

**BYLAWS
OF
MID-PENN YOUTH LACROSSE ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this Organization shall be the Mid-Penn Youth Lacrosse Association (hereinafter referred to as "MPYLA").

ARTICLE II – MISSION AND PURPOSE

The Mission of the MYPLA is to standardize Central Pennsylvania youth lacrosse program practices, coordinate scheduling and officiating, all while emphasizing fair play sportsmanship of all member organization.

Section 1 The purpose of the MPYLA shall be to:

- (a) To promote the development and growth of the sport of lacrosse through the formation of a youth lacrosse league comprised of active youth lacrosse programs across Central Pennsylvania and the affiliation of such youth lacrosse leagues with U.S. Lacrosse, Inc.;
- (b) To promote and develop through the operation of a youth lacrosse league knowledge of the rules and skills of lacrosse;
- (c) To promote and develop through boys and girls participating in youth lacrosse the qualities of sportsmanship, teamwork and respect for coaches, officials and players;
- (d) To develop, promote and provide opportunities for coaches and officials to receive training on the rules and skills of lacrosse and the skills necessary to enable coaches and officials to serve as positive role models for boys and girls participating in the sport of lacrosse, with an emphasis on the positive qualities of sportsmanship, teamwork and the building of character;
- (e) To provide support and training for coach development; and
- (f) In general to do all things as may be appropriate to promote and accomplish any of the foregoing purposes.

Section 2 In addition to the above general purposes, the MPYLA shall also serve as and be an affiliate of US Lacrosse. The MPYLA is not a regulatory body and has no independent authority to regulate or otherwise direct individual youth lacrosse programs across Central Pennsylvania or the affiliation of such youth lacrosse leagues with U.S. Lacrosse, Inc. While MPYLA cannot supersede existing laws, regulations and authorities, it is intended to provide standardization and coordination for application of existing laws, regulations and authorities for individual youth lacrosse programs or the affiliation of such youth lacrosse leagues with U.S. Lacrosse, Inc.

Section 3 The MYPLA shall be permitted to engage in all other activities permitted under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, and limited further by the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988, as amended, and any other applicable law, regulation or statute limiting the lawful activities of charitable, non-profit corporations in Pennsylvania.

No part of the net earnings of the MYPLA shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to any member of the Board, the officers or other private persons, except that the MYPLA shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth above. No substantial part of the activities of the MYPLA shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to

influence legislation, and the MYPLA shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Incorporation, the MYPLA shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Upon the dissolution, winding up of the MYPLA or liquidation of the assets of the MYPLA, the Board shall, after payment of all liabilities, distribute all of its assets to a charity dedicated to charitable purposes, which qualifies for and is exempt within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Any such assets not disposed of as aforesaid shall be disposed of by the Court in the county in which the principal office of the MYPLA is then located, to such charitable organization as said Court shall determine, which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes and which qualifies for and is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Membership is conditioned upon agreement to abide by these Bylaws, our MPYLA Charter and Policies, all applicable rules and regulations of any organization the MPYLA is affiliated with, including but not limited to, US Lacrosse (hereinafter referred to as “USL”).

Section 2 Member Programs (hereinafter referred to as “Member(s)” shall consist of one (1) or more Team(s) of Players from the following youth lacrosse programs:

Carlisle	Central Dauphin	Central Susquehanna
State College	Chambersburg	Cumberland Valley
Hershey	Bellefonte	Lower Dauphin
Mechanicsburg	Central Dauphin East	Palmyra
West Shore	Danville	

