



## High School Rules and Regulations

*The Southern Nevada Lacrosse Association (SNLA) is organized to promote, govern, and protect youth lacrosse throughout Southern Nevada and surrounding regions. It shall remain committed to the growth and development of lacrosse by providing affordable opportunities for organized play, maintaining a safe nurturing atmosphere, and fostering a civic character of fairness, and sportsmanship in all who participate.*

*The following rules and regulations (the "Rules") contain a combination of principles, guidelines and mandates to allow more effective leadership and administration within the SNLA and its respective leagues. It is not possible to write regulations and procedures for every conceivable situation, nor is it necessary if individuals respect the association's guiding principles. It is sincerely hoped that all persons reading these Rules will seek to understand their intent and use them in a manner that honors the game.*

*Effective October 2016*

## **1.0 Name and Purpose**

**1.1** These are the official rules and regulations of the Southern Nevada Lacrosse Association High School League. The guidelines contained in these rules and regulations are subordinate to and subject to the approval and interpretation of the SNLA Board of Directors.

## **2.0 Goals and Guiding Principles of the SNLA High School League**

**2.1** In concert with the SNLA Code of Conduct, the following principles form a model against which all actions, behavior and decisions shall be judged. These principles describe the expectations for all participants in the SNLA High School League which includes but is not necessarily limited to players, coaches, team management, officials, parents, family members and spectators.

**2.2** We exist to develop the sport of lacrosse in Southern Nevada and surrounding regions.

**2.3** We understand that youth sports in general and lacrosse in particular provide a vehicle by which youth are developed into leaders and role models in our communities.

**2.4** We "Honor the Game" by:

2.4.1 Adhering to the letter and the intent of all rules, regulations, and guidelines governing the SNLA.

2.4.2 Refusing to teach or encourage players to bend, break or beat the rules or to take unfair advantage of an opponent.

2.4.3 Supporting our opponents "on the field" through fair play and "off the field" through cooperation and mutual assistance.

2.4.4 Maintaining respect for officials and leaders/managers in our organizations and communities who have authority over our sporting activities.

2.4.5 Supporting our teammates and associates by fostering organizational goals in a positive, proactive and cooperative manner.

2.4.6 Maintaining high standards of personal integrity, conduct and interpersonal interaction.

**2.5** We follow a model that focuses on developing individual and group excellence, which ultimately leads to winning teams; however, we subordinate this goal to sportsmanship, fair play, and the recognition that sports are an integral part of preparing our youth for their future role in our communities and society as a whole.

**2.6** We follow the PCA (Positive Coaching Alliance) "Positive Coach Mental Model" as an expectation for all coaches.

**2.7** We actively engage parents and spectators in our Guiding Principles and behavioral expectations.

**2.8** We actively engage our officials in our Guiding Principles and the development of our youth.

**2.9** We understand that coaches, officials, and leaders in the lacrosse community are role models and should be held to a high standard of personal integrity and ethical behavior on and off the field and in our communities.

**2.10** We value scholastic achievement, sportsmanship and individual life skill development for our youth above winning lacrosse games. We recognize that good grades are just as important as athletic ability when it comes to getting into and staying in college.

**2.11** The physical and emotional safety of our players and members is important above all other considerations; dangerous or demeaning behavior is unacceptable on or off the field.

**2.12** We win with class and character and we lose with honor and dignity. Through this higher standard we become winners regardless of the score of a particular contest.

### 3.0 League Governance

#### 3.1 SNLA Board of Directors

3.1.1 The SNLA Board of Directors is elected annually by the Delegate Representative from each Program in the SNLA membership, in accordance with the SNLA Bylaws.

3.1.2 Per the SNLA Bylaws, all powers and activities of SNLA are exercised and managed by the Board of Directors except as delegated to the High School League Coaches Council as set forth in these Rules.

3.1.3 There shall be no less than two meetings per year open to the membership at large for informational purposes.

3.1.4 Standard agenda guidelines for the periodic meetings and timelines of the Board are contained in the following table:

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Standard Agenda Items</b>
June	Year End Review - Future Actions Coaches Annual Review League Open Board Position Vote
July	Board Planning Council Realignment/Training for new members
August	Draft Budget Review - Finance Committee Committee Assignments
September	Annual Rules and Regulations Review First Coaches Council Meeting
October	Final Budget Review and Vote - Delegates Points of Emphasis (NFHS and NCAA POE come out in Sept.) -Coaches Council New Team Requests/Selection to Regular Membership Status - Delegates
November	Draft Schedule Review -Coaches Council Registration Opens for Spring Season
December	Officials Annual Review - Sportsmanship Director Preparation for January Coaches Meeting - Commissioners & Council
January	Coaches Meeting - Coaches Council and all coaches Schedule Approval and posting to the Assignor
March	Mid-term Budget Review - Finance Committee Awards Committee Review Post-Season Play Planning Review
April/May	Final Coaches Meeting awards voting
<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Standard Agenda Items</b>
June	Year end Review - Future Actions Coaches Annual Review

### 3.2 High School Coaches Council

3.2.1 The Coaches Council under the supervision of the High School Commissioner and the Board of Directors will govern the operation of the SNLA High School League.

3.2.2 Members of the Coaches Council shall be at least 21 years of age and shall demonstrate behavior as role models in accordance with the Goals and Guiding Principles of the SNLA High School League.

3.2.3 The Council shall consist of representatives of each member program fielding a team in the SNLA High School League. Each member program shall appoint a representative to participate and represent the program in Council meetings. Through its Representative, each program shall have one vote. It is recommended that a program's representative be a coach, assistant coach, or other person with adequate experience pertaining to the sport of lacrosse.

3.2.4 The Council shall also have additional non-voting members consisting of the SNLA High School League Commissioner, and from time to time the SNLA President, Sportsmanship Director, Officials Representative, and at-large members as selected by the Council from time to time.

3.2.5 The HS Council shall be responsible to review the Rules and Regulations, review and vote on variance(s) and oversight on ejections and game conduct; other issues may arrive requiring coaches input and voting.

