



# Ontario Junior Men's Field Lacrosse League OPERATING POLICY

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## **Article 1 Name:**

OJMFLL stands for Ontario Junior Men's Field Lacrosse League herein referred to as the Council.

## **Article 2 Aims and Objectives:**

- Section 1. To provide opportunities for young men/women to participate in field lacrosse.
- Section 2. To conduct activities that advance and expand the game of field lacrosse while recognizing and preserving the traditions and "spirit" of the game.
- Section 3. To ensure the highest standards and integrity are observed throughout our leaders: administrators, coaches, players and officials.
- Section 4. To be responsible for the operations of the Junior Men's Field Lacrosse League, within the framework of the OLA and CLA Constitutions and Field Lacrosse Rules.
- Section 5. To promote an environment where all participants:
- Respect the ideals of teamwork, team spirit and fair play;
  - Are inspired to strive for excellence;
  - Build confidence and self-esteem through positive experiences;
  - Have opportunities to develop and demonstrate leadership qualities;
  - Value the importance and benefits of personal and physical well-being;
- Section 6. To motivate participants to continue their involvement in the sport, and regardless of the length of their involvement, to ensure they leave with lasting memories of enjoyable lacrosse experiences.

## **Article 3 Membership and Responsibilities:**

- Section 1. The Council shall consist of one person from each member association in good standing. Each member association shall have one alternate. It shall be the responsibility of each member to ensure that he or she or his or her delegate be present at all council meeting.
- Section 2. All members must be in good standing within their Club and within the higher governing bodies of Lacrosse -- the OLA and the CLA.

- Section 3. All OLA fees and league team fees must be paid in order to be in good standing with this Council.
- Section 4. New membership in the Council for the coming season will be approved by a majority of Council members in attendance at the Annual General Meeting (OLA-SAGM).
- Section 5. All new member applications approved by the Council must be presented to the O.L.A. Board of Directors for final approval.
- Section 6. It is the responsibility of the Club Representative to the Council to ensure:
- a) The coaches representing their communities are informed about the contents of this Operating Policy.
  - b) Their teams provide a scorer or timer for each game.
  - c) Their teams supply six field lacrosse balls per game.
  - d) Their teams and bench personnel are properly attired.
  - e) The good conduct of all club personnel at all league functions.
  - f) That proper approval from the Council, the O.L.A. and the C.L.A. for any of their teams, which are traveling outside of Ontario or hosting any teams from outside Ontario.
- Section 7. In the event an association in good standing that has played for more than two consecutive seasons, withdraws from the Council for more than one season, the performance bond/bonds will be returned. If a team withdraws from play within the first two years, the bond is not refundable.
- Section 8. The OJMFLS AGM will be held between the dates of February 15 to March 15 of each year. The OJMFLS SAGM will be held between the dates of November 1 to December 1 of each year. The AGM & SAGM do not necessarily have to coincide with the OLA Meetings. A location will be determined by the Commissioner.

#### **Article 4 Voting Powers:**

- Section 1. One representative from each center shall have a vote on matters pertaining to development and operating policy. A ½ of votes cast plus 1 majority vote will carry the amendment at the Council General Meeting.
- Section 2. One representative from each center may vote on League By-laws. A 1/2 plus 1 majority of all votes cast will carry an amendment at the Annual General Meeting – (OLA – SAGM).

## **Article 5   *Executive Committee:***

Section 1.   The OJMFL Executive Committee shall consist of the following:

- i.   Commissioner
- ii.   Secretary
- iii.   Treasurer
- iv.   Scheduler
- v.   Registrar
- vi.   OLA VP Administration - Field

Section 2.   Each Executive Committee member will have one vote, except the Commissioner who will be the tie-breaking vote.

Section 3.   The Executive, as elected by the Council, shall be vested with the power to conduct the affairs of the Council.

