

**Youth Lacrosse of Minnesota**  
**Boys Youth League 2007 Operational Guidelines**

1. Definition of grade levels: grade of player is defined as the grade he was enrolled in at the close of the spring school year.

Bantam Division - 2nd, 3rd and 4th Grade Combination (multiple teams within a program should be balanced)

Lightning Division - 5th/6th Grade Combination (multiple teams within a program should be balanced)

Senior Division - 7th/8th Grade Combination. There will be an A and a B level within this division. Communities may elect to field teams in either level.

Acceptable variations:

- 2nd/3rd/4th grade combination
- 4th/5th/6th grade combination
- 6th/7th/8th grade combination

**There will be no “body checking” allowed in the Bantam and Lightning Divisions and no “take-out checks” allowed in the Senior Division.**

Each YLM Association is to determine the composition of their teams. Keep in mind the spirit of fair play and the advancement of lacrosse in Minnesota. Girls are allowed to participate, but should be discouraged at Senior Division. The A and B levels of the Senior Division will not be scheduled to play against each other unless individual coaches choose to schedule those games themselves.

2. Every participating member of YLM, including Coaches, players and officials must be a current member of US Lacrosse. To join, go to [www.uslacrosse.org](http://www.uslacrosse.org) and register as a member.

3. Each Association is responsible for the following at each home game:

- a. Game balls
- b. Two YLM certified referees for each game are required at all levels
- c. Time keeping shall be by an official adult timekeeper in the table area with game & penalty timer
- d. The game score shall be kept by an adult at the table area.
- e. Properly lined and marked fields
- f. Legally sized goals 6 ft X 6ft with net; portable, steel, aluminized steel, PVC, etc are acceptable, it is recommended that lighter goals be anchored to the ground
- g. Sanitation facilities and water - it is recommended that these services are provided in the vicinity of the fields; due to varying resources this is not mandatory.

#### 4. Game format

- a. All division games will include four, 12 minute running time quarters, with a 2 minute rest between quarters, a 5 minute halftime and no overtime.
- b. There are two unique rules for the Bantam Division as noted in Rule 4 -Play of the Game:
  - 1 A two-pass minimum will be required prior to the team with the ball being allowed to shoot. The two passes can occur anywhere in the field of play. The referee will keep count of the completed passes by raising his fingers into the air. If the ball touches the ground after 2 passes are completed, other than from a shot, the count starts over. Once a shot is taken, and the ball remains in their possession, the offensive team is allowed to freely shoot again - the two-pass rule only applies to the first shot in each possession.
  - 2 If there is a "scrum" for a ground ball, the referee will count out 10 seconds from the start of the "scrum". If possession isn't gained by either team, he will blow the whistle and award the ball on alternating possessions at the point of the "scrum" or outside the goal area if the ball is inside the goal area. The visiting team has first possession.
- c. Field dimensions: Standard NFHS rules
- d. Rules standards: NFHS Lacrosse Rules, including Youth Supplement and YLM modifications.
- e. all referees are required to be certified and be at least High School Sophomores
- f. a minimum of 2 officials are required at all games
- g. the home team is responsible for providing referees and paying the ref fee.

#### 5. End of season tournament

- a. Seeded tournament format with playoffs and double elimination State Championship. To be held the first weekend after the regular season

#### 6. Special note - game traditions

- a. "YahRah" at end of game
- b. End of game hand shake - remove equipment and line up behind goalie to shake opponent's hands

#### 7. Game cancellations

- a. The head coaches, time keeper and officials will decide together if a game should be canceled due to weather conditions.
- b. It is the home team's responsibility to reschedule a canceled game.