



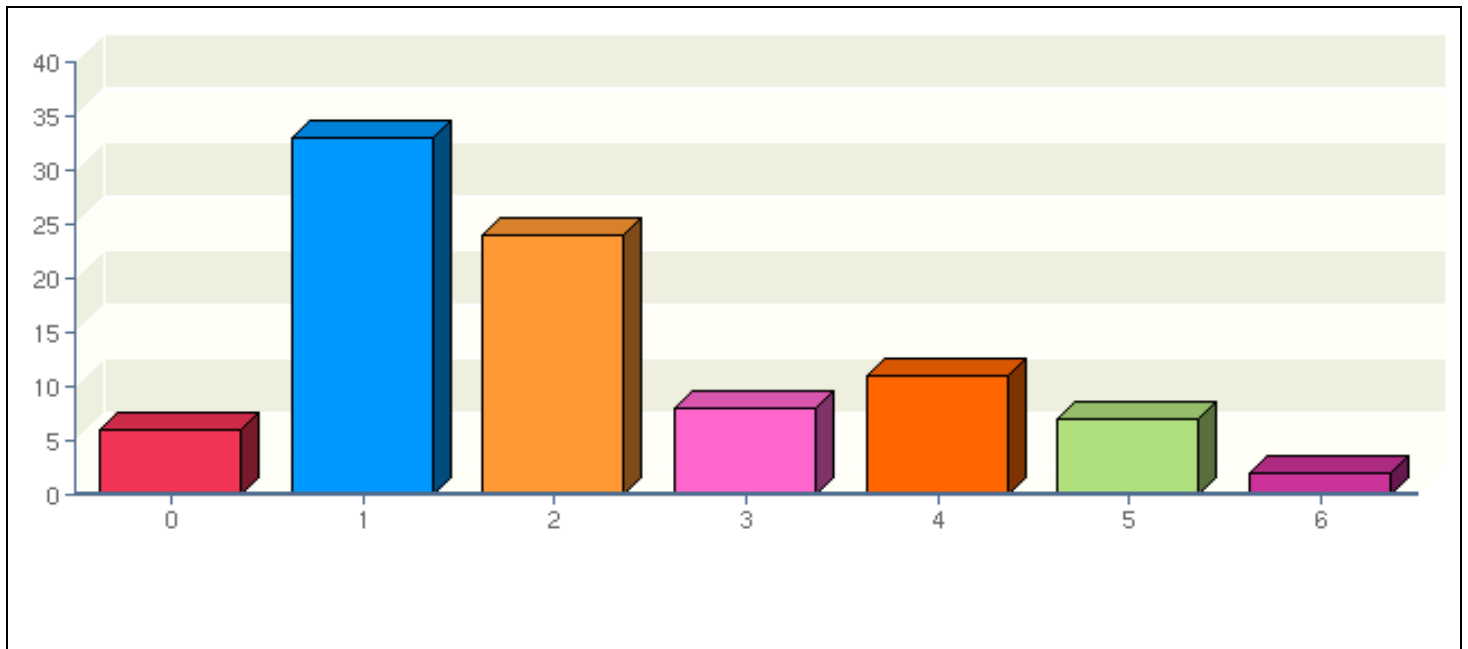
## 2009 Boys Lacrosse Season Parent Survey

October 21, 2009

### 1. Please indicate your son's level of play this year...

Item	3/4th	5/6th	7/8th A	7/8th B	9-12 HS	Total
Son #1	24.4% 22	46.7% 42	11.1% 10	7.8% 7	10.0% 9	90
Son #2	20.0% 3	46.7% 7	6.7% 1	20.0% 3	6.7% 1	15
Son #3	25.0% 1		25.0% 1		50.0% 2	4
Average %	23.9%	45.0%	11.0%	9.2%	11.0%	109.0

### 2. Approximately how many years has your son (or sons) been playing lacrosse?



Average: 2.15

### 3. We would like to get your feedback on several areas of the association activities.

**Please rate your satisfaction with the following *administrative areas* regarding your son's participation....**

Item	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	Did not use	Total
Registration	74.7% 68	23.1% 21	1.1% 1	1.1% 1	91
Team Selection	37.4% 34	47.3% 43	15.4% 14		91
Email/text communications	73.6% 67	19.8% 18	6.6% 6		91
Uniforms/equipment	53.8% 49	46.2% 42			91
Financial cost of participation (team and clinic fees)	48.4% 44	49.5% 45	2.2% 2		91
Average %	57.6%	37.1%	5.1%	0.2%	455.0