## **Article 6   *Duties of the Executive Committee:***

Section 1.   OJMFL Executive Committee:

- a)   Shall conduct the general business and activities of the Council.
- b)   Shall ensure the Operations Policy is being followed; the aims and objectives being met.
- c)   Shall have the power to appoint positions or committee, as it considers necessary to assist in carrying out its responsibilities. These positions will report to the Committee but hold no voting power.
- d)   Shall exercise full control over all matters pertaining to the management of the Council, subject to an appeal to the Council as a whole. Such an appeal must be at the written request of a member of the Council.
- e)   Shall be the final authority of decisions regarding any area under its jurisdiction.

Section 2.   Commissioner:

- a)   Shall preside over all Council Meetings.
- b)   Shall represent the Council at all O.L.A. Board of Governors Meetings
- c)   Shall conduct the business of the OJMFL as directed by the Council members.
- d)   Shall immediately rule on discipline of teams that comply with fine guidelines (see attached Appendix 1).
- e)   Shall immediately rule on player and team personnel under the guidelines of the C.L.A. and the O.L.A. Constitutions and League Policy.

- f) Shall prepare, distribute, collect and count ballots for league all-stars and individual awards. Shall submit all changes to the league policy paper to the O.L.A. office and O.L.A. V.P. Field Lacrosse for approval by the O.L.A. Board of Directors.
- g) Shall ensure that all teams, players and staff are in good standing with the Council and the O.L.A. prior to playing any games.
- h) Shall prepare and send out a year-end report to all participating associations no later than 30 days following the provincial playoffs.
- i) An honorarium of \$500 will be paid annually to the Commissioner in lieu of time, gas, meals, and phone bills.

Section 3. Secretary

- a) Shall record and distribute minutes of all league meetings within 10 days of meeting.
- b) Shall maintain a current register (contact list) of all Council members.
- c) Shall notify, at the direction of the Commissioner, to all members, and the O.L.A. office, the schedule, meeting dates and tournament dates for the current playing season.
- d) Shall communicate dates of all league functions, games, tournaments or tours to the O.L.A. office and V.P. Field Lacrosse in order to eliminate conflicts with other members of the Ontario Lacrosse Association
- e) An honorarium of \$200 will be paid annually to the Secretary in lieu of time, phone bills, and ancillary expenses.

Section 4. Treasurer:

- a) Shall receive all funds payable to the Council and deposit it in the Council Bank Account.
- b) Shall pay all bills approved by the Council. All cheques, in excess of \$1,000.00 must be approved by the Commissioner.
- c) Shall prepare a financial statement each year for (at AGM) for presentation to the OJMFL Council.
- d) Shall notify the Commissioner and the O.L.A. office of any member who is not in good standing with the Council and Ontario Lacrosse.
- e) Shall make arrangements for the purchasing of awards
- f) An honorarium of \$200 will be paid annually to the Treasurer in lieu of time, phone bills, and ancillary expenses.

Section 5. Registrar

- a) Shall collect and sign all registration forms ensuring they are completely properly by September 1st.
- b) Shall approve all club registrations and forward league copies to the O.L.A. office within the guidelines of the C.L.A. and O.L.A. constitutions.
- c) An honorarium of \$200 will be paid annually to the Registrar in lieu of time, phone bills, and ancillary expenses.

**Section 6. Scheduler**

- a) Shall facilitate the distribution of league schedule by August 15<sup>th</sup> of each year to all Council members and the O.L.A. office.
- b) Shall oversee the setting of the Playoff Schedules in conjunction with the playoff contenders and to have the authority to settle all date disputes.
- c) Shall prepare Provincial schedule as soon as regular play is complete and forward schedule to Secretary.
- d) Shall prepare and forward format of Provincial schedule to Commissioner to be approved at the pre-season meeting of the OJMFLC Council. Once approved the Provincial schedule shall be forwarded to all members of the Council
- e) An honorarium of \$200 will be paid annually to the Scheduler in lieu of time, phone bills, and ancillary expenses.

**Article 7 *Appointment and/or Election of Executive:***

Section 1. The OJMFLC Executive shall be appointed/ elected for a two-year term.

Section 2. No more than two of the Executive shall be appointed / elected from the same Lacrosse Association.

Section 3. If an Executive position is vacated during the term in office, the remaining members of the Executive shall fill the vacancy until an appropriate replacement can be found.

