

Biddeford Youth Lacrosse

Registration Information (2015)



Biddeford Youth Lacrosse is a private, non-profit organization not affiliated with the Biddeford Recreation Department or the Biddeford Schools. While not formally affiliated, we have a close working relationship with both of these groups and have similar goals in enhancing the health and well-being of our children.

TEAMS

In 2015, we will again conduct our highly popular program for Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders! This is an in-house co-ed program with no equipment meeting for an hour and a half on Sunday mornings. To ensure that your kindergartener is ready to play lacrosse, we ask that he/she attend AT LEAST one Lacrosse Night prior to registering. We will also have teams playing inter-town games in three age groups for both boys and girls (2/3/4th, 5/6th, 7/8th grades). Boys and girls in 2nd grade have the option of playing on a 2nd-4th grade team, at the family's option. If your child is in 2nd grade, simply register her/him in whichever program you prefer.

These plans are all subject to the availability of coaches. We currently need additional assistants for several of our teams. Volunteers and team parents are needed for all teams. If you're interested in learning more about coaching lacrosse, contact Terry Pollock at: coaching@biddefordyouthlacrosse.org. We have lots of resources to help you learn the game; we care more about your interest than knowledge!

Please register early so we can accurately identify and schedule our teams!

REGISTRATION

Registration is done entirely online. We can also help you with your registration at any BYL Lacrosse Night. Although it is discouraged, if you don't have internet access, registrations can be mailed in as long as they arrive on, or before, February 28. If we have to limit team sizes, players will be selected based upon the order that we received your completed, paid registration. Late registrations will be accepted as long as we have space. Some teams will have to turn away players again in 2015.

Who is eligible? Boys and girls in grades K-8. Due to the shortage of fields and coaches, BYL may have to limit our numbers. Biddeford residents get first priority. We will then accept players from other towns. Slots will be filled first-come, first-served basis, with Biddeford players having priority through February 28.

What do I need to register?

1. Insurance info (company, ID numbers, etc.)
2. Email addresses. We CAN NOT make phone calls; there's just not enough time. Everything is done via email and the web site (www.biddefordyouthlacrosse.org). We want all emails: the parents home/work, the kids, the grandparents, etc. Please provide emails for anyone you want to be informed.
3. Emergency contact info (cell phone #, neighbor/relative, etc.) in case parent can't be reached.
4. US Lacrosse Membership **expiring June 30 or later (only 2-8th grade program)**. The online registration system will handle this automatically; if registering on paper, please contact us for help joining US Lacrosse.
5. Online registration will take your payment electronically (credit or debit card); if registering on paper, you'll need a check made out to "Biddeford Youth Lacrosse".

FEES

K-2nd grade . . . \$40 (only \$30 until 2/28!) 2nd-8th grade Program . . . \$80 (only \$65 until 2/28!)

Every child should have the opportunity to play Lacrosse! Scholarships and financial aid are available. Apply in confidence to Sharon Sesling-Labonte at: scholarship@biddefordyouthlacrosse.org.

Registration includes a tee-shirt, referees, and team gear such as uniforms, balls, goals, and goalie equipment.

REFUNDS?

If you discover that lacrosse is not for you, a full refund will be given to any player prior to April 15. After that, no refunds can be given for any reason.

► **TURN OVER**

Helping BYL:

Like any youth athletic program, Biddeford Youth Lacrosse can be as good as its members make it. BYL needs help in the following areas (a partial list):

- Coaching
- Team administration, Team Moms/Dads
- Field lining
- Safety (first aid kits, background checks)
- Legal
- Publicity & Fundraising
- Program direction (board of directors and officers)

If you have time or talent to offer, please let us know; we can't do this without you!

Volunteers make it work! This is an all-volunteer organization. We are looking for parents who are willing to learn the game of lacrosse to help coach. We are also looking for people with lacrosse experience, but no children in the program. We have materials to assist new coaches including books, videos, on-line training, and clinics. Coaching isn't your only choice! We also need coordinators and help in many areas. If you want a job, we will think of something! ***Please sign up to volunteer.***

Who pays for the team gear? Sponsors and contributors, not the players! Before the start of this season, we will have acquired close to \$25,000 in gear just so our teams can go out and play. This covers team and club items such as uniforms, goals, goalie equipment, balls, etc. We need help raising money to support our club's growth. If you, your business, or your employer, would be willing to make a contribution to our program, please contact Terry Pollock at: President@biddefordyouthlacrosse.org. We have giving opportunities ranging from \$50 on up; many include great promotional benefits for your business!

Everyone learns together! Parents and children. Unlike other sports, most kids and parents (in Maine, at least) know little about lacrosse. Most of the kids are PLAYING in the first lacrosse game that they've ever seen. Lacrosse combines many of the skills that the kids have learned in other sports such as soccer, field hockey, hockey, and especially basketball. Because of the high level of activity, many players find lacrosse more appealing than the other spring alternatives. Parents like it, too, because there's more action and the games run just over an hour.

When do we start? Beginning in early April (depending on field conditions, we may have some indoor time) you can expect to practice about 1-1/2 hours per day, two days per week. We'll hold April vacation practices for anyone who's in town and will begin in earnest after vacation, with as many as four practices per week for older teams. Games may be scheduled any day, but we strive to avoid Sunday, except for our K-2nd grade program. The season runs through the 2nd week of June. Practice times/places may vary as we will work around competing practice and game schedules in other sports.

What Days? Days will vary, but we expect to have two to four practices and one or two games a week, depending on a child's grade, except for K-2nd graders, who will meet for 1-1/2 hours on Sunday AM.

Equipment? Players (except K-2 Program) will need full equipment. Check the Equipment link on the website for more information. Boys can be outfitted for about \$200 and girls for under \$75. Used equipment is available from Play-it-Again Sports in Biddeford. Required boys' equipment includes: stick, helmet, shoulder pads, arm pads, gloves, cup, and mouth guard. Required girls' equipment includes: stick, goggles, and mouth guard.

Can't afford equipment? Speak with Matt at Play It Again Sports. He will work with you to make sure you're playing lacrosse. They are our partners and do a great deal to support us financially!

Transportation? Except for our Middle School games, parents are responsible for transportation to/from practice and games (games may be played in towns from York to Yarmouth). Car pools work well; please don't ask your coach to drive you.

For additional information, see our web site at: www.biddefordyouthlacrosse.org. In particular, see the FAQ and Equipment pages. More questions? Call Sharon at 671-1976.