**4. We would like to get your feedback regarding *team activities*...**

Item	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	Do not know	Total
Number of practices weekly	48.4% 44	44.0% 40	5.5% 5	2.2% 2	91
Level of practice intensity (amount of workout players received)	35.2% 32	46.2% 42	12.1% 11	6.6% 6	91
Number of skill drills done	31.9% 29	39.6% 36	11.0% 10	17.6% 16	91
Time of practices	50.5% 46	42.9% 39	5.5% 5	1.1% 1	91
Length of practices	48.4% 44	48.4% 44	2.2% 2	1.1% 1	91
Length of season	36.3% 33	60.4% 55	2.2% 2	1.1% 1	91
Number of games	36.3% 33	58.2% 53	4.4% 4	1.1% 1	91
Average %	41.0%	48.5%	6.1%	4.4%	637.0

**5. We would like to get your feedback regarding your *coaches*...**

Item	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	Do not know	Total
Knowledge of the game of lacrosse	38.5% 35	46.2% 42	5.5% 5	9.9% 9	91
Organization of team practices	39.6% 36	39.6% 36	8.8% 8	12.1% 11	91
Motivation of players	36.3% 33	36.3% 33	23.1% 21	4.4% 4	91
Game management	38.5% 35	40.7% 37	17.6% 16	3.3% 3	91
Communication with players	45.1% 41	35.2% 32	15.4% 14	4.4% 4	91
Communication with parents	49.5% 45	39.6% 36	9.9% 9	1.1% 1	91
Development of players' skills	34.1% 31	44.0% 40	17.6% 16	4.4% 4	91
Average %	40.2%	40.2%	14.0%	5.7%	637.0

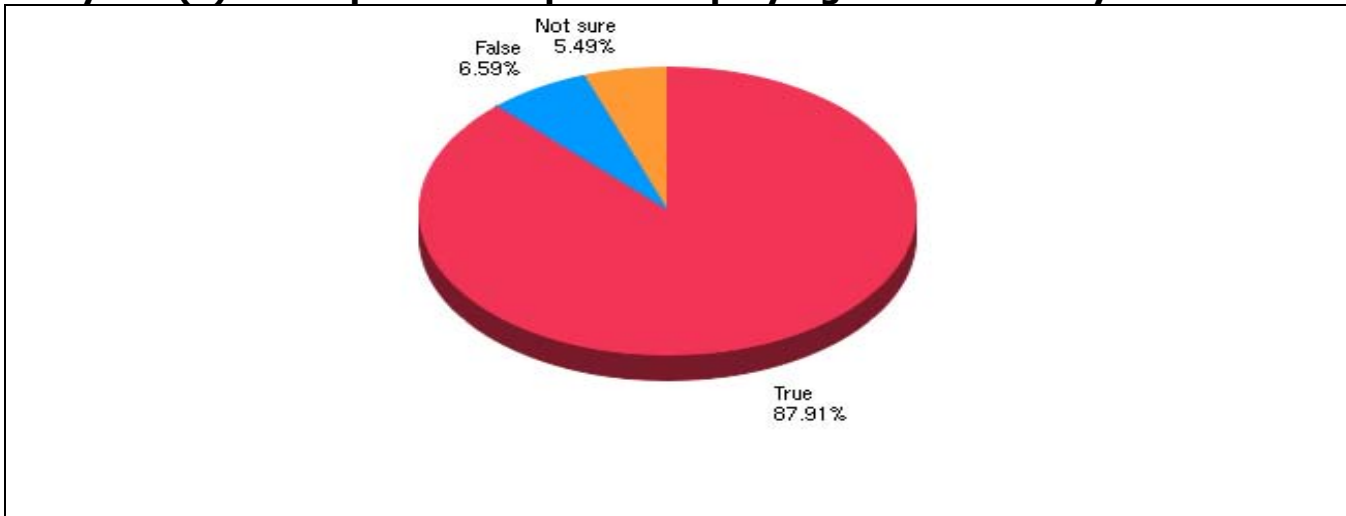
**6. Please reflect on the *team accomplishments* this season and provide your feedback to the following...**

Item	Better than expected	As expected	Below my expectations	Do not know	Total
Won-Loss Record	31.9% 29	30.8% 28	31.9% 29	5.5% 5	91
Stayed competitive in most games	28.6% 26	47.3% 43	24.2% 22		91
Worked well as a team	22.0% 20	56.0% 51	19.8% 18	2.2% 2	91
Demonstrated good sportsmanship	35.2% 32	54.9% 50	9.9% 9		91
Played without committing to many penalties	26.4% 24	61.5% 56	7.7% 7	4.4% 4	91
Showed good lacrosse skills and knowledge	25.3% 23	57.1% 52	14.3% 13	3.3% 3	91
Average %	28.2%	51.3%	17.9%	2.6%	546.0