3.2.6 There shall be no less than three meetings of the Council per year (July-June). The High School Commissioner shall determine the number, time, duration and location of the meetings with input from the Coaches Council. The High School Commissioner shall conduct meetings. Standard agenda guidelines are contained in the following table:

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### 3.2.7 Decision Making

3.2.7.1 All decisions made by the Council shall be in accordance with the Goals and Guiding Principles of the SNLA High School Boys League and are subject to review and ratification by the Board of Directors. A decision of the Council can be overruled by a 2/3's vote of a quorum of the SNLA Board of Directors.

3.2.7.2 General business decisions of the Council shall require a simple majority. Decisions on sanctions or removal shall require a three-quarters majority.

3.2.7.3 For purposes of casting a vote; members may be deemed to vote if the member grants a signed written or emailed proxy to the High School Commissioner. The proxy must direct the High School Commissioner regarding a vote to be cast with respect to a particular proposal that is described with reasonable specificity in the proxy. No other proxies, including general proxies, are allowed.

3.2.7.4 Each voting member shall vote either Yea, Nay or shall abstain with a specified reason for the abstention to the Council. Votes shall be considered final when a proposal is deemed either defeated or carried after the vote. After this point the only recourse of a voting member regarding their vote is to submit written notice to the SNLA Board before it has ratified the Council's decision or action.

## **4.0 League Participation**

### **4.1 Program /Team Requirements**

#### 4.1.1 Program Governance

4.1.1.1 Each member program will operate, wherever possible, under direction from a host school.

4.1.1.2 It is recommended that each program have a board of directors or an operating committee who oversees eligibility, coaches, conduct of players/coaches and parents and general management as well as the appointment of league delegates and council and committee members/representatives.

#### 4.1.2 Participating Teams

4.1.2.1 Each program may field up to 2 teams at the Varsity level as long as they are fielding one team at the Junior Varsity level.

4.1.2.2 Varsity will be comprised of players from 9th -12th grade.

4.1.2.3 Junior Varsity will be comprised of players from 9th – 11th grade.

4.1.2.4 Goalies will be the only exception to the above age rule.

4.1.2.5 To field a team in the SNLA High School League requires a minimum of 16 registered players.

4.1.2.6 Once a Program, zoned for multiple high schools, has a minimum of 16 players from a second high school in their zone, it will break into two independent Programs and make alignments/connection to another school in that area; to continue the growth in their area.

#### 4.1.3 League Mandated Items

4.1.3.1 When registering, all players, coaches and parents shall digitally sign the appropriate codes of conduct and medical releases prior to player participation in any SNLA High School League contest. The league recommends each program have their own medical release forms/emergency contact information, to have on hand at all games and practices.

4.1.3.2 All players shall be registered with the SNLA and US Lacrosse prior to league participation staying current through the end of May.

#### 4.1.4 Dues

4.1.4.1 Every Provisional and Regular Membership team will pay league registration fees to be determined by the SNLA. Specific dates will be determined and communicated each year.

4.1.4.1.1 In the unfortunate event that a team must fold during the season, the league dues will be kept by the league.

#### 4.1.5 Admission of New Teams

4.1.5.1 Admission of new member teams shall be governed by the Article III of the SNLA Bylaws and any additional requirements as set forth in these Regulations from time to time.

4.1.5.2 New teams will complete the application for provisional membership no later than October 1 as well as:

4.1.5.2.1 Agree to abide by SNLA bylaws and SNLA High School League Rules and Regulations provisions.

4.1.5.2.2 Provide a coach meeting qualifications established by the SNLA High School League.

4.1.5.2.3 Sufficient organizational support to convince the SNLA Board of Directors that the new team will be viable for the ensuing season.

#### 4.1.5.3 Player Assignment

4.1.5.3.1 When a new team forms, all players attending schools deemed within that new team's designated boundaries must play for the new team with the exception of seniors who may play their final season for their original team.

#### 4.1.6 Transportation to Games

4.1.6.1 Teams are responsible for their own transportation to games and are cautioned to follow all applicable laws and ordinances to ensure the safety of their staff and players.

4.1.6.2 Teams are encouraged to ensure that all drivers are adults and that any player riding with a person other than his parent/guardian has specific permission to do so.

#### 4.1.7 Finances

4.1.7.1 Teams are encouraged to ensure detailed oversight of all monetary transactions and accounting for any monetary disbursement. Following all applicable local, state and federal laws, including IRS regulations, is critical. Going above and beyond the regulations to ensure totally transparent financial dealings will help protect all members of an organization.

## **4.2 Requirements of Head Coach / Coaching Staff**

4.2.1 The Head Coach of each program in the League will be held responsible for knowing the rules and ensuring that all those coaching and acting under the Head Coach comply with the rules of the SNLA High School League and the SNLA. The Varsity Head Coach, along with Program leadership/Board of Directors is responsible for all teams within their particular program (Varsity and Junior Varsity).

4.2.2 Rules/Policies training shall be provided for all coaches as directed by the SNLA Board.

4.2.3 Head coaches and Team Organization heads/Team Managers shall attend several meetings each year as determined by the Council.

#### 4.2.4 Minimum Qualifications

4.2.4.1 The Head Coach of a program shall be at least 20 years old.

4.2.4.2 All Coaches shall be active members of US Lacrosse.

4.2.4.3 All Head Coaches must be First Aid/Concussion certified and CPR qualified. It is

recommended that there be a certified individual at all practices, scrimmages and games immediately available to respond to an emergency. It is recommended that all members of the coaching staff be First Aid certified and CPR qualified. The SNLA shall pay for one individual from each high school program to attend First Aid and CPR training.

4.2.4.4 All members of the coaching staff must undergo a SNLA/US Lacrosse approved background check (National Center for Safety Initiatives) prior to any contact with participants. The SNLA will pay for this service.

4.2.4.5 All Coaches shall read and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct for Coaches when registering with SNLA.

4.2.4.6 All coaches must be listed as a Head Coach (1 per team) or Assistant Coach (up to 4) on their team's photo roster. Anyone NOT listed as such on the official team photo roster, must leave the field/player sideline for the game. Failure to have coaches properly assigned on the photo roster may result in game forfeiture, prior to starting play.

