
WNY Summer Lacrosse League

Summer 2021 Rules

6/22/21

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WNY Summer Lacrosse League Rules 2021

General

Divisions: By Grade in School - :

Grade 1/ 2	Grade 3/4	
Grade 5/6	Grade 7/8	Grade 9/10

Division Advancement: A Player is allowed to move up one division if both affected Coaches and the Parents agree. Eligible players must exhibit advanced skills, maturity and physical development needed for the elevated group to be considered for advancement.

Teams: WNYSSL teams are essentially B level teams comprised of house team level players. Travel & A level teams are comprised of players that have the skill level to play, or are playing travel or tournament level lacrosse, and should be playing at that level. Game schedules will match like team levels.

A division with 3 or 4 teams in a game time period (6:15 pm or 7:30pm), must have a second, or two full fields for play available.

Fields: A marked modified youth Lax Field – approximating 40 x 70 yds. will be used for **Grade 1/2 and Grade 3/4** teams. All other divisions will use regulation fields approximating 110 yards long and between 53 and 60 yards wide.

Full fields can be used as youth fields if they are painted (different color) with the youth boundaries within the full field or are reduced to youth size using cones.

Equipment: Required: Gloves, NOCSEA regulation lacrosse helmet and lacrosse balls, arm pads, shoulder pads, mouth guard. Goalies are required to have a throat guard, helmet, gloves, mouth guard, and chest protector. A cup, while not required, is **recommended** for **all** players.

Running Up the Score: Coaches should not allow game scores to become excessively lopsided (no runaway games). Stronger teams should pass more before attempting to score. Remember this is a recreational summer league.

Spectators: Spectators are required to watch from an area on a side of the field safe from any balls, which may leave the field of play. Teams may wish to dedicate viewing areas for parents based on field layout.

Schedule Changes – Any change (LOCATION/TIME/CANCELATION) needed to a game listed on a division's final schedule are to be handled by between the teams, making sure the scheduled team and official's scheduler are notified.

Game Times:

Grade 1/2 and Grade 3/4 Division Games - games start at **6:15 PM**, end by 7:00 PM.

Grade 5/6 and Grade 7/8 Division Games - games start at **7:30 PM**, end by 8:30 PM

Games start the last Tuesday in June and end the last Tuesday in July.

Grade 9/10 Division Games – game day and times as noted on their schedule.

WNY Summer Lacrosse League Rules 2021

Weather Policy - Go to the scheduled game site and let the referees make the decision on whether the scheduled game will be played, or not, based on weather and field conditions. If a lightning strike during game, we wait 25 minutes until the storm passes. Another strike usually cancels a game after that initial wait period. Games that are canceled can be rescheduled on Tues/Thurs in the last week of July.

Number of Officials – each divisional game will have 2 officials. This assures officials will be available at each scheduled game site, especially for the second game time @7:30pm.

Payment of Officials: No official will be paid after officiating a game. Officials are arranged by the Summer League through the Officials Organization, and will be paid for the games they officiate at the end of the summer session by their organization. If officials miss a scheduled game, they will not be paid for that game. Currently, Officials are paid \$55 for each game officiated. Each group will pay the official's organization a \$55 scheduling fee and \$440 for each team, except JV, a separate calculation.

Breaking a Tie Score – Games ending in a tie score will stay a tie score.

Delay of Game Count- There will be no 20-second or 10-second failure to advance counts but teams are still required to advance the ball toward the offensive zone in a timely manner. If a team is deemed to be intentionally stalling the game, by not advancing the ball in a timely manner, the official will issue a warning. On subsequent violations, the possession will be awarded to the other team at the midfield line.

Goalie Count- The goalie count of 5 seconds is still in effect at the Grade 3-8 levels.

Body Checking: It is acknowledged that incidental contact happens in the sport of lacrosse and an amount of leeway will be allowed in this to “let the players play”. Players going for groundballs or making plays at both ends will, at times, be at the receiving and/or giving end of contact. It is the intention of this league to teach the sport of lacrosse in a safe and fun environment. With that in mind, only at the **Grade 7/8** and **Grade 9/10** divisions is **intentional contact** allowed. Defining legal levels of contact is, in general, very difficult. The following minimum guidelines are hereby established as a basis for judging the legality of contact in a game:

1. An official's judgment will be the first and foremost determining factor. They are there to ensure a safe, fun and fair competition. An official's obligation to maintain the safe and controlled play of the game overrides any and all other guidelines.
2. All players must make a conscience effort to play the ball at all times.
3. Players must lay off anyone in a vulnerable position (i.e. on knees, has head down going for a groundball, blind side hits, where a head shot is unavoidable, etc.)
4. Any more than 3 steps prior to contact are considered to be excessive. This includes areas around the crease. Players who have taken more than 3 steps are usually on the verge of “out of control” with their bodies.
5. Body checking in the “open field” is not allowed. “Open field” will be loosely defined as any time a player is not within 10-15 yards of the crease. An official's judgment of “open field” may vary and it is recommended that the official clarify what his criteria are.
6. Any contact must be from the front, waist to shoulder and not extending hands or the stick in a cross checking motion prior to contact.
7. No player may “spear” (initiate contact with their helmet) an opposing player. This will be called and automatic flagrant penalty.
8. The offensive player must have the ball and be making a motion towards the goal, or a player must be making a play on a loose ball and be within 2 steps of the ball.
9. Special care should be taken with any contact close to out of bounds, as there may be obstructions close to the sidelines (parents, netting, benches, etc.).

