

1.0 BYLAWS

- 1.1 Bylaws of the Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association are intended to guide operation of the Association.
- 1.2 Bylaws may be modified by a vote of 2/3rds majority at a meeting of the Executive. Ratification of the amended Bylaw must be obtained by a vote of 2/3rds majority of the full membership at the Annual General Meeting in order to permanently embed the Bylaw.
- 1.3 Failure of a member of the Association to abide by the Bylaws may result in their suspension or other disciplinary action being taken. The suspension or other disciplinary action will be established during a meeting of the Management Committee. The decision of the Management Committee is subject to appeal to the Executive. The appeal shall be heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive.

2.0 DISCLOSURE

- 2.1 In the absence of specific instructions to the contrary, Members of the Association agree to permit the use of their names in newspaper articles reporting on activities of the Association, as well as for those uses intended to promote the game of Lacrosse.

3.0 FINANCE

- 3.1 All requests for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Association shall be accompanied by appropriate receipts; signed and dated.
- 3.2 A budget and on-going summary of expenditures shall be prepared for all lacrosse programs, special events, fundraising, invitational and OLA Provincial tournaments by the Coordinator of the program or event as deemed necessary by the Executive. The budgets were required shall be approved by the Executive. The summary of expenditures shall be submitted to the Financial Officer and the Executive for review following the event or completion of the program.
- 3.3 The Financial Officer shall maintain financial statements and supporting invoices, receipts and account books, for a period of 7 years. If a change of Financial Officers is made the information shall be transferred and the new Financial Officer shall be accountable for the records.
- 3.4 Two members of the Association, who are not current members of the Executive, shall be appointed to review the Year-end financial statement and the financial procedures of the Association. The results of the members' review shall be presented at the AGM following the Financial Officers report to the membership. The two members are to be appointed by the Executive.

4.0 REGISTRATIONS

- 4.1 Registration fees, including any surcharge for the Representative or Field Programs shall be set by a majority vote of the Executive.
- 4.2 Refunds of registration fees shall be granted, less a \$25 service charge, provided the request is made prior to the start of the season. Refunds may also be made for extenuating circumstances provided the request is made in writing to the Financial Officer.
- 4.3 Signed registrations, endorsed by the player (and parent or legal guardian for all minors), shall be obtained prior to any player participating in an organized event of the Association. This shall include all tryouts, practices and games.
- 4.4 Waivers indemnifying and saving harmless the Association shall be obtained for any clinic conducted by the Association. The waiver clause shall include the following language.

The Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association does not have an accident insurance policy covering participants of the Clinic. It is therefore recommended that all registrants in this activity obtain their own insurance coverage.

In consideration of the Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association permitting my child to participate in this Clinic I hereby promise to indemnify and save harmless the Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association from and against all claims in respect to any costs, expenses, loss, damage or injury.

- 4.5 All players participating in the Association shall be insured through the OLA as provided in the terms of the OLA Minor Affiliation. The Registrar shall determine the insurance fees as per the instructions of the OLA and shall submit the amount to the Finance Officer for payment.
- 4.6 As a general guideline player’s age groups shall be as follows;

Box Houseleague & Rep Lacrosse		Field Lacrosse	
Peanut	5 years	Junior H/L	5-8 years
Paperweight	6 years	Senior H/L	9-15 years
Tyke	7-8 years	OLA Field Lacrosse	
Novice	9-10 years	Novice	9-10 years
PeeWee	11-12 years	PeeWee	11-12 years
Bantam	13-14 years	Bantam	13-14 years
Midget	15-16 years	Midget	15-16 years
Intermediate	17-21 years	U-16	14-15 years
		U-19	16-19 years
Girls Field Lacrosse			
U15	under 15 years		
U20	under 20 years		

All ages are determined as of December 31st of the current year of play.

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- 4.7 For recreational Houseleague play, administered by the Association it shall be recognized that specific exceptions may be made in order to insure players are placed at a level, which they are competitive. The Houseleague Coordinator, in consultation with the Division Convenor, shall grant exceptions.
- 4.8 Representative and Field Lacrosse players shall be placed according to the age groupings as outlined by the OLA.
- 4.9 In the case of Field Lacrosse the OFLA does not recognize jurisdictional boundaries between Associations. Therefore, in order to maintain a balance between competitiveness and player development no team is permitted to have more than 25% nonresident players on the active roster without the endorsement of the Management Committee.