4.2.4.7 All High School Coaches must be US Lacrosse Certified – Level I. SNLA will offer training in Las Vegas/Henderson Community free to the registered coaches (Max 4 per team, all additional may be charged a fee to the Program). The SNLA may provide a travel stipend for travel outside of Las Vegas/Henderson community for obtaining such training when pre-approved by Board of Directors.

4.2.4.8 Head coach will carry all player medical releases and have a good understanding on where closest hospital is located to the team's current location. When possible coaches will have an emergency kit or AED as part of their off field safety equipment.

4.2.5 Coaches, staff and volunteers become role models for others in the SNLA and community. These individuals often play major roles in establishing standards of acceptable behavior in the community, and establishing and maintaining the reputation of the SNLA and the level of community confidence and support afforded the SNLA. It is of the utmost importance that those involved in SNLA activities comply with the letter and intent of all applicable laws and rules of behavior and conduct themselves at all times in a manner befitting their positions and responsibilities. This includes a prohibition on the use of foul, abusive, or profane language or behavior while engaged in SNLA related activities and strict adherence to the Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco policy. Violation of these ideals could result in disciplinary actions.

### **4.3 Player Requirements**

#### **4.3.1 Age Restrictions**

4.3.1.1 No player shall participate in the SNLA program activities who has reached nineteen (19) years of age prior to the last day of August of the school year in which such participation is intended.

#### **4.3.2 Four Year Rule.**

4.3.2.1 From the time a player first enters the ninth grade, or an equivalent level of education in any other school system, that student shall have four consecutive years of eligibility. A student held back for any reason during his or her high school career will not be provided an additional period of eligibility and is prohibited from participating in SNLA High School League activity upon the expiration of the fourth school year after the student enters the ninth grade.

4.3.2.2 Players must be in at least 9th grade prior to the last day of August to participate in the SNLA High School League.

4.3.2.3 A player must be a member of US Lacrosse prior to participating in any league or team league structured conditioning, practice or game. A team may perform introductory sessions with prospective players that do not include any physical contact. Individuals

participating in introductory sessions shall wear eye and mouth protection if they are participating in throwing/catching activities.

#### 4.3.3 Student Status

4.3.3.1 No player shall compete in any SNLA High School League activity who is a graduate of a regular four-year high school or who is a graduate of a secondary school which has the same requirements for graduation as a regular four-year high school. However, a student who finishes the required number of credits for graduation in fewer semesters than are normally required and is doing college undergraduate work shall not be barred from competition to which he would otherwise have been eligible until the termination of so many semesters as normally would have been available for such a student's eligibility or participation as long as they are still considered a student at the high school they are playing for.

4.3.3.2 Students who do not attend school (unless home schooled or the equivalent) or who fail to, or are deemed ineligible to participate shall forfeit their eligibility during that period and shall not be provided any additional period of eligibility.

4.3.3.3 All players must complete and turn in to their coach all SNLA required forms prior to participation in practices or games.

#### 4.3.4 Academic Eligibility enforcement by individual Programs

4.3.4.1 A player must have obtained a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or its equivalent in the preceding grading period.

4.3.4.2 A student who has failed to meet the minimum requirements set forth shall be ineligible for participation throughout the next grading period.

4.3.4.3 Eligibility under this rule is determined when grades are posted. Teams shall require players to submit their grades to the Head Coach or Team Organization representative to determine eligibility.

4.3.4.4 Teams may institute higher academic eligibility standards at their discretion for their team.

4.3.4.5 Decisions by parents/legal guardians to raise academic eligibility standards for their player shall be accepted with full support.

#### 4.3.5 Program / Team Participation

##### 4.3.5.1 Zoning

4.3.5.1.1 SNLA intends its team membership rules to closely mirror Nevada Interscholastic Athletic Association (NIAA) policies.

4.3.5.1.2 Individuals must play for the school they attend. (Attendance means the school they are registered with and attend the majority of their classes.) Change of attendance requires them to change teams.

4.3.5.1.3 Once initial High School attendance is established, movement to any other team between school years/grades requires Commissioner/Council approval before they play or practice with the new High School team.

4.3.5.1.4 A player attending a public or magnet school without a lacrosse program is eligible to play for the team determined by the Team and School Affiliated List on the SNLA website under Boys, High School Homepage, HS Zoning.

4.3.5.1.5 Home-based instruction students shall participate with the team closest to their resident zoned public school that the student would normally attend.

**When in Doubt, contact registrar@snla.us for clarification or see www.snla.us Boys, High School Homepage, HS Zoning.**

4.3.5.1.6 If a new team forms, players attending the school affiliated with that new team shall play for that team. Seniors may be excluded from this requirement based on their desire to remain with their previous team for their final year.



4.3.5.1.7 The recruiting of players by a school, program, coach/staff or affiliated individuals/boosters is considered a serious violation of SNLA High School League principles and will be dealt with through investigation and appropriate individual and/or team/program sanctions. Attendance at program/team or coach sponsored camps or participation together on a "super-league," "all-star," "select" or other traveling or combined team where there is an attempt to establish eligibility at a school which is outside the residential zoned area of any of those player's will be prima facie evidence of recruiting.

#### 4.3.6 Transferring Students

4.3.6.1 The Transfer Rule is preventative in nature and is intended to eliminate the incentive to transfer schools when the motivation is for lacrosse purposes after a student has initially chosen the school of his choice. The Transfer Rule protects students who have previously participated in competition at a school from being replaced by students who transfer for lacrosse purposes and further protects students from "team-shopping" by students and recruiting by other teams.

4.3.6.2 Any student transferring from one high school to another shall lose eligibility for participation in lacrosse for twelve months from the day of attendance at the new school.

4.3.6.3 It is the right of the HS Coaches Council to review specific situations of Transferring and overturn with a 2/3 vote of all HS Coaches Council Members.

#### 4.3.7 Zone Variances

4.3.7.1 The SNLA Board can make specific exceptions to the player eligibility regulations contained in this document and amended as necessary; provided, such exceptions are based upon hardship conditions.

4.3.7.2 Any zone variance request shall be based upon extenuating circumstances, beyond the student's, or where applicable, the parents' or legal guardian's control, that are deemed to have significantly influenced or contributed to the cause of the student's non-compliance with the eligibility regulation(s) involved. The following criteria shall be used to determine if a hardship exists:

A. A hardship exists only when some unique circumstances concerning the student's physical or emotional status exist and only when such circumstances are not the result of acts or actions by the student or family unit.

