

**POLICIES AND RULES GOVERNING THE MEMBERS
OF
THE INDIANA HIGH SCHOOL LACROSSE ASSOCIATION, INC.**

ARTICLE I: Identification and Adoption of Policies and Rules

Section 1.1: Name

The name of the Corporation is The Indiana High School Lacrosse Association, Inc. (the "Corporation").

Section 1.2: Adoption of Policies and Rules

Pursuant to Article XII of the By-Laws of the Corporation, the Board of Directors has adopted the policies and rules contained herein, which shall be binding on all members of the Corporation.

ARTICLE II: Eligibility, Player Conduct, Coach Conduct, Decisions by Officials and Rules Governing Teams and Games

Section 2.1: Team Eligibility and Classification

Teams that are affiliated with only one particular school and continue to draw players from only one school shall be deemed a "Varsity" program.

Teams whose roster is comprised of student athletes from multiple schools shall be deemed a "Club" program and shall follow the guidelines listed under Section 2.1.2.

Section 2.1.2: Club Team Guidelines

Corporation members classified as club must adhere to the following rules:

- A minimum of ten (10) rostered student athletes who are enrolled at the team's host school
- A maximum of nineteen (19) rostered student athletes who are enrolled at the team's host school. Club teams who have twenty (20) or more rostered student athletes from their host school are automatically designated as varsity and must adhere to varsity roster rules. (see Section 2.1)
- All league member club teams agree to endeavor to achieve varsity status

Section 2.2: Player Eligibility

A member who knowingly or unknowingly plays with an ineligible player shall forfeit the game. A member who knowingly or unknowingly allows ineligible players in any team event will be placed on probation. A student athlete is deemed eligible for participation within the league if they:

- Satisfy the requirements for age, amateurism, enrollment, gradates, scholarships, transfers, undue influence, player conduct and be a US lacrosse member.

Section 2.2.1 Age Rule

A student who is or shall be Twenty (20) year of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSLA state championship shall be ineligible for the IHSLA; a student who is nineteen (19) years of age on the schedule date of the IHSLA state champion game shall be eligible

Section 2.2.2 Amateurism Rule

To participate in the IHSLA a student must be an amateur in lacrosse. To be an amateur in lacrosse a student cannot have:

- Accepted remuneration, or a benefit other than a symbolic nature, directly or indirectly for athletic participation in lacrosse
- Capitalized on athletic fame by receiving money of gifts or a monetary nature.
- Signed a professional contract, directly or indirectly
- Participated in athletic activities, tryouts, practices, and games held or sponsored by professional athletic organization, clubs, or their representatives during the contest season.

Section 2.2.3 Enrollment Rule

Student Athlete must be enrolled in an Indiana High School and attendance during the first 15 days

- In order to be eligible for athletic competition during any semester, a student must have enrolled in some high school and have attended full credit classes within the first fifteen (15) school days of the semester during the contest season.

Participation limited to eight (8) consecutive semesters or four (4) consecutive years

- After enrollment in the 9th grade, and the passage of fifteen (15) or more school days, students shall be eligible no more than four (4) consecutive year, or the equivalent (e.g) Twelve semester in a trimester plan, etc.)

Enrollment in an Innovative School

- If a student is enrolled in and attends, Full-Time, an innovative school, the student may play for the school that serves his residence.

Enrollment in a non-public, non-accredited school (Home school)

- If a student is enrolled in and attends full-time, a non-public, non-accredited school the student may play for the school that serves this residence provided that:
 - Provides proof the sprint of the eligibility rules are not compromised.
 - The student has been enrolled in the non-public, non-accredited school for the previous three (3) years in succession; and
 - The student completes any state-wide examination authorized by the Indiana Department of Education; and
 - The student must be enrolled in and attending minimum of one (1) full credit subject offered within the member school building.
 - Must notify IHSLA executive before season starts.

Enrollment in a Virtual Education

- If a student attends a virtual education school, the student may have eligibility to participate in the IHSLA at the public school serving the students residence, provide that:
 - The student is entering the virtual education school as a freshman, or the student has already attended the Virtual education for at least one (1) full semester, trimester, or the equivalent, and during that semester, trimester, or the equivalent, the student was enrolled in, and successfully passed, the necessary number of courses at the virtual education school.
 - The student is currently enrolled full-time at the virtual education school and is taking the necessary number of courses at the virtual education school.
 - The student is enrolled at and is attending a minimum of One (1) full credit subject offered within the public school serving the student's residence.