**7. For our 2010 planning purposes, please answer the following... Will your son(s)....**

Item	Certain	Very Likely	Likely	Will not	Do not know	Total
Play spring lacrosse (grades 7-12) next year?	38.5% 35	22.0% 20	7.7% 7	22.0% 20	9.9% 9	91
Take part in one of the indoor clinics?	37.4% 34	36.3% 33	12.1% 11	1.1% 1	13.2% 12	91
Play summer lacrosse (grades 3-12) next year?	51.6% 33	34.4% 22	7.8% 5	1.6% 1	4.7% 3	64
Average %	41.5%	30.5%	9.3%	8.9%	9.8%	246.0

**8. My son(s) had a positive experience playing lacrosse this year...**



**9. One idea under consideration by the association is the formation of traveling teams that would play several tournaments each summer. These teams would practice more often and work harder on lacrosse skills and game situations. Would you son be interested in trying out for one of these teams based on the following ?**

Item	Definitely	Possibly	Would not be interested	Total
Team practices 3-4 times per week	34.5% 30	48.3% 42	17.2% 15	87
Roster is much smaller (15-18 players)	47.7% 42	42.0% 37	10.2% 9	88

Team would not play in regular summer league	24.1% 21	52.9% 46	23.0% 20	87
Team would play approximately 20 games (double current number)	39.1% 34	47.1% 41	13.8% 12	87
Costs would be \$400-800 (excluding travel)	25.3% 22	43.7% 38	31.0% 27	87
Team rules and expectations would be higher than summer league	51.7% 45	40.2% 35	8.0% 7	87
Travel might include an out of region tournament (east coast, denver, etc)	23.9% 21	47.7% 42	28.4% 25	88
Games would most often be played on weekends	36.8% 32	44.8% 39	18.4% 16	87
Average %	35.4%	45.8%	18.8%	698.0

**10. Since we are a volunteer association, we need the support and commitment of parents like you to continue to deliver a good lacrosse experience. Next year, we will be seeking volunteers to provide several of the services that are currently handled by one or two people. Please indicate your interest in serving as a coordinator for these key positions below, which have a seasonal (Jan - July) estimate of the number of hours needed to get the job done.**

Item	I can do this job!	Not sure, please tell me more	Sorry, but no way	Total
Head of boys program (100)		5.1% 4	94.9% 74	78
Head of girls program (100)		1.3% 1	98.7% 74	75
Field and facilities scheduling (50)	1.3% 1	15.8% 12	82.9% 63	76
Equipment and uniforms (40)	8.1% 6	27.0% 20	64.9% 48	74
Referee and game scheduler (20)	1.4% 1	13.5% 10	85.1% 63	74
Coaching a team (60)	7.9% 6	7.9% 6	84.2% 64	76
Web site manager (40)	2.7% 2	6.8% 5	90.5% 67	74
Registration/refunds (30)	6.8% 5	27.4% 20	65.8% 48	73
Serving as a board member (10)	10.5% 8	21.1% 16	68.4% 52	76

Serving as a team manager (40)	8.0% 6	25.3% 19	66.7% 50	75
Average %	4.7%	15.0%	80.3%	751.0

**Appendix 2: Please provide any additional comments you have about the association's programs and administration....**

there was a huge difference in the abilities of the two 3/4 teams which could have been evened out a bit.

I think that is was very well organized. I think it would be good to host a tournament next year if we can.

Would be nice if they could keep their jerseys.

I thought the email reminders of games and practices were great, but thought the overall communication of the whole season was lacking. It would be helpful to know further ahead about the Saturday games as well as the week of tournaments. I think that would have alleviated all the overlapping of other camps. For example, we always know at the beginning of the season of St Croix Soccer the week of tournaments in July. I heard a lot of grumbling from parents about this.

I was disappointed that team pictures were not taken.

I would like to see a HS Summer session, maybe once a week, for the boys to work on Skills in addition to the HS Summer league play.

Great season. The 5/6 kids were spread out to make the teams more balanced, but this tended to split friends up on different teams. 3/4 level had practice on Sunday nights. That was a real inconvenience for those of us that are away almost every weekend. No Sunday practices next year.

Text messages and automatic emails were really nice. Keep them next year.

Thanks to John and all the coaches.

There were approximately 29 players on each of these 5/6 teams. No one got much playtime especially if you played middle. Also, as indicated by the scores, the teams were not very evenly divided.

We also had some problems with referees who did not know all of the rules for the 5/6 league.

Text and email notification made everything much easier and less stressful for the whole family.

I am so impressed that you are conducting this survey! It's tough to hear criticism, but that will only make the organization better.

Overall, I am happy with the organization and we have had a great experience the past 2 years.

I think you have a great website...very informative.

It would have been nice to know at the beginning of the season when the State Tournament was being held.

It was disappointing that so many kids were gone during playoffs. I think if they would have know earlier, some people might not have made plans that week.

