

# Team Placement

We strive to prioritize player safety, development, and fairness in organizing our youth lacrosse teams. To ensure a positive experience for all participants, players will be placed on teams according to their current grade level. This policy outlines the guidelines for team placement.

1. **Placement:** All players will play on teams corresponding to their current grade level. Players are not permitted to "play up" on older teams, regardless of skill or experience.
  - Insurance Coverage: Our program's insurance coverage through USA Lacrosse is based on strict adherence to age and grade-appropriate team placements.
  - Player Safety: Ensuring players compete against others of similar physical development reduces the risk of injury.
  - Fairness: Maintaining grade-level teams promotes fairness by preventing unequal competition between players of significantly different ages or physical maturity.
  - Developmental Importance: Playing with peers of the same age allows for appropriate social and athletic development, ensuring all players grow together.
  
2. **Exceptions to the Policy:**
  - Minimum Roster Needs: Exceptions to this policy will only be made under the extremely rare circumstance when a team cannot field enough players for a scheduled game.
  - Approval Required: Any exception must be approved by both head coaches and the board. The request will come directly from the coach, not the player or family.
  - Avoidance of Regular Exceptions: These occurrences will be avoided as much as possible and will not be used to regularly allow younger players to participate on older teams.
  
3. **No Special Requests:**
  - Requests for players to move up to a higher-grade team due to skill, experience, or personal preference will not be considered. The well-being and long-term development of the players and their peers remain our highest priorities.
  
4. **Repercussions for Policy Violation:**
  - If this policy is not followed, the player will not be allowed to continue participating in the program for the remainder of the season.
  - If you are removed from the program due to failure to adhere to this policy, the registration fee will not be refunded.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain a positive environment for all players.