B. The circumstances must be totally different from those that exist for the majority or even a small minority of students.

C. There must be no reason to believe that the decision and/or the execution of the decision concerning the student's academic status were for athletic purposes.

D. The burden of providing evidence that a hardship exists shall be borne by the student.

E. There shall be a direct, causal relationship between the alleged hardship and the student's inability to meet the specific eligibility rule(s).

4.3.7.3 The Zone Variance request form found on the website must be email to the High School Commissioner before November 15 before the Spring Season. This request must be completed and submitted by the player or parent along with the supporting documentation.

4.3.7.4 The HS Commissioner will review all requests and only those meeting the Zone Variance Hardship Conditions will be brought to the Coaches Council for review and a vote. The Council will approve, deny or request more information from the player before making the decision.

4.3.7.5 The decision of the Board shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the player in a reasonable period of time. Any Board Member or Coaches Council member who is involved with the circumstances surrounding the variance will not participate in any vote concerning

that issue.

4.3.7.6 If the petition for variance is denied by the Council, the player shall not be allowed to play for that program at any level.

4.3.7.7 Until a final written approval for variance is received by the player; player will not participate in any event, fundraising, training, practice, scrimmage or game for a team they are not zoned to play.

4.3.7.8 Violation of this policy could result in action being taken against player, coaches and team.

## **5.0 League Rules and Regulations**

### **5.1 Divisional Philosophy / League Alignment**

5.1.1 Divisional structure is critical to the development and advancement of lacrosse in Nevada and Southern Utah.

5.1.2 League alignment will be determined by the Council with input from all coaches and programs.

5.1.3 The Council will re-evaluate the alignment of the League and team assignments within each Division every year. See Section 4.1.2.5

5.1.4 Criteria considered in the re-alignment of teams between divisions: Competitiveness, Management Structure, Coaching Continuity, Size of Program, Feeder Program and strength of JV teams.

### **5.2 Practice Regulations**

#### **5.2.1 Lacrosse Pre-Season**

5.2.1.1 SNLA will pay for fields for HS teams to hold pre-season practices starting October 1<sup>st</sup>, two (2 hour) practices a week. This does not include Fall Ball, when programs are charging players to participate. See Field request form and procedures on the website.

#### **5.2.2 Lacrosse Season**

5.2.2.1 The lacrosse season shall extend from January 1st to the end of the final championship game. Coaches will not have any mandatory events the week of semester finals.

5.2.2.2 SNLA will pay for fields for HS teams to practice starting January 1st through the last game scheduled in May. See Field request form and procedures on the website.

5.2.2.3 The competition season games shall commence the third Friday in February.

5.2.2.4 Teams may scrimmage. Any players participating in a scrimmage must satisfy the practice regulations. Referees for scrimmages are coordinated, scheduled, and paid for by the teams.

5.2.2.5 Each player may only be listed and play for one high school team for the entire regular season. NO FLOATING PLAYERS.

5.2.2.6 If a player is moved up, for any reason, from JV to Varsity, during the regular season, they cannot be moved back down to the JV level.

5.2.2.7 No member of a high school team may participate with an outside lacrosse team during the regular spring lacrosse season.

5.2.2.8 Out-of-Season participation shall be voluntary and will not be prerequisite to membership or participation on any team.

#### **5.2.3 Boys Practice Regulations**

5.2.3.1 Players must complete 8 practices before participating in an organized competition, including exhibition games, scrimmages or tournaments against an opponent outside of

one's own program. For the purposes of this rule, there can be only one practice per day.

5.2.3.2 For the purpose of meeting the pre-contest practice requirements, practice is defined as a regularly scheduled team physical activity designed for the preparation of athletes for the ensuing lacrosse season and must be conducted under the supervision of the head coach or an assistant coach.

5.2.3.3 Practice days are considered to be Monday through Saturday. Neither Sunday practices nor practices on game days may count towards meeting minimum practice requirements.

### **5.3 Game Regulations**

5.3.1 All SNLA High School League-sponsored play shall be governed by the current NFHS and/or specific NCAA rules/situations & rulings, MDOC Training Manual and interpretations and the NCAA Statistician's Manual and situations & rulings with the following exceptions:

A. Field Specifications: There shall be flexibility on field size; however, all field lines and markers (cones) must be present; furthermore, goals must be positioned a minimum of 15 yards from each end line and dimensions of the restraining boxes must be legal (35 yds X 40 yds).

5.3.2 Based on amateur status rules, high school players will forfeit their season eligibility if they play with any higher level (e.g. men's club) team during SNLA Spring Season.

### **5.4 Team Ties/Seeding**

5.4.1 If two teams have the same number of wins and losses in SNLA League games at the end of the regular season, the seeding for post season play will be determined by:

5.4.1.1 Head to Head Tied Team A beat tied Team B before

5.4.1.2 Goals scored against

### **5.5 Regular Spring Season Contest Limit**

5.5.1.1 (12) Games plus post season play during the lacrosse season.

5.5.1.2 Games are played primarily on Tuesday and Friday nights, but may need to be scheduled on Thursday's or Monday's.

5.5.1.3 A game is defined in Game Regulations with at least one paid official present.

5.5.1.4 All Spring Season games, jamborees and tournaments played during the season shall be listed on the team schedule on the SNLA website.

5.5.1.5 Statistics for all SNLA full length regulation games shall count towards post season awards and shall be recorded on the Team Statistics pages on the SNLA Website.

#### **5.5.2 Scheduling**

5.5.2.1 Teams must be declared to the Council by January 18th of each year.

5.5.2.2 Can't play dates due to other school/team commitments must be declared by January 18th of each year.

5.5.2.3 All spring season games are scheduled by the HS Commissioner and approved by the Council no later than 3 weeks before the first scheduled game of the season opener.

5.5.2.4 Games scheduled individually by coaches outside of SNLA spring season are considered Non-Conference games. Such games do not count toward season standings.

Budget permitting, the league will coordinate, schedule, and pay Referees for non-conference games held in Las Vegas.