- (a) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors expressly reserves the right from time to time to admit as a Program Member of the Association such other youth lacrosse programs as the Board of Directors may determine satisfy generally the requirements for membership as a Program Member. Any such decision of the Board of Directors shall constitute a Major Decision;
- (b) The Board of Directors may from time to time require the payment by each Program Member of an annual membership fee in an amount established by the Board of Directors. Any decision as to whether to charge a membership fee and the amount of the membership shall constitute a Major Decision by the Board of Directors;
- (c) The Board of Directors may add or remove any Program Member from membership in the Association with cause at any time. Any proposed removal of a Program Member from membership in the Association with cause shall require that the Program Member be provided with reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard. Any decision to remove a Program Member from membership in the Association, with shall constitute a Major Decision based upon frequent and/or flagrant violations of the spirit, mission

and/or operations of the MYPLA; and

- (d) Each Program Member shall be entitled to one representative on the Board of Directors of the Association. No Program Member will have more than one representative on the Board per term. The identity of the representative on the Board of Directors of each Program Member shall be determined individually by each youth lacrosse program, in its sole discretion, subject to the right of the Board of Directors to remove any member of the Board of Directors with or without cause as hereinafter provided.
Any expenses incurred by the Association, or any payment of money on behalf of the Association approved by the Board of Directors in furtherance of the mission of the Association shall be funded by the members of the Association in equal shares, irrespective of the number of teams or players individual members may be representing as part of the Association.
- (e) Non-member Programs may participate in the year end tournament so long as they play no less than seven (7) games against Program Members and attend at least two (2) league meetings within a calendar year.

Section 3 Representatives of each Member must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

Section 4 All MYPLA Directors, Coaches and Players must be members of US Lacrosse.

Section 5 The MYPLA and all program members shall affirm and aspire to US Lacrosse GoldStick Standards.

- NOTE: ** To accommodate clubs who are currently self-insured or do not require U.S. Lacrosse membership of players, this requirements shall not take effect until the season following league inception. This section of the by-laws may be revisited by the entire league at the request of a member organization.

ARTICLE VI – LEAGUE FORMAT

Section 1 Age Groups and Eligibility:

- (a) Violation of the league's age/grade limits will result in forfeiture of all league games, past and future, for the given year, by the team guilty of the infraction. Age groups have been developed in accordance with USL guidelines are in place to ensure sportsmanship and safety of play.
 - (b) **8U:** Players 7 years old or younger as of August 31st preceding competition.
10U: Players 9 years old or younger as of August 31st preceding competition.
12U: Players 11 years old or younger as of August 31st preceding competition.
14U: Players 13 years old or younger as of August 31st preceding competition.
- Any Program in the league can request a waiver from the rules in this section to meet unique circumstances needs. Waivers shall be decided January mtg.

Section 2 Competition Levels for League Play, including the Mid Penn Tournament:

- (a) If a program has multiple teams in the 10U, 12U and 14U age groups, the players on these teams must not be sorted as “A” and “B” teams, but should be sorted by ability as equally as possible so to remain aligned with US Lacrosse guidelines.
- (b) In the interest of fair and worthy competition the year end tournament will have pools of teams based off their season record of wins and losses.

Section 3 Rules of Play:

- (a) 2018 or most current BOYS’ RULEBOOK as published by US Lacrosse. Exceptions (if any) will be voted on and published accordingly to league members.
- (b) Game Safety and Sportsmanship Measures
 - Expectation: Each team must ensure that sportsmanship is displayed by all players, coaches and spectators at all times. Penalties shall be served in accordance with USL and PIAA rules.

Section 4 Competition Schedule:

- (a) Non-league games, including those against league opponents scheduled in addition to the league schedule, should not be scheduled until after the January meeting.
- (b) Games will be scheduled for Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- (c) The league will follow an 8-week schedule, with the final week being one full week after the observed Memorial Day weekend. The culmination of the season will be the Mid-Penn Tournament to be held the weekend after Memorial Day weekend.
- (d) Teams are free to schedule scrimmages, round-robins or non-league games to occur prior to the league’s opening contests, during the season on weekends or other week nights, or post season, provided that they do not interfere with each team’s first commitment, to play its MPYLA league games.
- (e) Rescheduling rain-outs is at the discretion of the involved teams. It is expected that all teams will make a sincere effort to reschedule rain-outs as soon as possible. See also section VI *officials* information below.