We understand why you split 3 even teams for the 5/6 level yet it was very frustrating at times because I think it builds bad habits in the kids that have previous experience. At game times they get so frustrated with the new kids not being able to catch the ball that they just take it in to score all the time.

We enjoyed everything about the program.

Spring Clinic should have the skill levels split between the teams so that the lower skill level players have the opportunity to improve with the higher skill level players.

Earlier notification of seasons start dates and times to better plan for vacations etc.

I think it is great to that you do the emailing and texting for game/practice information. Especially if it changes.

need notification used for 5/6 the other teams communication field changes etc., it was a joke

I loved receiving the reminder emails for practices and games.

I would like all practices to be included on the SALA lax calendar. Just hard to keep track of all 3 and easier to just print out.

Determination of days for practice and games was far too late. With other activities possible and their schedules known we still signed up for lacrosse. Since the lacrosse schedule was published so late we decided to honor our other commitments first and missed some of the practices. Before the registration process I tried to contact people via the website but there was not information about how to contact the people listed. Requests for information via [feedback@stillwaterlacrosse.org](mailto:feedback@stillwaterlacrosse.org) were not returned.

During state tournaments our team played three games in one day. That is totally unreasonable.

There was a lack of information provided about the developmental team so we could determine if we were able to participate. When information was requested, no response was given.

Had some miscommunications about games.

Wish there would have been a team photo.

Appeared that the 3/4 team selections were not neutral, making one team much stronger than the other. This should be avoided in the future.

It was a positive experience for our son and our family.

loved the email reminders of games and practices

SEEMED TO BE THAT THE TWO TEAMS WERE OF GREATER COACHING AND PLAYER ABILITY

I love the e-mail reminders and that the website was up-to-date. Very helpful.

### **Appendix 3: Please provide any additional comments you have about team practices....**

Our son was having a ball - maybe it could start earlier

More practices prior to first game would have been helpful to learn more fundamentals

Thought practices were fine. If adding the developmental team, then he became a little much when practices were back to back.

I think there are just enough practices and games for the 3/4 grade level.

Practices directly after school at a school field are the most convenient for us.

Not satisfied for time of practice only refers to Sunday 3/4 practice. Don't know enough about the game to be critical of practices. Look great to me.

I didn't like the Sunday practices. I would like one day off of sport activities if possible. However, we did make them all.

More work on pass catch and scoop, even if kids don't like it.

Coaching is a thankless job, and I am truly grateful for the exceptional job and commitment shown by Coach Stahura. That being said, I think that the skill drills could have been better, to develop ALL skills, and not specific plays. I think that practice could be run so more kids are doing alternate activities instead of standing around waiting for 1 chance to shoot a goal. etc. Maybe try Stations where a kid practices a specific skill for 5 minutes, blow a whistle and rotate to the next station.

I think the teams need to do more conditioning...we seemed very out of shape. I think they should spend a good half hour exercising... doing stretching, jogging, up downs, shuffles, killers, push ups, sit ups, etc.

The workout was nothing compared to some other sports like football.

We had awesome coaches this year. Great job to them. We just see that if Stillwater is ever going to be able to play with the west, we are going to step up our skills and the knowledge that the other coaches have. We believe that Stillwater will only be as good as the coaches we have and we are really lacking in this area.

I did not like the dual practices. It appeared that the teams could have been mixed up a little better. I don't know if this is due to experience of players but if one team is clearly better than the other why practice and play games against each other. IF these two teams were to be equals it was clearly evident

that they were not.

It was nice to have the low-key summer lacrosse program for the 9-11th graders. It was nice not to have practices for them. I think the level for the 7/8 is good. One tournament (weekend) besides state would be nice, if it is communicated early enough to the teams.

Most organized sport I have been involved in as a parent. Email communication and alerts are excellent reminder.

The 7/8 team needed more discipline at the coaching level so not sure if they learned much.

Wishing that it started sooner!!!

While I understand the skills are important team strategy should be practiced as well. Too many times during the game the kids were in unfamiliar situations.

Seemed to be largely scrimmages. Feedback was given on what NOT to do but not on what TO do. Skills were not taught. Boys did fairly well throughout the season as far as wins/losses, however did not appear to progress with skills. Seemed to do ok more based on athleticism of the boys. Did not observe team camaraderie or leaders being developed. New players were very lost. Lots of rough play observed....possibly do to lack of skills/knowledge.

Not really any practices which is ok

The 3/4 team had Sunday evening practices and the boys were made to feel like they were not "committed" if they didn't attend. Summer Sundays should not be practice days unless the practices are treated as entirely optional.

I hope my son continues in the sport.

Would like to know the schedule way ahead of time, like in May so we can plan family events in advance-like we did not know the district play off schedule until right before- also they should know the state tournament dates when you sign up to play. Many people plan their summer right after winter is through

My children state they did not get any individual teaching, and that the drills were the same at every practice. They were never singled out by a coach to change anything they were doing, such as to hold your stick differently, set up any plays, etc.

