

# Lemont Indians 2018 Season Kickoff Meeting

## IBLA

Since Lemont Indian's inception in 2012, we have been part of the Southland Lacrosse League. The Indians program has grown each year, and last year we won 4/5 division championships with some teams going undefeated. The decision was made to switch to the Illinois Boys Lacrosse Association (IBLA), which will definitely make our season more challenging and help our players grow. This will also prevent us from traveling to Indiana, but instead play teams like Lincoln Way, Western Springs, Elmhurst, Wheaton and Tinley Park (who also switched this year).

One of the most apparent changes will be the division names/ages. The IBLA goes completely by grade, so if your player is in sixth grade, he will be on the sixth grade team. The purpose is to keep players with their classmates and make it easier for parents to carpool with players/parents they are already familiar with. Players do have the option to play up, so a sixth grade could play on the seventh grade team if deemed appropriate, but be aware of the second new rule below:

Players can only play on one team. We will not be double-rostering like we have in the past, and if a player decides to play up, he will do so for the entire season.

Peoria/Washington – The one caveat to these rules is the Peoria/Washington tournament. This tournament goes by the old US Lacrosse rules, where teams are decided by age, with a cutoff of September 1<sup>st</sup>. This will not affect most players, but if your player is old for his grade, then he may have to play up for this tournament. Of course, he has the option to play up all season too. If you have questions, please contact us at [lemontindiansyouth@gmail.com](mailto:lemontindiansyouth@gmail.com).

Other notable rule changes:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct by a spectator (i.e. a parent) can result in a team penalty where the team plays with a man down. (Lemont Indians have always prided ourselves on our player and parent behavior, so we expect this only to work in our favor.)
- Minis will play on half the field and have a goalie, 2 attack, 2 midis and 2 defenders.
- No 2 pass rule at the younger ages.
- There will be a code of conduct that every player must sign. IBLA will enforce this in order to play. More details to follow.

## Divisions

The IBLA has names for each group, so the "Juniors" will be the third and fourth grade team. We will use our existing naming of "Gold" for the younger team in a division and "Blue" for the older team. As a result, the team divisions will be:

Minis – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Juniors Gold – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Juniors Blue – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Minors Gold – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Minors Blue – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Majors Gold – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Majors Blue – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Communications

We will continue to use our website to send out emails, list practices and game schedules, and provide directions to games. If you know anyone who is not receiving emails, please go to the website and click on “Join Email List” on the home page:

[www.lemontindiansyouthlacrosse.com](http://www.lemontindiansyouthlacrosse.com)

For on-going questions, please email:

[lemontindiansyouth@gmail.com](mailto:lemontindiansyouth@gmail.com)

This address is monitored by our Communications Director, Ryan Scoville. Our Board Members and Coaches can also be found/contacted on the website (the coach list still needs to be updated).

## Practice

Practices begin the week of March 4<sup>th</sup>. The first four weeks will be indoors at MPX Sportsplex in Homer Glen, off Bell Road. These practices are already up on the website. Rather than going to the Schedule menu, I recommend going to Team -> Schedule, and then selecting your player’s team. This will show a schedule with only your team’s practices and games. (There is also a multi-calendar option if you have multiple players.)

The Homer Glen MPX practices are already on the website, so please reference that, but in summary:

Sundays March 4<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>:

1-2PM Minis and Juniors

2-3PM Minors

3-4PM Majors

Fridays March 9<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>:

6-7PM Minis and Juniors

7-8PM Minors

## 8-9PM Majors

In April we will go outside to Bambrick Park in Lemont.

Minis and Juniors (1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade) will practice Tuesday/Thursday from 5:30 to 7:00PM. This will shift out a half hour as daylight permits.

Minors and Majors (5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) will practice Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30PM. This will shift out a half hour as daylight permits.

Bambrick practices will be on the website calendar soon.

## Games/Tournaments

We expect to have 8 conference games, 4 away and 4 home, and at least three tournaments, including the Dawg Pound, Kings of Spring, possibly the Tower Tourney, the Washington Invitational (near Peoria) and the end of year tournament. Full scheduling has not yet occurred, so we will update the website and send out emails once they become available.

## Washington Invitational

We will definitely participate in the Washington Invitational (near Peoria) the weekend of May 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>. This is the one tournament that requires travel, and by many is considered the highlight of the season. We recommend booking a hotel as soon as possible, as there always seems to be a few other events that weekend, making rooms difficult to get. Families stay at one of the following two hotels:

Holiday Inn East Peoria - <https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/east-peoria/piaws/hoteldetail>

Embassy Suites Peoria - <http://embassysuites3.hilton.com/en/hotels/illinois/embassy-suites-by-hilton-east-peoria-riverfront-hotel-and-conference-center-PIAESES/index.html>

Many families go down Friday night, but it is also pretty easy to go down Saturday morning and just stay one night.

## Financials

There is still a \$50 referral bonus for referring a new player. We are especially interested in filling our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Mini teams.

Fund Raisers – There is a Pack the Place dinner at Gelsosomo's Pizza in Lemont, on March 20<sup>th</sup>, where half the proceeds go to the Indians. Info can be found on the website's home page. There will also be a CPX paintball event at the end of the year.

If you have outstanding fees by the first game, your son/daughter will not be able to play.

## Conclusion

We had a wonderful season last year, and though this year will have many changes and challenges, we are excited for the opportunities it will provide. One of our main club goals is to “Have a positive impact on the development of our players by using lacrosse as an opportunity to learn life lessons.” We hope you join us in accepting that challenge.

Go Indians!