5.5.2.5 The SNLA Refusal to Play Policy applies to the SNLA High School League. The Council shall adjudicate issues related to this policy and shall ensure that consideration is given to the willingness of teams to cooperate in reacting to situations where a team could not reasonably be expected to play a particular game due to circumstances beyond their immediate control and/or ability to predict.

5.5.2.6 Once all Spring Season games have been scheduled (due date determined by the Council), the league shall forward those schedules to the NILOA Assignor (no later than 2 weeks before the first scheduled game of each season) for inclusion in the Officials Scheduling process.

5.5.2.7 Head Coaches will provide a roster for each team (to include name, grade and jersey number) to the SNLA Registrar no later than the Monday 2 weeks prior to the first spring season scheduled game.

5.5.2.8 Varsity players are not eligible to play in JV or lower division games.

5.5.2.9 Failure to follow declaration of teams, roster submission and other scheduling deadlines will result in deduction from program/coaches incentive.

### 5.5.3 Changes

5.5.3.1 If a game change is required; Coach needing to reschedule will contact HS Commissioner and opposing coach at least 7 days before the scheduled game with proposed details of requested reschedule. Requesting coach must provide proposed date, time and location for opposing coach approval.

5.5.3.2 Approval must be given to HS Commissioner at least 3 days before the original scheduled game for update on website and notice to officials.

5.5.3.3 If approval not received by opposing coach and no agreement is made for rescheduled date, requesting team would be charged with the forfeit (and both teams would lose playing time). It is highly suggested coaches find a solution before the deadline. For more details see Refusal to Play Policy Section 6.4

## 5.6 Statistics

5.6.1 At every game there shall be a certified person from each team at the scorer's table, supervising table activities. Violation of this requirement shall result in the offending team forfeiting that game. Certification consists of successfully completing league-sponsored annual training/testing. All other individuals working at the table shall have read the standard league-provided training package and Handbook for their assigned duties, but do not have to be certified. Certification training will cover all aspects of table duties with video simulations of game situations and is highly recommended for all table personnel. The certified person shall sign each score sheet.

5.6.2 Signed score sheets from each game shall be maintained until 30 days after the end of the season. In accordance with NFHS/US Lacrosse rules, the home team scorer maintains the official record of the game, but both teams shall keep scoring, assist, penalty and goalie save statistics for both teams.

5.6.3 Table duties and guidelines are contained in the Utah High School Lacrosse League Scoring Handbook and shall be followed for all SNLA High School League sponsored games.

5.6.4 Statistics will be kept by each team for each full-length regulation game and reported to the League via entering details on [www.snla.us](http://www.snla.us) by 48 hours after the end of each contest.

## 5.7 Reciprocal Policy

5.7.1 Disciplinary actions taken by another entity within SNLA, US Lacrosse or local schools against players, coaches, parents or fans shall be upheld during SNLA Spring Season League Play.

## **5.8 Peace Keepers**

5.8.1 Each team will have an assigned "Peace Keeper" at each game actively administering and promoting the US Lacrosse Sportsmanship Card Program. Officials will be introduced to each team's culture keeper(s) prior to each game.

## **5.9 Lightening Policy**

5.9.1 When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your locations with lightning. Suspend play and instruct the teams to seek shelter off the field. Warn the spectators as well. Wait a minimum of thirty minutes from the time of the last thunder/lightening. After consulting with the officials and coaches, you can resume the contest.

5.9.2 This policy applies to practices as well as games.

## **5.10 Hazing**

5.10.1 Hazing of any type will not be tolerated. Hazing by any member or members of a team will be reviewed by the coaches council and may result in forfeiture of all games that season.

5.10.2 Any incident of hazing that is known by the coach, assistant coach, parent rep, etc. and is not reported to the SNLA may result in a fine for the team, or that person being excluded from any SNLA activity for a period of one year in addition to other sanctions of the program.

## **5.11 Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy**

5.11.1 Every practical effort shall be made at all levels of the SNLA High School League to eradicate the promotion, use or abuse of alcohol, drugs and tobacco to include performance-enhancing substances.

5.11.2 Limitation for participation of players regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco products and other drugs during a sports season:

5.11.2.1 First offense: Suspension from two consecutive games. Practice may be continued following a personal assessment of the student by a licensed substance abuse intervention or treatment program and/or participation in an intervention program.

5.11.2.2 Second offense: A six-week suspension from participation and mandatory completion of an intervention program prior to reinstatement.

5.11.2.3 Third offense: An eighteen-week suspension from participation and mandatory completion of an intervention program prior to reinstatement. A fourth offense shall end future participation.

5.11.3 Teams may institute more stringent requirements.

5.11.4 Program staff and coaches shall fully support the elements of this policy in their behavior when interacting with players in all situations and shall report any known violations to the SNLA immediately.

## **5.12 Incident Reporting**

5.12.1 All incidents associated with the League that may affect the effective management of the League, cause harm to the reputation of the League or present the possibility of legal liability to the League shall be reported.

5.12.1.1 Injuries, to include all suspected concussions and any injury requiring professional

interaction/evaluation and any injury that may result in professional interaction/evaluation in the future shall be reported to the SNLA President via email with the Incident Form found on [www.snla.us](http://www.snla.us) Documents & Forms, Rules.

5.12.1.2 Fights, conflicts with officials, spectator incidents, conflicts with field owners or community infrastructure, forfeits, significant arguments, or any incident reflecting poorly on our goals and principles shall be reported to the SNLA President via email with the Incident Form found on [www.snla.us](http://www.snla.us) Documents & Forms; Safety, Incident Forms, Med forms, etc..

## **6.0 Rule Violations and Penalties**

**6.1** The strength of the SNLA High School League lies in the willingness and ability of the membership to support the goals, guidelines, rules and regulations adopted and, if necessary, to support the penalties placed upon members - if it is determined that those same guidelines, rules and regulations have been violated. Violation of SNLA High School League By-Laws, policies, rules and regulations can result in, but is not limited to, sanctions placed upon individual players, coaches, program leadership, spectators, officials and/or programs as a whole. Sanctions can include but are not limited to game suspension, season suspension, forfeiture of games, forfeiture of post-season play (playoffs), fines, probation and expulsion from the League. Each situation is unique and will be handled at the discretion of the Council. Multiple, repeated infractions, those deemed to intentionally defy league policy, those that represent lapses in integrity/ethics, those that place individuals at physical or emotional risk, and those that potentially do significant harm to the Honor of the Game will result in stiffer sanctions.