Lacrosse took up four nights of the week. Yes, there were not weekends, except one, but four nights was too much. It would be nice to have day practices if possible; late afternoon or early mornings. Also, the player's performances seemed to dwindle as the summer season progressed instead of strengthen. This seems questionable. Typically, the opposite occurs. Seems as if practices contribute to this ~ players will routinely perform how they practice. I am a coach myself.

First my kid loves lacrosse...so below is for helping the group as a whole....

Complaints: from son

Same drills every practice (boring)

Stuck in one position

Starting practice even a half hour later would have been great for the family dinner hour :)

#### **Appendix 4: Please provide any additional comments you have about your son's coaches....**

Very devoted,

The coach was a bit overwhelming and i think it took awhile for the kids to warm up to his style

Okay, more communication and meeting of other parents/players with access to phone #'s and emailing for carpooling reasons. People tend to keep to themselves, it would have been helpful to have coaches ask more about kids needing rides etc, carpooling, etc.

I like that both of the 3/4 teams played together because then they could scrimmage and share the coaching knowledge between the two teams.

They were very positive, and challenged the players to do their best.

Eric Ostland was a wonderful coach. He was great with the boys and also great at communications with parents. He was very respectful with the boys.

Thanks to all who volunteered.

They did a great job!

Unfortunately there is not a lot of Lax knowledge to go around

I think our team suffered from a lack of consistency between the two coaches. Playing for a win at this age is counter productive. Instead think about taking a moment to coach a kid as soon as he comes off the field would be more effective during a game. I think that teaching the kids to play better as a team would have helped a lot. Better organization of practice time would help the kids get more per practice, but some of the drills are unsupervised so kids tended to participate very lackadaisically. As an example, Two big lines passing 10 balls is more effective than 4 big lines passing 2 balls.

It seems the majority of practice time was just scrimmaging without any instruction. It felt like the kids were supposed to just learn by "trial and error"- not instruction.

Our defense was particularly bad- it was painfully obvious that many kids didn't know what they were doing or where they should be on the field.

While scrimmaging, I think it would be helpful if the coach blew the whistle and had everyone freeze and show them what they were doing wrong and where they should be. Like I said it seemed like they were supposed to figure it out somehow on their own... which many weren't.

One comment that I heard from some players is that "the coach tells me when I'm doing something wrong, but he doesn't tell me how to do it right."

I wish that coaches would pull players from a game when they weren't doing what they were supposed to. It's frustrating to watch when people jog instead of sprinting like they don't even care if they're playing or not. Or when someone is not even paying attention to where the ball is.

When we were behind in a game and time was running out...it didn't seem like the kids understood that they had to go after the ball. Most would just stand and watch the other team pass as the clock ticked away.

Ditto from above, we were fortunate to get the 5/6 coaches that were knowledgeable about the game. I think they need to demand more from the kids, stress the discipline of the game, and focus on skills, skill, skills!

it would be nice to receive emails sooner than a day before the games/practices. Are the SALA emails correct yet? Many parents rely on emails instead of searching for information on the web site, especially with multiple kids in multiple sports. Reminders are nice. John did okay, sometimes too late.

The coaches did a great job. Their enthusiasm for the game and the kids was awesome. Their encouragement and positive attitude reflected on the players and in their game. I had some frustration about how the kids were to advance the ball and the strategy of their game plan. This is a new sport to us so I maybe naive of game strategies however I observed other teams that we played that incorporated a more stronger passing game which seemed to serve them well.

I think the coaching staff did an outstanding job. As you know, the red 7/8 team had some boys that were difficult. I think the coaches handled the situation as best as they could. I do think that it was a bad mix of kids for some reason.

Stillwater 3/4 Black was excellently coached. Well done!

My 7/8 son regressed and ideally no parent coaching it's an injustice to remainder of team just like 5/6 team

Mr. Miller did a good job for the 3/4 team... this team did not have a lot going for it in the beginning.

The above comments are for the 7/8 level. I was pleased with the other levels. I would like to see more high school or college kids coaching.

The coach did not seem to run drills to help kids gain understanding of the sport . My child was not happy with scrimmaging every practice and not being taught strategies to help him perform better.

The main strategy for offense involved running the ball to the offensive corner. This resulted in the ball carrier being exhausted by the time the corner was reached or, more often, a lost ball or run out of bounds. ALL the other teams pass the ball much more often so the ball was hot right away, While the

coaches were encouraging after the game instructions during the game were often negative. The kids did not know a good game plan in general since this was not practiced,,

Do not know coaches skills regarding the sport. Did not seem to teach skills to the boys. Did not seem to develop a close-knit team or motivate the team. Did not develop leaders.