Section 4. Nomination Procedures:

- a) Any member in good standing may nominate a candidate for a position on the Executive Committee.
- b) Any member in good standing may hold no more than one executive office in any one year.
- c) The Commissioner shall send notification to the individual council members at least four (4) weeks prior to the Council's Annual General Meeting.
- d) The Commissioner will introduce advance nominations.
- e) Nominations will also be accepted from the floor before the election. Their names will be added to the slate.

**Article 8 *Duties of the Council:***

- a) Set Commissioner's honorarium for the following season.
- b) Hear application for league expansion.
- c) Prepare amendments to the O.L.A. Constitution.
- d) Hear, discuss and vote on proposed amendments to the league operating policy and by-laws.

- e) Generally be responsible for the operation and conduct of the council. Once the League Operating Policy and By-Laws have been approved, the Commissioner shall have the sole responsibility of administering the league policy.
- f) The Council member shall place the betterment of the Council above club interests.
- g) A quorum constitutes 50% of the clubs in good standing.

## **Article 9 Team Registration & Player Eligibility:**

### Section 1. Team Registration

- a) Centers must declare their intention to participate in League play by July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- b) League fees as detailed by the Council shall be made payable to Ontario Junior Men's Field Lacrosse League and one-third of each team's league fees must be received by the Treasurer no later than July 15th of the current playing season or teams will not be placed on the schedule. The balance of each team's league fees must be received by the Treasurer prior to participating in their first game.
- c) Each center must also pay a performance bond per team, which will be kept in trust in the League Account.
- d) OLA Registration forms submitted to the Registrar no later than two (2) weeks prior to season start. All players must be O.L.A. approved prior to playing first game.

### Section 2. Insurance

All OJMFL players, bench personnel and executive must be insured under the OLA Insurance Policy. These fees are paid directly to the OLA.

Note: Box Lacrosse players, who were approved, registered and are in good standing with the Council and the O.L.A. in the current year will not have to pay insurance fees a second time.

### Section 3. Roster

- a) Each team will provide a final team roster to the Registrar prior to the team playing in 50% of the regular season
- b) A player who plays for the following will NOT be eligible for the Ontario Junior Men's Field Lacrosse League
  - 1. On the roster of any U.S. Post Secondary School Lacrosse Team

2. On the roster for any Canadian Post-Secondary School Lacrosse Team
  3. Any player who plays any professional lacrosse league (NLL, MLL, CLAX)
- c) Players must be a minimum of 15 years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current playing season to be eligible to participate. Also, no player shall turn 20 years of age prior to December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current playing season.
- d) All teams shall abide by the OLA Rules and Regulations regarding Residency except that a post secondary school student not on the roster of a post secondary school team may be on the roster of the team in whose catchment area he resides while attending that post secondary school.
- e) All teams shall abide by the OLA Rules and Regulations regarding Residency except that if a non-resident player has played for a minor centre for the past 3 or more consecutive seasons may be permitted to play for the Junior team in the same centre he has played minor or play for their resident centre. Once the player has made their choice, they shall remain property of that Junior centre until properly released.

#### Section 4. League Play

- a) Each team must play all league games to be eligible for the Provincial Championships, subject to appeal.
- b) A player must play in at least 50% of a team's regular league games to be eligible to play for that team at the Provincial Championships.
- c) All players must be listed on the game sheet prior to entering the game to be eligible to play in that game. Only players in attendance shall be listed. Late arrivals will be added when they arrive. Injured players must be on the bench in order to have their name entered on the game sheet. **Coaches may appeal to the Executive in advance to allow players with documented long term injury or illness to be included on the game sheet without being in attendance. Such appeals will not be entertained after games are completed.**

Section 5. Failure to comply with any of these eligibility requirements will result in the individual being declared ineligible. A team will forfeit all games in which an ineligible player participates. This includes League, Qualifiers and Provincial Championship games.



## Article 10 Rules of Play

Section 1. F.I.L. (Federation of International Lacrosse) rules will be in effect for all games unless otherwise directed and approved by the league and Ontario Lacrosse Association.