Section 5 Officials/Payment:

- (a) The scheduler will submit the master schedule to the CPLOA officials assignor.
- (b) If a game must be postponed or cancelled, home teams are responsible for contacting the assigned officials by phone in a timely manner before they drive to the fields. If the officials show up because they were not contacted, they must still be paid. (And if the home team fails to notify the officials of a cancellation, the home teams pays both referees.)
- (c) Home teams are responsible to contact the assignor when officials are needed for a postponement.
- (d) For each 14U, 12U and 10U game, there will be two officials (requested) to be assigned. The home team and the away team must each pay one official. If only one official is present, both teams will split the payment.
- (e) Home teams are responsible for contacting the officials assignor with nonleague games, and must agree on payment terms with opponents, whether MYPLA members or otherwise.

ARTICLE VII - COACHING EDUCATION/RISK MANAGEMENT

Section 1 In order to ensure a baseline of lacrosse coaching knowledge, sportsmanship, and safety education, the league establishes the following timeline for its coaches to participate in and earn US Lacrosse Coaching Education Program certification (includes Positive Coaching Alliance Double-Goal Coach training and background check).

The league vice president will collect coaches' names from each program, and cross-reference with the USL list of certified coaches.

Who	What	When
One coach/age level/program	Participate in USL CEP Level 1 training	Before April 1, 2015
One coach/age level/program	Complete USL CEP Level 1 certification	Before April 1, 2016

Section 2 **Emergency waiver** - a coach who has completed a USL CEP Level 1 clinic (documentation required) may receive a waiver of a certification requirement for one year, but this waiver will not be extended.

ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1 There shall be an annual meeting held each year in October/November for the election of the Executive Directors (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary).

It shall be the responsibility of the MPYLA President to set the date and call such meeting to order. The annual and other meetings of the MPYLA shall be held at such locations and at such times as shall be determined by the MPYLA President, or a majority of the Directors.

Section 2 Upon proper call for a meeting, the MPYLA President or Secretary shall publish notice by e-mail through the MPYLA website to all Members at least two (2) weeks in advance of the annual meeting and two (2) weeks in advance of other meetings, including meetings of the Directors, except that such notice may be dispensed with for good cause by majority action of Members.

The notice shall state with reasonable specificity the purpose of each such meeting and its location.

Section 3 The election of the Executive Directors shall be determined by a majority vote of Members at the annual meeting. Members may vote by proxy, provided such proxy is in writing and given within one (1) week, prior to and / or after, the date of the meeting. Any actions brought for vote by the Directors at the annual meeting shall be taken only by a majority vote of the Members.

Section 4 At the annual meeting, a quorum shall consist of more than half of the Member Programs of the MPYLA either present in person or represented by proxy. No action may be taken at the annual meeting except when a quorum exists and a majority of the Member Programs at such meeting vote in favor of the action.

Section 5 All the other actions of the MPYLA, besides the election of Executive Board and those taken at the annual meeting, shall be taken only by majority vote of the Directors. The Directors may take no action unless there is a quorum at a duly constituted meeting in accordance with Section II above. A quorum shall consist of more than half the Trustees either present in person or by proxy.

Section 6 Official Meeting Schedule

- September meeting
 - Mid-to-late September
 - Identify voters from member programs.

- Nominate and vote for league officer positions.
- Review bylaws and previous season.
- Discuss associate programs and hear petitions for renewal/inclusion in league.
- Discuss/launch initiatives for growing the sport within Mid-Penn communities.
- Confirm schedule of meetings for remainder of school year.
- December meeting
 - Approximately 12/15
 - Discuss options for coaches' education and officials' education.
 - Discuss other matters in preparation for the spring season.
 - Continuation of previous agenda items.
- January meeting (Rosters and Scheduling Emphasis)
 - Approximately 1/15
 - Member programs declare teams at each age level and competition level.
 - Scheduler leads conversation of organization into A and B level and geography.
 - Member programs vote on potential associate programs' teams' inclusion in that spring's schedule.
 - Review and troubleshoot schedules.
 - Discuss USL/NFHS rule changes and points of emphasis.
 - Establish league's sportsmanship points of emphasis (one for coaches, one for "fans," one for players).
 - Continuation of previous agenda items.
- June meeting (Annual Meeting)
 - By June 10
 - Recap and review season
 - Review most pressing issues to be resolved by September meeting.
 - Discuss host for next year's US Lacrosse CEP trainings.
 - Settling previous agenda items and setting action items for summer work.

