

**BYLAWS
OF
BOYS YOUTH LACROSSE OF WASHINGTON
Revised October 16, 2008**

Mission Statement: To organize, develop, and promote boys' youth school lacrosse in Washington, and to honor the game by instilling the values of scholastic achievement, sportsmanship, and individual development.

I. Article I: Name of organization

A. The name of this organization shall be the Boys Youth Lacrosse of Washington ("BYLW").

II. Article II: Purpose and objective

A. The purpose and objective of the BYLW is to support the Mission Statement.

B. To promote these goals, the BYLW will work cooperatively with:

1. the regional chapter of US Lacrosse; and
2. the boys' high school lacrosse organization in Washington

III. Article III: General Membership.

A. The General Membership shall consist of one designated Representative from each team that is a Regular Member of the BYLW and the Program Coordinators.

1. Regular Members are those teams having been admitted into the BYLW and not currently on probation, suspension, or provisional status.
2. Failure of a Regular Member to abide by these By-laws and the policies adopted by the Board of Directors shall subject that Member to disciplinary action up to an including suspension as decided by the Board of Directors.

3. Any Regular Member subject to disciplinary action shall have the right to appeal that decision to the Board for reconsideration and to the General Membership as provided for in these By-laws.

B. General Membership Meetings:

1. All Representatives of the BYLW shall attend 2 General Membership Meetings:

a) Winter: second Saturday in February - pre-season and general business.

b) End of Season: second week in June, elections and general business.

2. Special Meetings may be called for by a majority of the Board or when demanded by a majority of the General Membership.

3. Failure of the Representative (or his/her designee) to attend a General Membership Meeting shall place that team on probation for the subsequent season.

a) Probation shall not bar a team from league (or tournament) participation.

b) Failure to attend the next General Membership Meeting shall suspend the team from membership, and the team shall be barred from league competition.

c) Teams on probation or suspension lose their voting rights.

d) Teams may appeal their probation or suspension to the Board of Directors for reconsideration.

4. The General Membership Meetings shall be presided over by the President of the Board of Directors.

5. "Robert's Rules of Order – Newly Revised" shall govern all matters of procedure not covered in these By-Laws.

6. Voting by proxy is not allowed, but a Representative may designate someone from his/her team to appear in his/her place.

C. New members are Provisional Members of the BYLW for at least their first year.

1. New teams may apply for Provisional Membership prior to team declaration day (first week of December).

2. Criteria for Provisional Membership shall include:
 - a) agreement to abide by BYLW By-laws;
 - b) a home field for hosting games;
 - c) a coach meeting qualifications established by the Board of Directors;
 - d) sufficient organizational support and a player roster to convince the Board or a provisional membership committee that the new team will be viable for the ensuing season; and
 - e) such other criteria as required by the Board of Directors
3. A team not meeting Provisional Membership criteria may still schedule games.
4. Provisional Members have no voting rights.
5. After one year, the Board shall determine if Regular Membership status is warranted.

IV. Article IV: BYLW governance

A. The affairs, property, and operation of the BYLW shall be governed and managed by an elected Board of Directors as limited by these By-laws.

1. Such operations could include, but not be limited to:
 - a) The establishment of annual league dues;
 - b) Policy re: Movement of teams between divisions;
 - c) Policy re: Admission of new teams;
 - d) Policy re: Player eligibility
 - e) Policy re: Team roster requirements;
 - f) Policy re: Coaching qualifications;
 - g) Policy re: Discipline for players, coaches, teams;
 - h) Policy re: Field/equipment/uniform requirements;
 - i) Policy re: Game rules modifications/officiating;
 - j) Policy re: Season ending regional tournaments;
 - k) Policy re: Statistics;

- l) Policy re: Special event scheduling and coordination; and
- m) Policy re: Overall oversight of scheduling.

B. Anyone may run for election to the Board; however, no single program or team can have more than two people elected to the Board.

C. Annual elections shall be held at the end of season General Membership Meeting.

1. The Secretary of the BYLW shall announce in writing what Board positions are up for election 60 days before that summer meeting date.
2. All those seeking election to the Board must submit their name to the Secretary no later than 45 days prior to the end of season meeting.
3. The Secretary shall announce in writing all candidates for election 30 days before the end of season meeting.

D. All amendments to these By-laws and any change to the current league divisional alignment of three age divisions are to be made by the General Membership as outlined in section E below.

E. Once adopted by the General Membership, these By-laws can only be amended by the General Membership.

1. Amendments to the By-laws or league alignment must be presented in writing to the General Membership at least one month prior to any regularly scheduled General Membership Meeting.
2. Amendments to the By-laws or league alignment shall require a two-thirds vote of the General Membership for passage at a General Membership Meeting.
3. Any policy or decision enacted by the Board may be overturned by a two-thirds vote of the General Membership at either a General Membership Meeting or a Special Membership Meeting.

- a) Any motion to overturn such a policy or decision must be endorsed by a minimum of one-third of the General Membership and be presented in writing to the General Membership at least one month prior to any regularly scheduled General Membership Meeting.
- b) If the policy subject to overturn was enacted less than one month before any regularly scheduled General Membership Meeting, the time deadline for presenting a written motion is reduced to 10 days.