Section 2.2.4 Graduates Rule

- Graduates Prohibited from Participation
 - A graduate of any high school is ineligible for participation in the IHSLA. This rule shall apply shall not apply to the graduates who graduated during the IHSLA season. They remain eligible until the end of the IHSLA season.
- Participation by Students yet to graduate permitted.
 - Students meeting requirements for graduation is less than four (4) years, in high school with a regular four-year course, shall be eligible to participate in the IHSLA during the fourth year, provided they are enrolled while participating and meet all other eligibility rules of the association.

Section 2.2.5 Participation Rule

- Participation by a student in any organized non-IHSLA team during the IHSLA season shall cause such students to become ineligible for the remainder of the season.

Section 2.2.6 Scholarship Rule

- To be eligible scholastically, students must have received passing grades and earned credit at the end of their last grading period in school in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subjects that a student can take and must be currently enrolled in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subject that a student can take.

Section 2.2.6 Transfer Rule

- A student who transfers to a member school shall be eligible to participate in the IHSLA provided the member school the student is transferring from does not file a transfer complaint form.
 - o A member school should file a transfer complaint form when it believes a transfer is for athletic reason or the result of undue influence.
 - o Once a transfer complaint form has been filed with the IHSLA the IHSLA Executive Committee will perform an investigation and vote on the eligibility of the student. If the IHSLA Executive rules the student to be ineligible the student will be ineligible for the rest of the season.

Section 2.2.8 Undue Influence Rule

- A student shall be ineligible if the recruitment or attempted recruitment of a prospective student, though the use of undue influence, is prohibited. Undue influence is the act of encouraging or inducing a prospective student to attend a school for athletic purposes.
- Scholarships - A student shall be ineligible if the offer or acceptance of free or reduced tuition, room or board based on their athletic talents.
 - o Financial Aid / Merit Programs - A student shall be eligible if free or reduced tuition, room or board is awarded under and objectively determined, need-based financial aid or merit programs

Section 2.2.9 US Lacrosse Rule

To be eligible to compete in the IHSLA you must be a US Lacrosse member. See Article VI.

Section 2.2.10 Gender Equity

Females that wish to participate must be allowed to play if they meet all other requirements and no comparable girls lacrosse is offered to them.

Section 2.3: Player Conduct

Any player or team personnel ejected from a game will be suspended for the next scheduled game according to the Corporation's master schedule immediately following the occurrence. This applies to Indiana as well as non-Indiana games played in the State of Indiana and playoff games. If the ejection occurs during the last game of the season the suspension is carried over to the first game of the next year.

Section 2.3.1: Handling of Ejections

All player or team personnel ejections will be handled in accordance with the NFHS rule pertaining to ejections. The IHSLA Executive committee will automatically add an additional one (1) game suspension for any ejection caused by throwing a punch. The IHSLA Executive committee reserves the right to add any additional suspensions, including the entire season, to any ejection.

Section 2.3.2: Violation of Ejection Suspensions

Any player or coach who plays or coaches during their suspension period will result in the additional suspension of two (2) games for both the player and the head coach of the team. Any player or coach receiving two (2) such penalties will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

Section 2.3.3: Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Unsportsmanlike conduct by anyone connected with a program is the responsibility of the head coach and extends to assistants, fans and other team personnel. Such conduct could lead to subjecting the head coach and/or team to penalties described in Sections 2.3. and 2.9.

Section 2.4: Coach's Conduct

Each team must have an adult over the age of twenty-one (21), who is a non-playing and non-rostered coach and completed level 1 US lacrosse certification, or an adult, non-playing and non-rostered and completed level 1 US Lacrosse certification designated replacement on the sideline for each game. If the coach is ejected or must leave the game for any reason, he must appoint another qualified person to assume the role of coach. In the absence of this condition, the team shall forfeit the game. Coaches ejected from a game are subjected to the penalties specified in Section 2.3.

