

Background:

The following rule was passed by vote at the October 2013 board meeting:

Players may only register/play within one CTYLA Affiliate Program during the regular season. They are not eligible to play for more than one program. Players are encouraged to play for their school team, if available.

The rule was proposed and passed to solidify a position on good sportsmanship and maintain integrity regarding league competition and championships. However, as illustrated by events this past season, it fails to be communicated and there are no real penalties assigned.

To clarify, the rule applies to CTYLA Affiliate Programs during the official spring season and subsequent playoffs and tournaments. In addition, players are eligible to play on multiple teams within an Affiliate Program with approval from the league.

Purpose:

While the league promotes opportunities for players to participate in lacrosse activities throughout the year, the importance of fair play and good sportsmanship are vital to maintaining integrity to any competitive structure. What follows is a proposal to improve communication and awareness as well as accountability regarding the rule.

Proposal:

Player Awareness and Accountability: Each Affiliate Program will be required to provide a league eligibility statement to parents so that parents are both aware of the rule and accountable by initial/ signature.

Players found to be in violation of the rule will be removed from both teams immediately, and not be eligible to participate in CTYLA activities for the remainder of the season, including playoffs and tournaments. Players or families who repeatedly violate the rule may be barred from league activities and events. If the teams involved are Division 1/Red, any points that player scored (goals and/or assists) will be erased from the record and game outcomes will be adjusted accordingly. Likewise, if the player is a goalkeeper, any saves he made will be erased and game outcomes adjusted accordingly. If teams do not have game statistics available, then any games the player participated in will be retroactively forfeit and the division standings adjusted accordingly.

Program Awareness and Accountability: The League will be required to post the eligibility rule and penalties with other league and game rules on the CTYLA website and any other publications or communications regarding rules. Affiliate Programs are encouraged to communicate this and other rules to coaches and other personnel, since their involvement with the Affiliate Program binds them to the rules.

Each Affiliate Program will be required to submit a team roster for Division 1/Red teams prior to the start of the season. It is recommended to be done at the time of the manual schedule meeting. If a player joins or leaves the team after that date, the program will update the roster filed with the league.

Affiliate Programs found to be knowingly in violation of the rule or having encouraged players to violate the rule will lose their membership to the CTYLA for the remainder of the season and individual coaches or other personnel barred from participation in league events. The Program will be eligible to re-apply the following fall for membership. Programs or individuals who repeatedly violate the rule may be barred from league activities and events indefinitely.