5.0 REPRESENTATIVE BOX AND FIELD LACROSSE

- 5.1 In most cases, releases from the Association shall not be granted. If a release is to be granted it shall be granted by the Representative Coordinator following a written request by the player and endorsement by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. See Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association Release Policy (2002).
- 5.2 Coaches shall submit rosters to the Representative or Field Lacrosse Coordinator as soon as the team is selected and shall be regularly updated throughout the season.
- 5.3 During the selection of Representative teams, players shall first be selected for the Level I teams, followed by selection for the Level II teams and so forth. Players will be requested to play at the level of their ability irrespective of coaching preferences. Any movement of players between teams shall be done only following a meeting of the Representative or Field Lacrosse Coordinator, the coaching staffs and endorsed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- 5.4 All OLA cards, players, coaches and bench personnel, shall be submitted to the Representative Coordinator 2 weeks prior to the OLA requirements for registration of teams and players (generally April 30th for Field Lacrosse, May 31st for Girls Field and May 1st for Box Lacrosse).
- 5.5 Where surcharge fees are imposed the fee shall accompany the OLA players' card. Players failing to submit the surcharge fee shall not be registered for Provincial tournament play.
- 5.6 The coach in consultation with the Representative Coordinator shall approve temporary player releases for play at the Junior or Major Box Lacrosse level. It is recognized that the player's first obligation is to the Association.

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- 5.7 Teams shall be accountable for non-payment of team, player and bench personnel fines as imposed by the OLA, OFLA, OWFLA or the Association. All fines are due upon receipt.
- 5.8 No recreational level Houseleague teams shall play or scrimmage against a team from outside of the Association without the written consent of both the Representative and Houseleague Coordinators.
- 5.9 Representative and Field Lacrosse games shall be scheduled and played according to the OLA, OFLA, OWFLA League rules and regulations.

6.0 HOUSELEAGUE

- 6.1 While player drafts may be used to establish teams at the beginning of the season, the Division Convenor shall carry out team balancing to insure competitive play amongst the teams. Team balancing shall be carried out as soon as practical following the commencement of league play. No player movement between teams shall be permitted without the approval of the Division Convenor.
- 6.2 It is the intent of Houseleague play that all players receive equal playing time. Players may not play two consecutive shifts where 10 or more players, not including the goaltender, are available. If a team has less than 10 players, double shifting shall be done equitably. This rule shall apply in all exhibition, league, tournament and playoff games.
- 6.3 For Houseleague play the following shall apply;
- 6.3.1 Novice to Midget games shall consist of three 15-minute periods. The periods shall be running time, with the last 3 minutes of the game stop time (provided the score is within 5 goals). The players shall be changed “*on-the-fly*”, except for whistles brought about by a goal. The 30-second shot clock shall be used.
- 6.3.2 Peanut and Tyke games shall consist of three 12-minute periods, with a 2-minute buzzer signaling a change in shift. The clock shall be stopped during the change in shift. One coach shall be allowed on the floor during the game.
- 6.3.3 A curfew may be imposed by the Division Convenor in order to maintain the allocated floor time schedule.

7.0 SUSPENSIONS AND HEARINGS COMMITTEES

7.1 The Association will abide by all rules, penalties and fines of the OLA, OFLA and OWFLA for Representative and Field Lacrosse games and in the absence of specific rules to the contrary for all recreational level Houseleague games.

7.2 Any penalties, activities or expressions of racial/ sexual or cultural bias by members of the Association which violates the OLA Policy on Harassment, Race and Discrimination shall be brought immediately to the attention of the Management Committee. Imposition of a suspension, or other action as deemed appropriate, shall follow a hearing of the Management Committee. The decision of the Management Committee is subject to appeal to the Executive. The appeal shall be heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive.

7.3 Coaching staff must report immediately all suspensions and fines incurred during OLA, OFLA or OWFLA sanctioned games to the Representative or Field Coordinator, as appropriate.

