

Fauquier Youth Lacrosse League (FYLL)

League Policy: Requests for Players to Move Up an Age Group

It is the goal of the FYLL to have all players in both the boys and girl's divisions play in the appropriate age divisions as defined by US Lacrosse and adopted by the Northern Virginia Lacrosse League (NVYLL). There may be instances where it may be in a player's best interest to play in a higher age division. These situations include but are not limited to:

- The maturity level of the player,
- The player has significant prior playing experience
- The player has skills that are more advanced than most other players in his/her age division.

While the above situations may occur, FYLL encourages players to stay with their age group. Recreation leagues offer players the opportunity for learning, team building, and character building. Staying with their age group offers an experienced player invaluable opportunities for leadership, and the ability to better all players on the team.

Consideration to move a player up will be given **only upon written request of the player's parent or guardian**. (For purposes of this section an e-mail request will suffice as a written request.) The request must include the reason(s) why the player should be moved up & a description of why the parent or guardian believes the player is ready for the next age group level. This request must be submitted no later than the registration deadline for that year.

All players must register in their respective age group and are expected to play their respective age group if they are unable to move up for reasons that extend beyond their abilities. FYLL may have unique situations and circumstances that prohibit player movement from the player's age level to the next level up. Refunds **will not be issued** for requests that are not approved.

Please note that while NVYLL allows for roster sizes to range from 16 to 24 players, (age groups above U9 & K-2), FYLL has discretionary considerations and responsibilities beyond NVYLL guidance, where FYLL seeks to ensure teams and players are manageable and coachable. As a goal, FYLL looks to maintain teams where player counts are 18 to 20 players. In all cases, FYLL addresses each team and player situation uniquely, assessing player allocations, skill levels and coaching. This will afford the coaching staff the ability to spend sufficient time working on individual skills during practices, as well as to provide ample playing time on game day.

In determining whether to grant the parent/guardian request, FYLL will consider the following

- Players age: The registered player must be **in the last year** of their respective age group (i.e. U-9/ K-2 player moving up to U-11/3-4 will be in their last year of playing U-9/K-2) (exceptions to this may be made at the Board's discretion if necessary to field a team).

- Registration numbers: Space must be available at the older age group at the time of evaluations. Player moving up cannot displace a potential player at the older age group. In addition, player moving up cannot affect the ability to form a team at the younger age group.
- Evaluation results: If the first 2 qualifications are met, and the board agrees, the player will attend evaluations for both their assigned age group, and the older age group. (In the event of no evaluations, player will be evaluated during practices at their assigned age group, by Board selected evaluators).
- Board Vote: Based on the evaluation results, the respective Commissioner must agree with the proposed action, and a majority of the FYLL Board must approve.

League Policy: Assignment of Players for More Than One Team in an Age Group

It is the goal of the FYLL to further the growth of youth lacrosse in Fauquier County. As such, we will work to afford as many players as possible the opportunity to play at the appropriate age and experience level.

When it becomes evident that there will be more than one team at a particular age level, evaluations will be held for the purpose of matching players of similar skills on a team. For teams at the U9 & K-2 level, teams will be split equitably between coaches, with every effort made to balance the age and experience between the teams. Player evaluations will be conducted by an FYLL Board selected committee and the respective Commissioner. At the conclusion of evaluations, the committee, Commissioner and FYLL Board will meet to make team selections.

League Policy: Assignment of Coaches

FYLL encourages all parents and guardians to participate in the program. However, NVYLL allows **no more than four coaches on the sidelines during games**. In the event of schedule issues, it is possible that there may be more than four coaches assigned to a team, but the game day rules still apply. All volunteers interested in coaching must first fill out the application located on the website. Approval of this application will be subject to Board approval and the results of a background check. In addition, FYLL Board reserves the right to remove a coach from their volunteer position at any time, for any reasons that the board majority deems justified.

- In the event of multiple requests for the same position, the respective Commissioner will make recommendations as to the best qualified candidate and the Board will make the final determination.
- Coaching is a rewarding experience that can greatly impact a player's experience and development. FYLL's goal is to have coaches grow and develop their skills just as the players do. It will be expected that a coach accepts direction from the respective Commissioner and the board, and will also attend any educational opportunities set forth by FYLL

- All applications for returning Coaches must be submitted to the FYLL Board on or before the announced deadline preceding the upcoming spring season. All new coaching applications must be submitted on or before the close of registration for the upcoming Spring season.
- The FYLL Board will review all applications, new and/or returning coaches. All applications will require a majority vote approval by the FYLL board.
- When reviewing coaching applications, the FYLL Board will consider all aspects of coaching experience, certifications, and adherence to the league code of conduct, which, applies to all league officials and members.