## **6.2 Use of an Ineligible Player**

6.2.1 The use of an ineligible player shall result in forfeiture of all games in which that player took part.

6.2.2 An ineligible player "takes part" in a game when a player steps onto the playing field in uniform during competition of a contest in which he/she is ineligible. Coaches are strongly encouraged to keep ineligible players distinctly away from the sideline area of a contest for which they are ineligible. An ineligible player may not be on the sidelines in uniform.

6.2.3 Intentional or knowing violations of this policy shall be treated as an integrity violation, which affronts the Honor of the Game and shall result in severe penalties (see section 6.3) for the individuals and/or the coaches/team/program.

## **6.3 Misconduct by Players and Spectators**

6.3.1 Ejection from a game for Unsportsmanlike Conduct carries an automatic one-game suspension as a minimum additional penalty.

6.3.2 Ejection for Flagrant Misconduct or for a second ejection shall carry an automatic two-game suspension with additional review by the Council for further action as deemed necessary to maintain the Honor of the game.

6.3.3 A third ejection, or second ejection for Flagrant Misconduct in the same season shall result in suspension for the remainder of the season and review by the Council for additional action deemed necessary.

6.3.4 Violations of policy or actions that dishonor the game or the SNLA High School League by Coaches or other Team Leadership shall be reviewed by the Council for appropriate sanctions to the individual and/or the Team and is, in general, considered more serious than a violation by a

player. Violations could incur a \$75 to full coach stipend penalty.

6.3.5 Teams or individuals in gross or continual violation of policies or rules, including multiple ejections, may be suspended from the SNLA High School League with the requirement to formally request reinstatement from the Coaches Council at the end of the suspension.

6.3.6 Ejections shall incur a \$50 penalty to the team coach's incentive for each occurrence by a coach and \$25 by a player. Unsportsmanlike penalties shall incur a \$10 penalty to the team coach's incentive for each occurrence by a coach and \$5 by a player.

6.3.7 Coaches are responsible for controlling their parents, players, and fans. Coaches will work with game officials to control the players and crowd as necessary to ensure a safe event and to honor the game.

A. Spectators are not allowed behind the bench areas or behind the penalty box and table area. If permanent bleachers are present, all spectators and parents are to be located in those bleachers.

B. Where permanent bleachers are not present, teams shall be located on the opposite sidelines from the spectators and parents.

## **6.4 Refusal to Play Policy**

6.4.1 Refusing to play a scheduled opponent is not considered an option for any team participating in any SNLA league. Refusal to play is defined as the refusal of a team to participate in a game against a scheduled opponent. Games that are requested to be rescheduled for weather, safety or team / coach availability are NOT considered a refusal to play. The SNLA considers a situation as a refusal to play when a game will not occur because a team will not take the field against a scheduled opponent. The SNLA may consider changing the date or location of a game based on the request of a coach or team representative if player safety is considered a valid concern. The SNLA strongly encourages communication with opposing coach or respective league council to solve any concerns or problems that would result from refusing to play a scheduled opponent. See Changes Section 5.5.3

6.4.2 If a team refuses to play a scheduled opponent that game will immediately result in a forfeit for the team that refused to play AND their next scheduled league game will be forfeited also (loss of two league games). The SNLA will make every attempt to find another game for the opponent, although that game may well be considered a scrimmage and the forfeit by their scheduled opponent will be considered a win in their final standings. The make up game may or may not take place on the original date or location of scheduled game, but will depend on alternative opponent availability. The focus of the make up game will be to ensure the players receive an adequate amount of games and playing time.

6.4.3 The team that refused to play a scheduled opponent will consider that game a forfeit and may assume a loss in their final standings. The SNLA will make no attempts to provide an alternative game opportunity for the team that refused a scheduled game.

6.4.4 Any team that refuses to play an opponent on two separate occasions will forfeit any playoff opportunity. On the second refusal to play regardless of regular season or post season play will result in immediate loss of playoff opportunity. The SNLA will consider the refusal to play one opponent on two separate occasions based on schedule as two separate accessions.

6.4.5 Any team that refuses to play an opponent in the post season may be replaced by a team in next standing in order to ensure that a game occurs.

## **6.5 Video Policy**

6.5.1 When a question arises from an action during a SNLA High School League sanctioned game

where video of the action is available, the head coaches of both teams, where possible, shall make the video available to the Commissioner/Council for review. If the action in question involves an official's call, the video will be used for educational purposes only. No official's call will be overturned. If the situation involves actions by a player, coach, parent or fan, the Commissioner shall review the video and recommend appropriate disciplinary action to the Council.

6.5.2 Filming of other team's practices is prohibited.

## **6.6 Contesting Sanctions**

6.6.1 Any decision of the Commissioner can be appealed to the Council. Any decision of the Council may be appealed in writing to the Board of Directors.

## **6.7 Entry Fee/Gate Fee**

6.7.1 With SNLA Board approval ONLY, teams may charge an entrance fee for regular season games that are played in a stadium. If approved, the opposing team needs to be notified of the fee at least 1 week in advance of the scheduled game.

## **6.8 Sanctions/Ejections Carry-Over**

6.8.1 Sanctions/Ejections imposed in one season, which have not been fully served by the end of the season, shall be carried over into the next season.

## **6.9 Social Media**

6.9.1 All Southern Nevada Lacrosse Association "SNLA" players that communicate through social media, and post content that references or refers to the culture of lacrosse in Nevada or write anything related to SNLA lacrosse players, coaches, and referees on a blog or some other online space, that contains abusive, vulgar, offensive, racist, threatening or harassing comments, personal attacks of any kind, or offensive terms that target specific individuals or groups shall be subject to suspension or removal from the SNLA.