Section 2.4.1: Formal Complaints

Following any written complaint submitted to the Board of Directors initiated by any coach, team representative, Athletic Department or lacrosse official, the Board of Directors will review and investigate the complaint.

Section 2.5: Decisions by Officials

The application and interpretation of the game rules shall be the sole responsibility of the officials. Game ejections are not subject to appeal during the game. All such violations are to be reported to the President and/or Board of Directors and the head official within twenty-four (24) hours by the game officials.

Section 2.6: Rules Governing Teams and Games

By becoming a member of the league, a team agrees to:

- Be represented at all Corporation meetings; and
- Be in good standing with the Corporation with respect to dues, officials' fees and paperwork; and
- Attend all regularly scheduled games and playoff games; and
- Have an adult over the age of twenty-one (21), non-playing, non-rostered, US Lacrosse Level 1 certified coach or an adult, non-playing, non-rostered, US Lacrosse level 1 certified designated replacement on the sideline for each game; and
- Notify opponent, head official and the Secretary forty-eight (48) hours in advance of a possible cancellation or change in start times. A cancellation is to be re-scheduled within forty-eight (48) hours with date and time agreed by both coaches and notification made to the Secretary and head official.

Section 2.6.1: Uniform and Equipment Requirements

Each team must have equipment that meets the requirements of the National Federation of State High School Associations (herein NFHS). All teams that are members of the Corporation shall have two sets of uniforms, light and dark in color. The light uniform shall be worn by the home team, and the dark uniform shall be worn by the visiting team. Numbers must be visible on

the uniform and must be of NFHS regulation size and placement. Equipment color does not have to match the team colors. All references herein to "NFHS" rules or regulations shall mean rules and regulations adopted by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

Section 2.6.2: Team Rosters

Each team must submit a complete team roster via the IHSLA website one week prior to the first game. All players that join a team after the roster is submitted to the IHSLA website must be added to the online roster before the new player is allowed to play in a game. Subject to the following sentence, once a player is rostered on a team, that player is only eligible to play for that team for the duration of the player's eligibility. A player may be rostered on another team for reason's deemed sufficient by the Corporation (such as the child moves), in the sole discretion of the Corporation.

Section 2.6.2.1: Roster Rules

A league member club team must follow these rules when adding a player to their roster:

- The player is eligible to participate in the IHSLA as stated in Section 2.2 □ The player attends the school that the member team affiliates it's self with.
- The player attends a school that no other member affiliates it's self with. Once this player is rostered on a member team he must continue to play for this member team for the duration of his eligibility as stated in section 2.6.2. or until a member becomes varsity.

Section 2.6.2.2: League Zoning Regulations

These rules must be followed by club programs when adding players from other schools to their roster:

- The student athlete must play for the team that is affiliated with their school.
- If no team is affiliated with the student athlete's school then the player would participate with the club team affiliated with a school in their district.
- If a team is not affiliated with any school in the player's district, the student athlete would play for the club team that is geographically closest to the student athlete's school.
- Student Athletes who attend a school that does not offer lacrosse must all play for the same member club team.

Section 2.6.3: Home Team Responsibilities

The home team is responsible for:

- Providing a playing field of regulation specifications according to NFHS rules and obtaining duly qualified official(s).
 - In the absence of satisfying these conditions, the visiting team can cancel the game and request it be rescheduled at a mutually acceptable date. If no agreement can be reached regarding reschedule the date, the home team shall forfeit the game.
 - Subparagraph (a), immediately preceding, also applies in those situations where a team has to reschedule game(s) due to sanctions placed on it by its school administration, athletic director or other school official.
- Access to immediate medical care at each home game. This is minimally defined as access to a functioning cell phone and appropriate emergency phone numbers.
- A scorer's table, scorebook, chairs, two (2) clocks, horn, extra balls or ball boys, and appropriate personnel; □ Access to ice and water on the field for visiting team;
- Security at the games, as necessary;
- A game administrator who is responsible for assisting the officials with the administration of the game and fan control, and escort the officials to an official locker room or car if no locker room is provided.

These requirements are to act in conjunction with any and all of a schools' requirements.

Section 2.6.4: Reasonable Consideration

The members recognize that games may require considerable travel time to reach game sites. Reasonable consideration shall be given the visiting member team tardiness because of travel complications.