ARTICLE IX - DIRECTORS

Section 1 The Directors of the MPYLA (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Board") shall be comprised of the following "Officer" positions:

OFFICERS

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Lead Scheduler

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

- Coaching Education Chair
- Referee Chair
- Rules Chair
- Tournament Chair
- US Lacrosse Liaison
- Age Group Coordinators/Schedulers

Section 2. The Board shall develop policies, rules and regulations of the MPYLA and shall conduct and supervise the affairs of the MPYLA.

Section 3. Any member of the Board who fails to attend two (2) consecutive meetings of the Board shall there by forfeit their office as a member of the Board, unless excused by a majority of the Board. A replacement shall be appointed as dictated in Section VIII and/or Section IX below, based upon the specifics of the situation. Program members are afforded the opportunity to name a replacement for their representative, if necessary.

- Section 4. The Board shall meet a minimum of four (4) times per calendar year or at the call of the President or on the request of three (3) members of the Board.
- Section 5. A simple majority shall constitute a quorum at Board meetings for the transaction of business.
- Section 6. No person may hold two (2) Executive Board offices simultaneously. Officers may, however, act as the Chairperson(s) of Committee(s) established by the Board.
- Section 7. Each Officer shall serve one (1) two (2) year term beginning with the MPYLA meeting in October/November. No individual shall serve more than two (2) successive terms in any one (1) position after adoption of these Bylaws. (i.e. 3 years minimum / 6 years maximum). Non-successive terms in the same position are permissible as well as serving in different positions in successive years.
- Section 8. Any vacancy in an Officer position occurring during the term of such office shall be filled by appointment by the President, provided any vacancy for a Conference President post shall be filled by representatives of the Members in that Conference.
- Section 9. An Officer elected may be removed, with or without cause, only by vote of the Board at a special meeting called for that purpose. However, the authority to act as an Officer may be suspended by the Board for cause.
- Section 10. An Officer may resign by written notice to the MPYLA. The resignation shall be effective upon receipt thereof by the MPYLA or at a subsequent time as may be specified in the notice of resignation.
- Section 11. The Directors may form or create such committees to serve for such periods and for such purposes as the Board, in their discretion, may determine appropriate.

ARTICLE X - DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND AT LARGE MEMBERS

- Section 1. **PRESIDENT.** The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the MPYLA and shall have the general powers and duties of supervision and management usually vested in the Office of President, including overseeing all communication(s) through the MPYLA website. He/she shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect, subject, however, to the right of the Board to delegate any specific powers, except such as may be by statute exclusively conferred on the President, to any other Officer or Officers of the MPYLA. The President shall serve as the primary representative for the MPYLA with USL and its affiliates. The MPYLA President (or their designee) shall act as Chairman of the Directors and preside over the annual organizational meeting.
- Section 2. **VICE PRESIDENT.** The Vice President shall assist the President in all of his/her duties and MPYLA general management. He/She will support the work of the Directors. In the President's absence, the Vice President shall assume all duties of the President. The Vice President is anticipated to assume the role of President after the President's term(s) expire(s).
- Section 3. **SECRETARY.** The Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the MPYLA in appropriate books, see that all notices for meetings are given in accordance with these Bylaws, prepare a record of all actions proposed or taken at MPYLA meetings and document all the votes of the Members and the Board in a book to be kept for that purpose, assist with MPYLA-wide mailings/notices/correspondence and, in general, perform all duties incidental to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board.
- Section 4. **SCHEDULER.** The Scheduler is appointed by the President in consultation with the Board.