6.9.2 The SNLA logo is not for public use unless given permission by the SNLA President in writing. Players or coaches may not use this logo without permission. All violations of the SNLA Logo shall be subject to the takedown procedure for complaints of copyright violation under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

## **6.10 Grievance**

6.10.1 Grievances are issues that cannot be resolved between individuals or programs. All attempts should be made by individuals and programs to resolve issues as part of the lacrosse community through open and honest dialogue. Filing a Grievance should be a last resort to resolve a dispute. Grievances will be handled in accordance with SNLA bylaws. Form found on [www.snla.us](http://www.snla.us) on the Home page under Documents & Forms

## **7.0 Boys Post-Season Awards**

### **7.1 League Awards**

7.1.1 League awards will be selected for the following:



7.1.1.1 Player Sportsmanship Award - At the end of the Spring Season head coaches will be asked to vote for 1 player on their team who exemplified Sportsmanship to receive an Award and to be recognized at the Championship Games.

7.1.1.2 Coaches Sportsmanship Award - At the end of the Spring Season coaches will be asked to vote for 1 coach in their division who exemplified Sportsmanship to receive an Award and to be recognized at the Championship Games.

7.1.1.3 Team Sportsmanship Award - At the end of the Spring Season coaches will be asked to vote for 1 team in their division who exemplified Sportsmanship to receive an Award and to be recognized at the Championship Games.

7.1.2 Nominations for Coach Sportsmanship and Team Sportsmanship must be submitted to the commissioner two weeks prior to the Championship Game. Each team will have one vote for each award. The winners of these awards will be recognized at the Championship Game.

## **7.2 All Star Team**

7.2.1 First and Second teams will be comprised of the following: Four (4) attack, four (4) midfield, four (4) defense, one (1) face-off specialist, one (1) LSM and one (1) goalie – total 15. Slight modifications to the distribution of these numbers can be made by assent of the coaches without exceeding the total of 15. For the purposes of All-Star voting, only the originally defined numbers of players at each position on the first team shall be considered.

7.2.2 Honorable Mention selections will be left to the discretion of the coaches in a given year.

7.2.3 Nominations shall be made by head coaches in accordance with the annual guidance of the Coaches Council. Each conference shall elect a total of no more than 30 players.

7.2.4 Voting shall be complete prior to the final coaches meeting of the year.

7.2.5 1st Team All-Star players are eligible for All-State & All-America voting in the final coaches meeting.

## **7.3 All State Teams**

7.3.1 US Lacrosse-Nevada All-State (South)

Made up of the following players: Goalie- 2; Defense – 6; Midfield- 7; Attack - 6 = Total: 21

The goal is to assemble the best 21 players from each region (North & South) to compete in a game at some point in future years.

7.3.1.1 Players must be members of their Varsity lacrosse team.

7.3.1.2 Players must have played in majority of their teams' games for the current season.

7.3.1.3 Players must be of outstanding character, leadership skills and display a great attitude.

7.3.1.4 Strong consideration is given for players who have received All-Star or All-League in current or previous seasons.

7.3.1.5 Any grade is eligible from Freshman to Senior.

7.3.1.6 Statistics from the league's website

7.3.1.7 There is no minimum or maximum number of players from a team – the best players are to be chosen regardless of what team they compete for during the season.

7.3.1.8 Sportsmanship and safe play are attributes that must be considered.

7.3.1.9 Procedure for Nomination: All Varsity Head Coaches will submit the nominations for All-State for their team. Specific instructions will be provided in May.

7.3.1.10 Procedure for Awarding: The Chapter Representative will receive from all of the Head Coaches the nominations by position. There will be an on-line survey where each Head Coach will rank the players per position. After all submissions have been finalized the

Chapter Representative will tabulate the results and report to the Nevada Chapter. The team will be announced by June 1st. Importantly, this process will be transparent to all to ensure the integrity of the process and the awards. All submissions and final voting results will be kept with the Chapter President.

## **7.4 US Lacrosse**

7.4.1 In accordance with the US Lacrosse guidelines the High School Commissioner is responsible for supporting the selection and presentation of the following awards with the Council:

### **7.4.2 All Americans**

7.4.2.1 The number of players nominated for All-American is based on the number of Varsity High School teams in the Spring Season. Voting is accomplished at the final coaches meeting by the head coaches coordinated by the Council with support from the Commissioner. Only the Varsity coaches may vote, one vote per program member.

7.4.2.2 Voting is by written ballot.

7.4.2.3 Nominees must be members of their Varsity lacrosse team or approved scholastic club program.

7.4.2.4 Nominees must have played in majority of their teams' games for the current season.

7.4.2.5 Nominees must be a significant contributor to their team.

7.4.2.5 Nominees must be of outstanding character, be in good standing in their school and community, and demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship on and off the field.

7.4.2.6 While not required, strong consideration is given for nominees who have received All-State in current or previous seasons.

7.4.2.7 Sportsmanship and safe play are attributes that must be considered. In this regard, an account of the number of unsportsmanlike fouls and ejections attained by a nominee in the current season should be considered during nomination and voting. If a nominee has a substantial amount of cards or unsportsmanlike fouls, it is recommended that the Area Chair request testimony from the nominating coach as to how the player's fouls are not lessening of their sportsmanship.

7.4.2.8 Procedure for nominations – the Head Coach must fully complete and submit the US lacrosse All-American Application/Nomination Form through the online system at <http://awards.uslacrosse.org/american/> by May 1. Late submissions will not be accepted.

7.4.2.9 Procedure of Awarding – The US Lacrosse Area Chair will receive from the US Lacrosse office in Baltimore the submissions for all of the All-American candidates from each region. There will be an on-line survey where each Head Coach will rank the candidates. After all submissions have been finalized the US Lacrosse Area Chair will tabulate the results and report to the Baltimore office the final results. The award winners will be announced by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Importantly, this process will be transparent to all parties involved, to ensure the integrity of the process and the awards. All submissions and final voting results will be kept with the US Lacrosse Nevada Chapter President.

### **7.4.3 Academic All American Players**

7.4.3.1 The number of player chosen as All-American is based on the number of Varsity High School teams in the Spring Season. Voting is accomplished at the final coaches meeting by the head coaches coordinated by the Council with support from the Commissioner. Only the Varsity coaches may vote, one vote per program member.