Section 2.7: Scheduling

The Corporation's lacrosse schedule must be completed and submitted to the Secretary by February 1 of each year. All other games shall be submitted as soon as possible. An official schedule will include:

- The date and time;
- The designation of the home team; The name of opponent, and
The location.

Home team coaches are to confirm game date, time and location with the visiting coaches and officials at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the game.

Section 2.7.1: IHSLA Season

The IHSLA season shall begin the at the first date eligible to schedule games and concluded on the completion your last scheduled game or last tournament game.

- The first eligible date to schedule a game is 2 weeks after President's day. This is the official start of the IHSLA season.
- The last day eligible to schedule a game is Saturday before Memorial Day weekend.

Section 2.8: Game Suspensions Due to Weather

Once the officials have assumed control of the game, a twenty (20) minute suspension of play shall apply if the officials' opinion is that there is a dangerous weather situation. At least two (2) suspensions are to occur before a game is to be stopped or Did Not Finish (DNF). Consideration for a third suspension is given if the visiting team has had extensive travel.

Section 2.8.1: Stopped Games

If a game is stopped after time expires in the second (2nd) quarter a game is considered official. The team in the lead will be declared the winner. A tied game will be considered a tie.

Section 2.8.2: DNF Games

Any game stopped before time expires in the second (2nd) quarter will be listed as Did Not Finish (DNF). If the teams reschedule the game it will be considered a new game (score 0-0).

- Teams must make a reasonable effort to schedule a new game if the original game schedule is listed as DNF.
- Any team personal that was unable to participate in the original scheduled game due to suspension under section 2.3 are not to participate in the rescheduled new game. However, those person will be eligible to participate in the next scheduled game according to the IHSLA master schedule.
- Any persons ejected from a game listed as DNF will be suspended from the next schedule game according the IHSLA master schedule.
- Any persons ejected from a game listed as DNF will be suspended from the rescheduled new game as well.

Section 2.9: Forfeiture

Except as permitted under NFHS regulations, in the case of a team failing to appear for an officially scheduled game, or failing to make contact within one (1) hour after a scheduled game time, the team failing to appear or make contact shall forfeit the game. As stated in Section 2.6.3, the home team is responsible for providing a playing field of regulation specifications and obtaining duly qualified officials. According to Section 2.6.3.1(a), in the absence of these conditions, the visiting team can cancel the game and request it be rescheduled at a mutually acceptable date, and if no agreement can be reached the home team shall forfeit the

game. According to Section 2.4., if the coach is ejected or must leave the game for any reason, he must appoint another qualified person to assume the role of coach. In the absence of this condition, the team shall forfeit the game. Each team must have at least ten (10), able, properly equipped, and rostered players to play a game. Failing to have ten (10) players will result in a forfeit, unless otherwise agreed by both coaches. Any game that is played with illegal or ineligible players will be forfeited, even if the violation is discovered after the game is played.

Section 2.10: Probation

A team under league probation of any kind is ineligible for participation in the postseason and none of its players are eligible for Corporation honors. There are to be three types of probation:

- Administrative probation is levied by the Board of Directors or President on teams failing to be in good standing with the Corporation with regard to dues or paperwork. The probation is lifted immediately upon submission of the delinquent dues or paperwork.
- Executive probation is brought by the Board of Directors and may only be lifted upon the approval of the Board of Directors.
- Full probation is brought by the entire membership of the Corporation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote and can only be lifted by the entire membership of the Corporation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

ARTICLE III: Playoffs

Section 3.1: Eligibility

To qualify for the playoffs, Varsity teams must not be on probation and must complete at least eight (8) games against eight (8) different member teams of the Corporation.

IHSLA Club teams are not eligible for postseason participation.

Section 3.2: Timing

Qualifying games must be completed at least three (3) days before the playoffs begin.

Section 3.2: Tournament Structure

The format of the IHSLA tournament is based on the total number of Varsity league members as outlined in the table below. Any increase in varsity league members that warrants a playoff structure change will not take effect until the season following the increase has been completed.

