6 or more years ago	2 YEARS PROBATION

ALL PROBATIONS APPOINTED/ASSIGNED TO ANY POSITION WILL BE RECHECKED DURING THE SEASON TO INSURE CURRENT STATUS FROM PRIOR BACKGROUND CHECK INFORMATION HAS NOT CHANGED.