7.4.3.2 Voting is by written ballot.

7.4.3.3 This player must be a high school junior or senior.

7.4.3.4 Nominees must have played in majority of their teams' games for the current

season.

7.4.3.5 Nominees must be a starter or significant contributor to their team.

7.4.3.6 Nominees should have left their mark beyond the lacrosse field and classroom by making significant contributions of service to the school and/or community.

7.4.3.7 Nominee has minimum unweighted cumulative (freshman year through application deadline) grade point average 3.7 GPA out of a 4.0 academic scale. If in doubt, please ask the school guidance counselor for assistance determining acceptable GPA's for a 5.0 scale or weighted GPA.

7.4.3.8 Applications must include a signature from their schools Guidance Counselor and include information on any significant community service that was completed.

7.4.3.9 A nominee who violates their school or a programs written contact or code of conduct may be excluded from consideration. Any and all violations must be noted on the player's final nomination form.

7.4.3.10 Procedure for nominations – the Head Coach must fully complete and submit the US lacrosse Academic All-American Application/Nomination Form through the online system at <http://awards.uslacrosse.org/academic/> by May 1. Late submissions will not be accepted.

7.4.3.11 Procedure of Awarding – The US Lacrosse Area Chair will receive from the US Lacrosse office in Baltimore the submissions for all of the All-American candidates from each region. There will be an on-line survey where each Head Coach will rank the candidates. After all submissions have been finalized the US Lacrosse Area Chair will tabulate the results and report to the Baltimore office the final results. The award winners will be announced by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Importantly, this process will be transparent to all parties involved, to ensure the integrity of the process and the awards. All submissions and final voting results will be kept with the US Lacrosse Nevada Chapter President.

#### 7.4.4 Coach of the Year

7.4.4.1 This award honors those Head Coaches in each area from both the men's and women's game who exemplify the ideals of the game of lacrosse. The award is intended to recognize the individuals overall coaching performance and contribution, not just coaching wins - although they may be considered. The Selection process is to be administered by the Area Chair in conjunction with the player awards.

7.4.4.2 This award is only available to Head Coaches.

7.4.4.3 Nominees must be members in good standing within their area and a member of US Lacrosse.

7.4.4.4 Nominees must demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship on and off the field at all times.

7.4.4.5 Nominees must demonstrate excellent rapport with their players, officials, and other coaches at all times.

7.4.4.6 Nominees did the most with what they had.

7.4.4.7 Procedure for Nomination: Any active Head Coach, Asst. Coach or Team Manager must fully complete and submit the Coach of the Year Nomination Form to [nevadachapterusl@gmail.com](mailto:nevadachapterusl@gmail.com) by May 1, 2016. Late submissions will not be accepted. The Form can be found at: <http://www.uslacrosse.org/participants/players/high-school/boys-high-school-awards.aspx>

7.4.4.8 Procedure for Awarding: The Area Chair will receive forms from all the submissions for the Coach of the Year candidates. There will be an on-line survey where each Head Coach will rank the candidates. After all submissions have been finalized the Area Chair will tabulate the results and report to the Baltimore office the final results. The award winner will be announced by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Importantly, this process will be transparent to all ensure

the integrity of the process and the awards. All submissions and final voting results will be kept with the Chapter President. .

#### 7.4.5 US Lacrosse Bob Scott Award

7.4.5.1 This award recognizes a Senior player in each area who truly honors the game of lacrosse, is invested in the development of the game in his community, is an exceptional player who continually strives to improve his game, and is an exemplary member of his team. He exemplifies the spirit of the game, on and off the field. Academically, he is an outstanding student and a valued role model in his school.

7.4.5.2 Nominee must be a High School Senior.

7.4.5.3 Resume and/or Letter of Recommendation referencing athlete's contribution to lacrosse within his community.

7.4.5.4 Resume and/or Letter of Recommendation referencing athlete's commitment to personal development within the game.

7.4.5.5 Nominee is a starter or significant contributor (plays over half a game on average).

7.4.5.6 Nominee has a cumulative (freshman year through application deadline) grade point average of 3.0 GPA out of a 4.0 academic scale. Please ask the school guidance counselor for assistance determining acceptable GPAs for a 5.0 scale or weighted GPA. (A minimum number of Honors, College Prep, or AP classes are not required).

7.4.5.7 Nominee can be, but is not required to be an All-American or All-Academic candidate.

7.4.5.8 Procedure for Nomination: The Head Coach must submit nominees resume and or letter of recommendation from the nominee's Principal, Coach or Current teacher to the Chapter email [nevadachapterusl@gmail.com](mailto:nevadachapterusl@gmail.com) by May 1. Late submissions will not be accepted. The form can be found at: <http://www.uslacrosse.org/participants/players/high-school/boys-high-school-awards.aspx>

7.4.5.9 Procedure for Awarding: The Area Chair will receive from all Head Coaches the submissions for the Bob Scott candidates. There will be an on-line survey where each Head Coach will rank the candidates. After all submissions have been finalized the Area Chair will tabulate the results and report to the Baltimore office the final results. The award winner will be announced by June 1st. Importantly, this process will be transparent to all ensure the integrity of the process and the awards. All submissions and final voting results will be kept with the Chapter President..

#### 7.4.6 VOTING PROCEDURE FOR NATIONAL AWARDS:

7.4.6.1. The Area Chair shall inform all Head Coaches regarding the date, time, and location of the meeting and shall give at least two weeks' notice prior to that meeting.

7.4.6.2. The Area Chair will send a list of the awards to be discussed, as well as a list of individuals who have been nominated and deemed eligible for those awards prior to the meeting. After that meeting is conducted an electronic ballot shall be open for at least one week or until all Head Coaches have returned their votes.

7.4.6.3. Head Coaches will rank the nominees on the final ballot from 1 (highest) to X (lowest) based on the number of candidates on the ballot.

7.4.6.4. The Area Chair will tally the points per nominee and the award slots will be filled based on the points received.

7.4.6.5. TIE votes will be resolved as follows: a vote by the Area Chair or the US Lacrosse-Nevada Board should the Area Chair have a conflict that would preclude them from voting.

7.4.7 The reporting of US Lacrosse Area award winners must be made after the season and by June 15th.