F. The Board of Directors shall consist of 11 positions:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Four Conference Executives, one elected by each of the five conferences
 - a) North
 - b) South
 - c) East
 - d) West
6. Two or three "At-large Representative(s)" elected to a two year term by a majority of the General Membership.
 - a) The number of "At-large" Board members shall be either two or three to always ensure an odd number of Board members should the number of Board members grow in the future.
7. US Lacrosse Washington Chapter Representative (Non-Voting Member)
8. WALOA Board Representative (Non-Voting Member)

G. The Board of Directors shall meet as deemed necessary by either the President of the Board or a majority of the Board.

1. Board meeting may be conducted by telephone or internet
2. "Robert's Rules of Order – Newly Revised" shall govern all matters of procedure not covered in these By-Laws.
3. No business may take place unless a quorum of two-thirds of the Board members is present, either in-person or by telephone conference call.
4. The Board may enact by majority vote any policy, procedure, or practice not in violation of these By-laws to regulate the affairs of the BYLW.
5. Failure of a Board member to attend 2 consecutive Board meetings shall allow the Board to expel that Board member by majority vote or to take lesser action.
 - a) The position of an expelled Board member shall be filled by special election called for by the President within 30 days of expulsion.
 - b) The Board member expelled may not run in that special election.

H. Board members shall serve two year terms with half of the Board being elected at each end of season meeting of the BYLW.

1. Conference Executive members may be changed annually, with no individual representing a conference for more than two consecutive years.
2. The President, Secretary, and one or two At-Large member shall be elected in odd-numbered years, with the Vice-President, Treasurer and the other At-Large member elected in even-numbered years.

I. Board Subcommittees

1. The Board is authorized to create subcommittees to establish policy positions and/or recommendations on various topics for Board action and/or General Membership action.
2. These subcommittees may, but are not required to be headed by Board members.
3. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- a) Admission of new teams;
- b) Player eligibility;
- c) Coaching qualifications;
- d) Discipline for players, coaches, programs;
- e) Field/equipment/uniform requirements;
- f) Game rules modifications/officiating;
- g) End of season tournament;
- h) Scheduling;
- i) Website;
- j) Coaches training;
- k) Referee Liaison
- l) Special events

J. President of the Board

1. The President of the Board shall preside over Membership meetings and Board meetings as limited by these By-laws and the policies approved by the Board of Directors.

K. Board Secretary

1. The Secretary shall issue minutes of all General and Special Membership Meetings and all Board meetings within 15 days of such meetings to the General Membership.
2. The Secretary shall supervise all elections, tabulate the vote, and announce the results.
 - a) The Secretary and the Board President shall validate the voting outcome.

L. Board Treasurer

1. The Treasurer and Board President are authorized signers on the BYLW account.
2. Full accounting of all receipts and expenditures shall be presented in writing to all General Members at the end of

season General Membership Meeting and more frequently as required by the Board or as called for by a majority of the General Members.

V. Article V: Vacancies

A. Vacancies on the Board due to death, resignation, or removal shall be replaced within 30 days by special election of the Board.

B. Such special election can be by e-mail or as otherwise authorized by the Board.

VI. Article VI: Compensation

A. All members and officers of the BYLW shall serve without compensation, except they will be allowed reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of their regular duties.

B. Such reimbursement requires approval from the Board of Directors and shall be disclosed in the financial statements of the BYLW.

VII. Article VII: Fiscal year

A. For accounting purposes, the fiscal year of the BYLW shall begin on the 1st ay of July and end on the 30th day of June.

VIII. Article VIII: Financial Responsibility

A. No member or officer of the BYLW may incur any expense or debt in the name of the BYLW without specific approval or authorization from the Board of Directors.

IX. Article IX: Non-liability

A. The President, Secretary, Treasurer, Board of Directors, and Representatives of the BYLW all serve as volunteers and shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the BYLW.

- X. Article X: Definitions
- A. BYLW: Boys Youth Lacrosse of Washington.
 - B. At Large Board Member: those people elected by the General Membership to represent the General Membership at large.
 - C. Board of Directors: those people elected by the General Membership to govern and manage the affairs, property, and operation of the BYLW.
 - D. Conference Executives: those people elected by their respective regional conferences to represent the General Members of that region.
 - E. General Membership: those teams admitted to the BYLW not on probation, suspension, or provisional status.
 - F. General Membership Meetings: regularly scheduled end of season, and winter meetings of the General Membership.
 - G. Probation: non-voting team status arising from failure to attend one General Membership meeting or for violation of a By-law or written Board policy. Teams on probation may still compete in their division.
 - H. Provisional Membership: non-voting status for first year teams meeting criteria for Provisional Membership to the BYLW.
 - J. Representative: designated representative from a General Member team of the BYLW.
 - K. Special Membership Meetings: additional membership meeting called for by majority vote of the Board of Directors or the General Membership.
 - L. Suspension: non-voting team status arising from failure to attend two consecutive General Membership meetings or for violation of a By-law or written Board policy. Suspended teams may not compete in their division.