7.3.1 Items referred to the Representative or Field Lacrosse Hearings Committees for review shall be heard within 6 days of the referral. The decision of the Committee is final and not subject to appeal.

7.4 During recreational Houseleague play the Association will abide by all rules and penalties of the OLA with the exception of the following;

7.4.1 The following infractions shall be subject to suspension from the remainder of the game the infraction occurred in plus the following game:

- Any major penalty, including fighting, spearing, butt-ending
- 5 minor penalties in a single game
- misconduct penalties

7.4.2 For recreational Houseleague play all suspensions, gross misconduct penalties shall be immediately reported to the Division Convenor.

7.4.3 Appeals of the Suspension must be submitted in writing to the Houseleague Coordinator. The Houseleague Hearings Committee shall hear the appeal within 6 days of the appeal being filed. The decision of the Committee is final and not subject to appeal.

7.4.4 Any Gross Misconduct penalties, or second offenses of the above noted infractions, which result in suspension, shall be referred immediately to the Houseleague

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Coordinator to bring before the Houseleague Hearings Committee for review. The review will be conducted within 6 days of the notice. Imposition of an appropriate suspension shall follow a hearing of the Committee. The decision of the Committee is final and not subject to appeal.

7.4.5 Fines shall not be imposed as a result of activities associated with the recreational Houseleague, though awards based on actual damages assessed may be imposed.

8.0 COACHES AND BENCH PERSONNEL

8.1 The Association expects all coaches to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the AIMS and OBJECTIVES outlined in Article C2:01 of the Constitution. Coaches will be expected to follow guidelines as set out in a Coaching Manual as adopted by the Association.

8.2 All prospective coaches will complete a written application as adopted by the Association. Each application will be subject to a background check by Peel Regional Police, at the discretion of the Coaching Selection Committee. Background check information will be kept in strict confidence.

8.3 Representative & Field Team Coaches and Bench Personnel

8.3.1 Appointed Head coaches may select their own bench personnel, subject to the approval of the Coaching Selection Committee.

8.3.2 All bench personnel must have current qualifications as set out by the OLA, OFLA and OWFLA. Copies of certificates are to be submitted no later than May 15th of the current year.

8.3.3 Coaches are responsible for insuring that a team financial statement is provided to the Representative or Field Coordinator, no later than September 1st of the current year. Failure to provide the financial report will disqualify the coach from being a member of the Bench personnel of any Association team for a period of 2 years.

8.3.4 Coaches are responsible for all Association equipment, including sweaters, goal equipment, sticks, first aid kits and other articles assigned to their teams by the Equipment Coordinator. Failure to return the equipment in good condition, less normal wear, by September 1st will disqualify the coach from being a member of the Bench personnel of any Association team for a period of 2 years.

8.3.5 Any member of the Bench Personnel suspended for two or more games (in total per season) must appear before the Representative or Field Disciplinary Committee.

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8.4 Houseleague Coaches and Bench Personnel

- 8.4.1 Head coaches appointed may select their own bench personnel, subject to the approval of the Coaching Selection Committee.
- 8.4.2 Coaches who collect team funds are responsible for insuring that a team financial statement is provided to the Houseleague Coordinator, no later than September 1st of the current year. Failure to provide the financial report will disqualify the coach from being a member of the Bench personnel of any Association team for a period of 2 years.
- 8.4.3 Coaches are responsible for all Association equipment, including sweaters, goal equipment, sticks, first aid kits and other articles assigned to their teams by the Equipment Coordinator. Failure to return the equipment in good condition, less normal wear, by September 1st will disqualify the coach from being a member of the Bench personnel of any Association team for a period of 2 years.
- 8.4.4 Any member of the Bench Personnel suspended from a game must appear before the Houseleague Hearings Committee.

9.0 SERIOUS INJURIES

- 9.1 Any injuries occurring to an Association Member, player or bench personnel which results in them requiring medical attention beyond First Aid as a result of an injury sustained during a game or practice shall be immediately reported to the Representative, Field or Houseleague Division Coordinators.
- 9.2 The Representative, Field or Houseleague Division Coordinators are responsible for obtaining the necessary insurance claim forms and providing them to the injured member of the Association as appropriate. The insurance claim shall be processed directly by the member without delay.
- 9.3 No player sustaining a serious head injury, or for which unconsciousness has resulted during play or practice, shall be allowed to play without a note of consent from a physician.