Duties include the scheduling of all league games. Scheduling will be done in accordance with ARTICLE VI, Section V. The scheduler shall assist in dispute resolution as needed along with the President, Coaching Education Chair and Referee Chair.

- Section 5. **COACHING EDUCATION CHAIR.** The Coaching Education Chair shall be responsible for recommending and executing education programs for the MPYLA. The Coaching Education Chair shall work closely and continuously with the Education Training department at USL and with the on-site clinic coordinator(s) to develop annual Coach educational offerings.
- Section 6. **REFEREE CHAIR.** The Umpire Chair shall work with USL and any USL umpire affiliate to ensure that all MPYLA specific rules are made available to the referees and to resolve any issues over assignments, qualifications, or other umpire-related issues that may impact the quality of the games. The Referee Chair will assist the President, Scheduler and Coaching Education Chair in dispute resolution as needed.
- Section 7. **RULES CHAIR.** The Rules Chair shall be responsible for maintaining and providing updates to the MPYLA on USL rule and policy changes. The Rules Chair will present such changes and recommendations to the Directors for consideration and adoption, if appropriate. The Rules Chair will also assist the Board in resolving any conflict or ambiguity in interpretation of the rules and policies.
- Section 8. **TOURNAMENT CHAIR.** The Tournament Chair shall be responsible for coordinating with host Programs for end of season tournaments and assist in promoting and coordinating MPYLA's participation in any US Lacrosse festival or tournament.
- Section 9. **US LACROSSE LIAISON.** The US Lacrosse Liaison shall serve as point of contact with USL. The US Lacrosse Liaison is responsible for communicating important information from USL to the Board and to communicate MPYLA needs to USL.
- Section 10. **AGE GROUP COORDINATOR/SCHEDULER.** The Age Group Coordinator/Scheduler is responsible for the scheduling of all league games. There will be one for each age group and report to Lead Scheduler. The lead Scheduler may be responsible for an age group. Scheduling will be done in accordance with ARTICLE VI, Section V.

ARTICLE IX - PARLIMENTARY PROCEDURE

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the MPYLA.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended only by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Members present in person at a duly constituted meeting in accordance with Article VI.

ARTICLE XI – DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, winding up or liquidation of the assets of the MYPLA, the Board shall, after payment of all liabilities, dispose of all the assets of the MYPLA exclusively for the purposes and in such manner or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify for exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, or its successor acts.

ARTICLE XII – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Section 1. **LIABILITY.** The MYPLA and its Program Member(s) are voluntary. Subject to their own laws, individual youth lacrosse programs or the affiliation of such youth lacrosse leagues with U.S. Lacrosse, Inc. shall be responsible for their own personal liability for any injury or death arising in the course of participating in the MYPLA.

- Section 2. **CONTRACTS.** Nothing in these bylaws are intended to and does not create any contractual obligations or rights with respect to the Program Member(s).
- Section 3. **INTERESTS.** These bylaws are not intended to usurp, supersede, or conflict with other interests and initiatives that address the standardization of Central Pennsylvania youth lacrosse program practices and coordination of scheduling and officiating, but to complement them by facilitating direct implementation among the Program Member(s).
- Section 4. **PLAYER RECRUITING/PROGRAM AFFILIATION.** A player's home address, as aligned with public school boundaries (regardless of MPYLA membership), will determine eligibility for Member Programs. Should a player not have a home Member Program available to them, then the player may choose any one of the Member Programs for membership. Otherwise, players are required to play for the Member Program that aligns with the public school the player would attend, if attending a public school. Exceptions to residency must be mutually agreed to between clubs for extenuating circumstances. A fine of \$500 will be applied to a Member Program found to be noncompliant with this rule for its first offense. A second offense will remove the Member Program from participating in play at all age levels at the year end league sponsored tournament.