IHSLA VARSITY TEAMS	DIVISIONS	TEAMS / DIVISION	ROUNDS	1ST ROUND BYES
49 OR LESS	1	16	4	0
50	1	20	5	12
60	2	12	4	4
70	2	16	4	0
80	2	20	5	12
90	3	12	4	4
100	3	16	4	0
110	3	20	5	12

120	4	12	4	4
-----	---	----	---	---

Section 3.3: Divisions

Once the leagues size reaches 60 varsity teams and each time the league grows by a multiple of 30 another division will be added to the post season.

Divisions will be determined by each school's official enrollment the previous academic year. The league's varsity teams will then be divided by the number of divisions to determine each team's appropriate division.

Section 3.4: Number of teams participating

Beginning with 40 varsity league members and each time the league grows by a multiple of ten, four teams per division will be added to the postseason.

Section 3.3: Seeding Teams

Utilizing the Laxpower.com Indiana in-state power ranking, teams will be seeded. After teams who have earned them are awarded their first round playoff byes (when necessary), the remaining teams per division will be seeded with the highest remaining team playing the lowest seeded team until all teams have been seeded.

Section 3.4: First Round Travel Considerations

At the soul discretion of the Corporation, playoff brackets may be altered when necessary to avoid first round games that would require excessive travel. Excessive travel is a round trip in excess of 350 miles.

Section 3.5: Playoff Game Hosts

The higher seeded team will host playoff games prior to the semi-final & final rounds.

Section 3.7: Right to Amend

The Corporation shall have the right to review and change the tournament seeding, site, time and date.

ARTICLE IV: All-Indiana Team

Section 4.1: All State Selections

One week prior to the State Tournament, each team must submit their All-State nominees to the Secretary. The nominations will include a maximum of three (3) Attackmen, six (6) Midfielders, three (3) Defenseemen, one (1) Goalie, one (1) Face-off specialist, and one (1) long stick Midfielder.

Sections 4.1.1: Eligibility

Only IHSLA varsity teams are eligible for All State Awards

Section 4.2: Voting

Before the State Tournament first round games and at a time determined by the Corporation, the coaches will submit their votes for All-Indiana selections via the IHSLA website. Each coach must vote for First Team and Second Team. Coaches may not vote for their own players. Coaches that fail to submit their vote by the designated time may have their players removed from the All-Indiana roster.

Section 4.3: Honors

Players will be selected based on points. In an event of a tie both players will be selected.

- For First Team each coach must vote a maximum of three (3) Attackmen, three (3) Midfielders, three (3) Defensemen, one (1) Goalie, one (1) Face-off specialist, and one (1) long stick Midfielder. A player receiving a First Team vote will receive two (2) points.
- For Second Team each coach must vote a maximum of three (3) Attackmen, three (3) Midfielders, three (3) Defensemen, one (1) Goalie, one (1) Face-off specialist, and one (1) long stick Midfielder. A player receiving a Second Team vote will receive one (1) point.

Based on tallied votes:

- First Team: The players receiving the top 3 points for Attack, Midfielder, and Defense will be selected to the First Team for the respective positions. The player receiving the most points for Goalie, Face-Off, and Long Stick Midfielder will be selected to the First Team for the respective position.
- Second Team: The players receiving the top 3 points for Attack, Midfielder, and Defense will be selected to the Second Team for the respective positions. The player receiving the most points for Goalie, Face-Off, and Long Stick Midfielder will be selected to the Second Team for the respective position.
- Honorable Mention: The players receiving at least three (3) points will be awarded honorable mention for their respective position.

The selected players will receive a formal certificate of merit bearing the title of "All State" player and shall be honored at a presentation during the State Tournament weekend.

Section 4.3.1: All-American

This is an award given by US Lacrosse. US Lacrosse is responsible for the criteria and handling of this award. Both varsity & club teams are eligible for All-American honors.