- a) All players must wear an approved field lacrosse helmet or C.S.A. approved hockey helmet and full mask. Any alterations to a manufactured helmet or mask will make it illegal.
- b) Mouth guards are mandatory.
- c) i) All players' sticks must abide by the F.I.L. specifications  
ii) **At the end of each quarter, a randomly selected player from each team shall have their stick checked by the referees. There shall be no 'free stick checks' permitted by teams.**
- d) **Game Times – All League Games**  
15 minute quarters (last 3 minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> quarter stop time)  
Half Time: 5 minutes  
Time Outs: 2 per half
- e) Total points win league. If teams are tied at the end of league play, the tie will be broken as per O.L.A. Constitution (R1.06).
- f) Tied games will stand in regular season play.
- g) Tied games in Qualifiers and Provincials, will be played as follows:
  - Two 4 minute quarters, stop time
  - If necessary, Sudden Victory will be played using 4 minute stop time quarters
- h) The Designated Defender rule will be used.
- i) by the 2014 all teams in the OJMFL must have a second set of jerseys
- j) The HOME team on the game sheet will wear LIGHT coloured jerseys if there is a conflict.
- k) All teams must keep up to date statistics (GP, G, A, PTS, PM) on the league web-site within 48 hrs after the game played (as per game sheet statistics). Teams that do not adhere to keeping their stats up to date will be fined \$25.00 for each game not updated.
- l) **Hooded clothing shall not be permitted to be worn under the team sweater.**

Section 2. O.L.A. Field Lacrosse game sheets will be used for all sanctioned games.

## Article 11 Playing Misconduct and Grievances:

### Section 1. Playing Misconduct

- a) A player or bench personnel who flagrantly criticizes officials, or demonstrates malicious or unsportsmanlike behavior, is open to disciplinary measures from the Council for their actions.
- b) The Commissioner must keep a record of all ejections. The Disciplinary Committee will rule on the severity of the incident and decide whether a Review hearing is required.
- c) The Disciplinary Committee shall meet within three (3) days where possible after notification of the incident. A player shall not play or practice with any team until the Disciplinary Committee has met.

### Section 2. Offences

- a) **Fighting – 1<sup>st</sup> Offence:**
  - i.) The player will automatically be ejected from game and miss the following two league games.
  - ii.) The player may not be on the player bench and must be listed on the game sheet as serving suspension.
- b) **Fighting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:**
  - i.) The player will automatically be suspended from participating for the balance of the season, qualifiers and provincials, but at no time shall serve less than a 5 game suspension. This suspension will carry into the next playing season if required.
  - ii.) A second ejection at any time during the playing season will result in a Disciplinary hearing.
- c) **Intent to Injure:**
  - i.) The player will automatically be ejected from game and miss the following two league game.
  - ii.) The player may not be on the player bench and must be listed on the game sheet as serving suspension.
  - iii.) A Disciplinary hearing will be held.
- d) **Profanity:**
  - i.) The player or bench personnel will automatically be ejected from game and miss the following league game.
  - ii.) The player or bench personnel may not be on the player bench and must be listed on the game sheet as serving suspension
  - iii.) A Disciplinary hearing will be held.
- e) **Two 3 minute penalties, 5 personal fouls or two 2 minute unsportsmanlike penalties in a game:**
  - i.) The player will automatically be ejected from game and miss the following league game.

- ii.) The player may not be on the player bench and must be listed on the game sheet as serving suspension.

f) **Expulsion Foul**

- i.) An expulsion foul of any kind given to a player will be an automatic suspension for one additional league game, subject to a disciplinary hearing.

Section 3. Disciplinary Committee

- a) Members of the Disciplinary Committee shall be comprised of the Commissioner (Chair) plus three (3) of the centers [whomever is available at that particular time, providing they don't have a conflict of interest with the person being reviewed]
- b) The Chair will inform the player's coach of the date and time of the hearing and request the attendance of both player and coach.
- c) All relevant personnel will be invited to the Review hearing (Official, opposing coach).
- d) After submission to the Review Committee by the appropriate personnel, the Committee shall make a ruling and report that ruling to the people involved (Coach, Affiliated Minor Association) within 24 hours. A written copy of the ruling should follow as soon as possible.
- e) A Review Committee suspension shall be defined as follows: "to bar or exclude a privilege; usually for a specified time as a penalty". This includes practice, exhibition, league and tournament play.

