

Families of Mass Bay Youth Lacrosse League,

We truly hope this was a memorable season of town-based spring lacrosse. It seems like we just began, but there have been over 3,100 games played in our league with tens of thousands of goals scored, face-offs won, passes made, groundballs picked up, and friendships forged over this amazing sport.

Summer's now here and for many of our players, lacrosse will continue with tournaments, camps, and clinics. For many of you, the sticks and helmets will get dumped into the garage to gather cobwebs until next spring's season begins. In their place will be beach games, tennis rackets, football cleats, ski poles, and hockey gloves.

No matter your plans between now and our 2019 "Welcome Back" message, please make sure you are joining organizations that prioritize fun, teaching, value, and community.

If you've read all our newsletters this season, visited our website, or follow us on social media, you'd think we're pretty obsessed with the word community. Well, we are. You'd think we believe community-based youth sports is the most important platform for growing and protecting athletics. We certainly do.

MBYLL is on the last line of defense protecting youth lacrosse against a variety of obstacles. We're fighting hard for the relevance of town-based programs and battling to keep this sport affordable, inclusive, enjoyable, healthy, and nurturing. While there are many organizations who support us and help us in that mission, there is an alarming number trying to destroy town-based lacrosse. If they succeed, they will make entry into this sport difficult, exclusive, unaffordable, and at times – joyless. They are perpetuating myths and fallacies designed to put an end to MBYLL and other community-based leagues like ours.

Who can stop them??? You can.

Please continue to support your town program. Please dedicate your spring to the growth and preservation of lacrosse in your home town. Please tell your friends to come and play lacrosse with you. It's NEVER too late to fall in love with this game. Please give back some time to help administer lacrosse in your town (you do not have to be a coach or former player to get involved).

And continue to stand up to those who may tell you "you're wasting your time playing for the town." Turn it around on those forcing you to choose. Stand up and tell them you are a proud member of Mass Bay Youth Lacrosse League.

We're certainly proud to play and coach and cheer alongside all of you.

On behalf of the all-volunteer board of directors,  
Thank you for another tremendous season and have a wonderful summer!

Joey Picard, MBYLL Director of League Operations & Communications