HS team should not be just first come because the level of play was not high enough or competitive.

Great communication!

My son was a first time player and was played very little compared to the better players. The score seemed to dictate whether or not he would play.

We really appreciate the time the coaches took with the kids.

The coaches did a nice job and I have no complaints.

Doug Yaste is an excellent coach! He was fair and very knowledgeable with lacrosse. He is one of the best there is.

Coaches were awesome! Kudos to Yaste, Adams and Fisher. Hope our paths cross again in the future. Loved Yaste's enthusiasm.

My kids state that only one coach really gave input into the game. They seemed to notice the other teams coaches, and wished they had them as coaches.

Four nights out of our week was too much.

Communication about team play and practice time was good, however, our family experienced a delicate situation involving another boy picking a fight with our son

Jack L. is an excellent coach and was a perfect match for my son's 1st year of Lacrosse. My son learned so much this year and has a lot of respect for his coach, who demonstrated great respect for each player.

Although I think the coach will improve with time...he did too much yelling and too little communicating....listening to boys on rides home they described him as crazy.....that's from the kids. I think better communication regarding playoffs early in the year would be of great benefit. In addition if the season could start earlier and end by the end of July that would be helpful.

Our coaches did an excellent job maintaining a positive attitude with players, and with parents. There were a few instances in which our son received conflicting messages from his coaches, which was a bit frustrating. It was also very frustrating to see that there were a couple of players on the team who were clearly monopolizing the ball (refusing to pass to attacks in spite of coaches' verbal direction, and proceeding to take ineffective shots), and who had difficulty controlling their tempers. We observed the coaches verbally correcting the players (from the sideline during play, and off the field), but those directions were rarely followed, and there never seemed to be any consequences - even after several warnings. Aside from this, we were very satisfied and happy with the job our coaches did, and we thank them for that!!!

Loved that the coach had a "no swearing" policy and enforced it.

## **Appendix 5: Please provide any additional comments you have about the teams accomplishments...**

Open Text Responses:

well coached and well balanced talents.

there were a lot of new lacrosse players on this team and they did not know each other - I think having individual team practices might have helped (at least they might have learned their names before the season was 3/4 way over), they had a losing season which started to get very tough on the kids. They did improve but it was just starting to come together as team about 2 weeks before the end.

Great experience for my son's first year. He loved it. He liked the coaches and his teammates. He learned a lot from his peers.

The Red team did very well this year the skill level was high and they were very competitive.

When I heard some of the language on a few of the other teams, I was not happy. Our boys did pretty well. Good sportsmanship is important to me. A few of our boys seemed to commit penalties repeatedly, only to have to sit out for a few minutes. That doesn't help our team. For the most part, I enjoyed the games and felt the boys did, too.

Coaches did a nice job.

Below expectations in one 3/4 game against WBL. Stillwater 3/4 Red showed very little class when Stillwater was way ahead of them.

I think our team had a lot of first year players. I, personally, think it worked out for our son because he was able to be very involved in the game. It was a good learning experience for him.

I was a little disappointed in the lack of discipline at times on the sidelines. Passing was lacking on the attack, and transition. Defense was great.

I don't think that our team improved as the season went on- even though we had a good record. We had some really good individual players who helped us win, but overall as a team it seems like we didn't improve. During the last game, it was obvious that some kids still didn't have a clue about how to play lax.

I was thoroughly expecting to go to State. It was very frustrating to be the #4 team and lose in an upset.

The kids on our 5/6 team just didn't seem to catch on to the basics. Even in our last game, most could not even catch the ball, or pick up a ground ball.

Our record does not accurately reflect the quality of our players. Our team never gave up no matter what the score was. This shows me the commitment and desire to play this game.

Again, I feel the team had a bad match of kids. They didn't have student leadership, and most of them acted poorly. This was of no fault of the coaching, as the boys were disrespectful to the coaches as well. Some kids think they know everything already, and don't participate as whole heartedly as they should in the practices.

This team was so well improved, it's a great story around motivation and skills building. My own son - his first year - made leaps and bounds. Can't wait for next year!

7/8 team was an embarrassment to the association and the coach's lost control of the ship from the start a waste of time

The 3/4 teams were very unbalanced... having second graders on the team is NOT a good idea...

Again, 3/4 and 5/6 had a great season. The 7/8 was a disappointment...I think we had talent just not a lot of team work.

I saw a lot of athleticism in the team, but compared to other teams, they did not seem to improve throughout the year.

Did not seem to progress in individual skills or as a team. Looked the same at the end as in the beginning.

Our team made HUGE improvements over the season! Their skills, knowledge and hard work came together the last few weeks.

The team did very well and he was still very happy to be a part of the game.

My comments above relate to the 3/4 team, which was much weaker than the other Stillwater team.

do not know enough about it to weigh in on these questions.