## **APPENDIX 1**

### ***OJMFL Code of Conduct – Players, Coaches and Officials***

All players, coaches, officials and spectators will represent themselves at all times in accordance with the philosophy of this Council and the OLA.

#### **Section A: OLA Code of Conduct [FR16.04]**

#### **Section B: Code of Conduct for Players**

1. I will play by the rules of field lacrosse.
2. I understand that verbal abuse of officials, other players, or coaches and team personnel spoils the activity for everyone and that such behavior will not be tolerated.
3. I will do my best to be a true team player.
4. I will remember that winning isn't everything --- that having fun, improving my skills, making friends and doing my best are also important.
5. I will remember that coaches and officials are there to help me. I will accept their decisions and show them respect.

#### **Section C: Code of Conduct for Coaches, Managers and Team Personnel**

1. I will teach my players to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
2. I will ensure that all players receive equal instruction and support.
3. I will remember that players play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves. I will not verbally abuse my players or make harassing comments to my players.
4. I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe for all participants.
5. I will remember that participants need a coach, manager or trainer whom they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.
6. I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching or management skills.
7. I will foster regular and effective communications with parents and players.
8. I will ensure that locker room behavior is acceptable and non-threatening for all participants.
9. I will remember that it is a privilege, not a right, to coach and work with athletes.

## APPENDIX 2

### *Fines and Suspensions*

***All fines must be paid in full prior to provincial championships. Failure to do so will make the offending team ineligible for provincial championship play.***

The Council will honour all suspensions of all leagues in Canada that are affiliated with the O.L.A. and C.L.A.

Following will be remitted to Council:

1. Failure to attend a League Council Meeting .....\$100.00  
(without prior notification to the Commissioner)
2. Failure to appear for a scheduled game .....\$250.00/game  
(subject to disciplinary hearing)
3. Failure to pay O.L.A. and League fees prior to required dates .....\$50.00
4. Failure to meet "Host Site Requirements" .....\$100.00
5. Player assessed a second 3 minute penalty.....\$20.00
6. Player assessed two 2 min. unsportsmanlike penalties or 5 personal fouls...\$20.00
7. Failure to properly field a team of 9 players and 1 goalie at the  
scheduled start of a League game, or failure to complete a scheduled  
League game, or any game ruled a forfeit against a club.....\$250.00/game  
(subject to a League suspension and/or discipline hearing)
8. Failure to have properly certified coaching personnel or a certified trainer in the  
coach's walk or at the team bench for a League schedule game.....\$ 25.00/game
9. Failure of a club or team to have a second set of contrasting jerseys (light and dark)  
in their approved league colours available for season play or league  
games.....\$ 50.00/game

## **APPENDIX 3**

### ***Host Site Responsibilities Checklist***

**Site:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Scheduled Games:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Site Convener:** \_\_\_\_\_

(The “Host Site Requirements Checklist” must be completed by the Host Site and submitted to the Commissioner by July 1<sup>st</sup> each year.)

**1. Playing Field**

- a) Playing fields as per ILF Field Lacrosse
- b) Two Field Lacrosse nets on each field (We have checked [and repaired, as necessary] each mesh net.)
- c) One Scorer’s table and four chairs
- d) If possible, players’ benches set up on the opposite side of the field from the spectators
- e) Provide for a Convener to be present at each field site during all games.

**2. Washroom facilities. Dressing rooms with access to showers whenever possible.**

**3. Copies of a Site Emergency Plan/Map noting directions to the nearest hospital with emergency services and the nearest walk-in medical clinic will be available at the Scorer’s Tables.**

**4. Please list any other details/concerns on the back of this sheet.**

## ***POLICY APPROVAL***

*Ontario Junior Men's Field Lacrosse league Operating Policy and new amendments for the year \_\_\_\_\_, approved by the Council at a meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Acknowledged by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*OLA President*