10.0 TOURNAMENTS

- 10.1 The Heritage Lacrosse Classic Tournament is intended to pay tribute to former members of the Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association and the Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Club. The focus of the tournament is to be on the proud Lacrosse heritage, which has developed in Brampton. The Tournament is played during the regular Houseleague season.

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- 10.2 The Heritage Lacrosse Classic tournament was introduced in 1998 and paid tribute to all former members of the Association and the Excelsiors. In 1999 the tournament honored the memory of Wayne Thompson and Revis Bennett, who passed away in the last year. Each year someone new is to be honored.
- 10.3 The John McCauley Memorial Lacrosse Tournament is an invitational Box Lacrosse tournament sanctioned by the OLA. The tournament was introduced in 1992 to honor the memory of John McCauley, who passed away in 1989. John led many Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association teams to the Provincial Championship both as player and coach. John played on 3 Minto Cup Champions, one with Brampton and two with Oshawa, and coached the 1980 Mann Cup Champion Excelsiors. John was also an Assistant Coach of the 1978 Canadian World Champion Field Lacrosse Team.

11.0 EQUIPMENT

- 11.1 All equipment worn by members during play or practice shall conform to the standards of CSA and the rules and regulations of the OLA, OFLA and OWFLA.
- 11.2 The Association will abide by fair business practices in the award of contracts for equipment, supplies, facilities and services.
- 11.3 To the extent practical purchases will be made based on 3 quotations. Purchases of over \$2000 shall be evaluated based on written quotations. The criteria for evaluating the quotes shall be price, quality, and delivery. The Association will support local businesses to the extent that their prices are competitive.
- 11.4 Where practical and necessary, written specifications shall be prepared to describe the goods and services being contracted.

12.0 FUNDRAISING POLICY

... to copy over the Bylaw passed last year by the Executive on Fundraising.

13.0 BRAMPTON MINOR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association Awards are listed below:

13.1 HARRY BENHAM AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN OFFICIATING

Presented annually to the referee or field lacrosse umpire who demonstrates excellence in their contribution to the sport of lacrosse in Brampton, through officiating, dedication to our game, & the development of the principles of fair play and sportsmanship.

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13.2 BMLA PRESIDENT’S AWARD

Presented annually to the member who contributes unselfishly to the development of Minor Lacrosse in the City of Brampton.

13.3 BRAMPTON LACROSSE ALLIANCE AWARD OF MERIT

Presented annually to an Excelsior who demonstrates excellence in their contribution to the development of young lacrosse players in Brampton.

13.4 BMLA CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Presented annually to the member(s) who demonstrate high academic achievement, good citizenship and commitment to the development of young Lacrosse players.

13.5 REVIS BENNETT MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COACHING

Presented since 1999 in memory of REVIS BENNETT, to the lacrosse coaching staff who best instils the fundamental values of sportsmanship, hard work, integrity and self-worth in their players as they strive for excellence, and who works together as a staff to develop individual lacrosse skills and team strategies appropriate to the level. These were principles Revis followed during his coaching career.

13.6 LIFE MEMBER AWARDS will be submitted through Brampton Excelsior Lacrosse Club.

13.7 GEORGE ‘POTSY’ BURROWS GOALTENDING AWARD

Presented annually to a Box Goalie and a Field Goalie who demonstrates Courage, Dedication, Competitiveness, Leadership and Focus
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The supporting documentation contained in the Appendices are intended for use as Guidelines. The forms may be used as is or may be altered as required to meet the specific needs of the Association without requiring a change in the Constitution or Bylaws, provided they do not alter the spirit of the Constitution or Bylaws.

Insurance Claim Forms

Coaching Application Forms

Police Check Forms

Clinic Participation Waiver Form

OLA Player Registration Form

OLA Bench Personnel Registration Form

BMLA Registration Form

Standard Form of Contract

OLA Player Release Form

BMLA Player Release Policy