Team had a lot of first year players on it, they did incredible. A little too much individual play, could have worked on passing more. This was my son's first year playing lacrosse and he can't wait to do it again next summer.

Comments were made in above email.

The team worked well together and each player really supported each other. My son was appreciative of the more experienced teammates showing him skills and taking time to help him succeed.

Overall I would say that the skill set I witnessed from our players(not just our team) Stillwater teams, was very impressive. We either have great athletes or they are being instructed very well.

We applaud the league for "mixing up" the teams each year, and our coaches for taking a group of kids who had not played together before, and turning them into a successful team! We feel that our son's team exceeded our expectations in all of the categories above.

## Appendix 6: Please provide any additional comments you may have...

Thanks for offering the clinic. If it wasn't for the clinic we probably wouldn't have even given lacrosse a try.

This was mine sons first year in lacrosse he made the switch from baseball to lacrosse and LOVES the game he is very happy that he made the switch. He can't wait to move to the 5/6 grade team next year.

If it doesn't conflict with basketball.

Great job John, we know this is a huge undertaking and we so appreciate your passion for bringing lacrosse to Stillwater. We are excited to see the program growing and see that it is imperative that we get better coaches that can really help the kids learn the game.

Our son can not wait for the next season. Baseball is definitely out of the question. Girls have two seasons....what about the boys?

I am thankful that we have such a great lacrosse association. Thanks for all you do to make this program a success!

Please allow independent evaluators for travel teams we need objective viewpoint not subjective

I hope he will play. I very much enjoyed watching the sport.

I feel we need strong coaches who can teach skills and motivate the players. This seems to be a large deficit of the program!

Son will graduate.

Can lacrosse start any earlier in the spring?

He will be 6th grade.

I have not discussed my son's plans to continue in the sport with him. I hope he continues.

Our son was really enjoying lacrosse. He tried it out for the first time after being a long time baseball player. Seemed to be switching over, however, with this past experience he isn't sure he wants to continue. He enjoyed Coach Uppgren. Our son does not determine whether he enjoys a sport based on a win-loss record. He likes to have fun, be around other boys who also like to play hard and have fun. Yet, all in all, being respectful and respected is a value that he holds onto. This team was very disrespectful and the coaches let the boys get away with it and get worse. He never complained about it to us, we were very proud of him.

We commute from a distance to play as our area of WI does not offer Lacrosse. We plan to play next year - my son wants to without hesitation!

## Appendix 7: Please provide any additional comments you may have...

He had a great experience. Loved the game and it's competitive level.

Thank you very much for brining lacrosse to Stillwater it is a great summer sport for hockey players. One thing I would do to try and get more players is to send a flyer to all of the elementary schools about the spring clinic so more kids can try it out and learn more about the sport. The younger the kids start the better Stillwater's teams will be in the future!

Our son really liked the game and I know that he would do it again.

I can't say enough good things about the program.

Lax is a great sport and overall I think the organization is well organized. We need more help at the coaching level especially. We have found in many other sports that just because someone has played before doesn't make them a good coach.

He loved the game and can not wait to play lacrosse at a higher more competitive level.

Lacrosse is one of my son's favorite sports. Great experience. Well managed organization. Thank you John and SALA!

the 7/8 red team coach's should not be involved with coaching any sport

I am impressed at how well lacrosse is organized and enjoy being a part of it.

Was not enthused about scrimmaging every night. Wanted to learn more. Did not want to go to practice some nights. Was not taught how to play D, used his basketball skills to get him through. He actually had to direct his teammates on positioning themselves.

really loved it!

Great attitude of coaches, kept the guys in line.

THANK YOU!!!

My son loves lacrosse but felt he was on his own. Used knowledge from other sports to try to do his best. Was disappointed new players were not given any direction and that he did not really learn new skills to advance forward.

Son liked his coaches

As a first year player, my son did well, our issues with his lack of ability come from his decisions, not anything from the coach/team, etc. we as parents feel he can get better in the future.

I commented above.

He really likes lacrosse, but did not enjoy the team environment.

He loves it but was disenfranchised as a result of the coach. I would say that my impression from the sidelines is that coach made great improvements from the start to the end of the year...less yelling and more coaching.

this was his 1st year, he loved it!

we loved it to, we wish they had more games. Thank you, we look forward to many more years of lacrosse.

## **Appendix 8: Please provide any additional traveling team comments you may have...**

When my son played on the development team he had limited playing time. I think if it is a development team then we should try to make sure all kids play. If it is a elite traveling team then I could understand.

It was my sons first year. I enjoyed the weekly practices and games. The tournaments did take a lot of time. However, I felt it was because he was doing both. If it is one or the other it would not be as bad. The travel team seemed to have a lot of fun. We would definitely consider it.