Section 5.1: Academic Awards

One week prior to the State Tournament, each team must submit their Academic nominees to the Academic Chairperson. There shall be two categories of academic recognition. All Academic and Academic All-State. Both varsity & club teams are eligible for Academic Awards. The nominations will include:

- All Academic is an award for all juniors and seniors that meet a certain academic achievement. The criteria for inclusion:
 - Player must be in their junior or senior year.
 - Player must maintain:
 - 3.5 or better (4.0 scale) for Seniors.
 - 3.6 or better (4.0 scale) for Juniors.
 - These standards are cumulative, not just 3rd Quarter of this year.
 - Players must be on Varsity roster.
- Academic All-State Honors. Is an award for only seniors that has a higher achievement criteria as well as a higher athletic involvement. The criteria for inclusion:
 - Player must be in their senior year.
 - Player must meet All Academic standards.
 - Player must have minimum SAT score of 1110 on the critical reading and math only or a minimum ACT score of 24.
 - Player must have participated in a minimum of 50% of the contests.
 - Player must submit school transcript.
 - Nomination form must be signed by the coach and principle.

Section 5.2: Honors

The Academic Chairperson will review all nominations and grant honors based on our two categories (All Academic and Academic All-State) where appropriate.

Section 5.2.1: Academic All-American

This is an award given by US Lacrosse. US Lacrosse is responsible for the criteria and handling of this award.

ARTICLE V: Other Corporation Awards

Section 6.1: Coach of the Year

One week prior to the State Tournament, each coach must submit to the Secretary their vote for one (1) coach they wish to nominate for the "Coach of the Year" award. Coaches may not vote for themselves.

Section 6.2: Indiana Player of the Year

One week prior to the State Tournament, each coach must submit to the Secretary their vote for one (1) "Indiana Player of the Year." Coaches may not vote for their own players.

Section 6.3: Officials' Sportsmanship Awards

One week prior to the State Tournament, each official must submit to the Secretary their vote for one (1) player within each region (Northern, Indianapolis-Metro, and Fort Wayne) they wish to nominate for the "Sportsmanship Award." Each official may not vote for more than three (3) players total, and not more than one (1) player from each region.

Section 6.4: Most Valuable Players

After the State Tournament finals game, the executive committee present will vote for one (1) "Offensive Most Valuable Player of the State Tournament," and one (1) "Defensive Most Valuable Player of the State Tournament." The players with the most votes in each category will be immediately announced as "MVPs of the Tournament."

Section 6.5: Man of the Year

One week prior to the State Tournament, each coach must submit to the Secretary their vote for one (1) person they wish to nominate for the "Man of the Year" award. Coaches may not vote for themselves.

ARTICLE VI: Insurance

Every player must be a member of US Lacrosse, and fall under its insurance coverage. Players that are not a member of US Lacrosse or not covered by its insurance coverage are not eligible to play. Every team must be able to provide proper documentation for insurance coverage of each of its players, through US Lacrosse, at the request of the Corporation.

ARTICLE VII: Appeals Process

The IHSLA Executive committee is responsible for enforcing, interpreting, and leaving penalizes for these rules and procedures. Each IHSLA member has the right to appeal rulings of the IHSLA Executive Board. Appeals will be handled in the following manner:

Section 7.1 Timeline

The appeal process will be conducted according to the following timeline:

- The affected IHSLA member has seven days to appeal a ruling of the IHSLA Executive Board. A written appeal statement which summarizes the party's position shall be sent to the current Appeal

Committee Chairman. This appeal statement shall have attached all documents relied upon by a party to the appeal. No new documents shall be presented to the appeals committee that was not presented to the IHSLA Executive committee.

- A hearing will take place no fewer than four days from the submission of an appeal. If circumstances warrant an expedited hearing, and all parties agree, an expedited hearing may be held within 24 hours of submission of an appeal.
- At the conclusion of the hearing, the Appeal Committee will render a decision within 24 hours

Section 7.2 Parties Involved

- The IHSLA member who submitted the appeal represented by an appointed chairman
- The IHSLA Executive Board represented by the League President
- The IHSLA Board of Directors, excluding members of the Executive Committee, will hear the appeal. This committee will be chaired by a Board of Directors member appointed by the League President.
- The past President of the IHSLA who will preside as moderator

Section 7.3 Hearing Format

The format for the appeal hearing is as follows:

- Both the IHSLA member and the IHSLA Executive Committee will be given up to 15 minutes each to present their case. Witnesses may be present
- Following each groups presentation, the IHSLA Appeal Committee will be given up to 15 minutes to question each party and their witnesses.
- At the end of the phone conference, the IHSLA Appeal Committee will be allowed 24 hours to render a decision. In the event of a tie vote, the Hearing Moderator will cast a vote.