The cost and the out of state travel sounds like a lot I could see having a traveling team of this magnitude starting at the junior high level. It would be nice to have a traveling team for the younger kids but just local travel like hockey.

I think a traveling team is a good idea, but would like the association to consider continuing the summer league with a max of 2-3 tournaments.

In the end, I would have to see if our son would be interested. I assume it would be at age that was older. He only was in the 3/4 grade level.

GREAT IDEA!!!

We would be more interested if it was a true tryout team...not just anyone willing to sign up and pay the fee. We're looking for more competition and skill level- not 1st year players (unless they are exceptionally good)

\$400 would probably be the max we could afford along with 2 out of state travel tournaments.

Ryan had a great experience playing traveling this year for MN Elite, it really improved his game. We would love this opportunity for the younger levels. We really feel that the more kids that we have in Stillwater that want to take their game to the next level, the better our high school program will be.

We may be amenable to a traveling league, but why don't we have a more competitive league in our area? For example more tournaments, teams, playoffs and finals. The costs for a traveling league will be prohibitive for some families who have good and talented lacrosse players.

Great idea, but the regional travel is a big commitment. Not sure if we are ready for that level in 5/6.

need to provide discount for multiple players and possible option to volunteer to help minimize costs

The way the program is set up now is perfect. Everything from length of season to practices + games. This allows my son to participate in other activities as well.

The costs seem way out of line, especially since travel is excluded.

\$400 maybe; \$800 is high. NO REASON to travel out of region....simply eliminates those who do not have the finances!!! PLEASE DON'T! Some weekends ok; not every weekend (2Xper month perhaps). How about 15 games.

son will be graduated.

As for the development team....it should be clearly stated that this is an invite only team and that equal playing time should NOT be expected. We understand that this is typical on traveling teams but this was NEVER indicated to us prior to signing up our son to play on this team and our first out of town tournament our son didn't play much of the tournament. If we would have known this up front it would not have been a problem for us and we could have prepared our son better. I would suggest that this be clearly stated next year when putting this team together.

Interested in more serious players, and higher level instruction, but not traveling out of state and much higher cost.

Team Activities to reduce cost like bagging groceries at Cub??

He is saying right now he is going back to baseball.

\$800 seems quite high and would take a second look before committing.

Cost would be a huge factor and we would have to weigh that if the time came for becoming a member of a traveling team.

Whew another traveling sport....I miss the simpler times of kids playing a sport and then going home and playing outside with friends. Week days games are much preferred other than tourneys... That range is much better at the \$400 rather than \$800 where does it all go to?

Would not be interested in frequent traveling to cities located ~45-75 minutes away to play games. Our team didn't need more/different competition - there were plenty of local teams that provided sufficient competition in my opinion.

traveling far (airfare, gas, lodging etc.  
would be hard for some families to cover)  
especially if reg. is \$800. drivable  
overnight tourneys are great.

## Overall Comments on the season...

Wish we were informed earlier in the season for play-offs and state tournaments....

Our son has truly enjoyed lacrosse - quickly becoming his favorite sport (over football and hockey...)

Thanks for bringing this sport to Stillwater!

You did a great job organizing this program!

Sorry, I am currently a single parent with other kids. My commitment was getting my kid there while dragging the rest. Moreover, I know nothing about lacrosse, so there is loss in my inability to volunteer.

Thanks for putting together such a great program! It's been a pleasure to be apart of!

I think a coaching clinic would be a good idea. This might help new coaches feel less overwhelmed with coaching lacrosse for the first time. It would also be good for the current coaches.

I could help out in registration/refunds if needed.

We are very involved in coaching VAA activities at this point and also work schedules include travel

Great job by the whole program, thank you so much for all the efforts.

We are proud to have our kids be a part of this program. We are so willing to do our part to make it even

better and hopefully take some of the huge workload of John.

We love the enthusiasm of the association. Stillwater has a great opportunity to develop a top tier lacrosse program. I hope that other people share the same thoughts.

my husband is willing to assistant coach a team again this next year. I am not able to commit too much time. i could maybe help with registration, but would not do it alone, and would need more info. I also help do score keeping/timing at home games.

again if there is an incentive to help a single family household family with multiple children playing how can we minimize cost

Maybe try to get referees to be equally consistent for every game the rules seemed to change from game to game. Thank you for all you did all year long. Appreciate everything.

I do not know this game well enough to help in these manners.

Too much time already volunteered for SAHA.

Not this year but next year for sure.

Due to our jobs, my husband and I can't contribute time to the league. We're happy to commit additional funds to make the program better.

sorry to not sign up for anything, but this is the busy time of year for both my business and my husbands early spring - October.

Thank you for providing an opportunity for our son.

Thank you for providing an opportunity for other kids too!

Whew another traveling sport....I miss the simpler times of kids playing a sport and then going home and playing outside with friends.