WNY Summer Lacrosse League Rules 2021

Grade 1/2 Division

Play: 8 versus 8 using 3 midfielders, 2 attacks, 2 defense and a goalie. The field will be reduced in size to a youth sized field (approximately 40x70 yds.).

Games: 2- **25 minute** running time halves. Half time is 5 minutes unless officials deem otherwise. In excessive heat, the Officials may call for additional halt in play.

Equipment: Required: Gloves, NOCSAE certified lacrosse balls, helmet, arm pads, shoulder pads, mouth guard. Goalies require a throat guard, helmet, gloves, mouth guard and chest protector. **No long poles permitted.**

Rules: All Rules per NYS Modified High School rules with the following exceptions:

- No body checking is allowed.
- Stick checking must be two handed and is allowed only on the gloves holding the stick or the stick itself, and checks must be under control.
- Penalties result in a fast break for the fouled player or a player selected by the referee. No substitutions of attack players for the fast break.
- Goals that are scored during a delayed penalty situation will wipe out the fast break regard less of the penalty type.
- Flagrant Penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the officials. If a player is assessed a flagrant penalty, he will sit out the remainder of the half, but can be substituted for. If a player has two flagrant penalties in one game, he will be suspended for the remainder of that game and be subject to any team/ organization penalties.
- Sticks must be between 36" and 42" long, and suitable for field lacrosse play.
- 5 Goal Rule - If a Team is losing by 5, or more, goals then the Face-off will be suspended and the ball awarded to the Team that is behind in score at the Midfield line.
- Goalie ball - when the goalie is clamped on the ball with at least one foot in the crease, it is the goalies ball.

WNY Summer Lacrosse League Rules 2021

Grade 3/4 Division

Play: 8 versus 8 using 3 midfielders, 2 attacks, 2 defense and a goalie. The field will be reduced in size to a youth sized field (approximately 40x70 yds.).

Games: 2 – 25 minute running time halves, no overtime. 2- 1 minute time-outs per game -max 1 per half. Time will stop on timeouts. Half-time break is 5 minutes. In excessive heat the Officials may call for additional halt in play.

Equipment: Required: Gloves, NOCSAE certified lacrosse balls, helmet, arm pads, shoulder pads, mouth guard. Goalies require a throat guard, helmet, gloves, mouth guard and chest protector. **No long poles permitted.**

Rules: All Rules per NYS Modified High School rules with the following exceptions:

- No body checking is allowed.
- Stick checking must be two handed and is allowed only on the gloves holding the stick or the stick itself, and checks must be under control.
- Technical penalties result in a 1-minute man down situation. Personal penalties result in a 2-minute man down situation.
- No team may be more than 1 man down. If a second penalty occurs to the man down team, the fouling player must be substituted for and must serve his penalty time before returning to the field of play
- Additional penalties assessed to the man down team result in:
 - No possession or possession by the man down team will result in the ball starting at the midfield line in possession of the fouled team.
 - Possession by the man up team results in a delayed penalty. Goals that are scored during a delayed penalty situation will wipe out the penalty regard less of the penalty type.
 - In either situation the penalized player must leave the field of play for the duration of the penalty and another player may be substituted.
 - On a goal all penalties are released.
- Flagrant Penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the officials. If a player is assessed a flagrant penalty, he will sit out the remainder of the half, but can be substituted for after serving a 4 minute non-releasable penalty. If a player has two flagrant penalties in one game, he will be suspended for the remainder of that game and be subject to any team/ organization penalties.
- Sticks must be between 36" and 42" long, and suitable for field lacrosse play.
- 5-Goal Rule - If a Team is losing by 5, or more, goals then the Face-off will be suspended and the ball awarded to the Team that is behind in score at the Midfield line.
- Goalie ball - when the goalie is clamped on the ball with at least one foot in the crease, it is the goalies ball.

WNY Summer Lacrosse League Rules 2021

Grade 5/6 and Grade 7/8 Divisions

Play: 10 versus 10 using 3 midfielders, 3 attacks, 3 defense and a goalie.

Games: 2-25 minute running time halves, no overtime. 2- 1 minute time-outs per game, max 1 per half. Time will stop on timeouts. Half-time break is 5 minutes. In excessive heat the Officials may call for additional halt in play.

Equipment: Required: Gloves, NOCSAE certified lacrosse balls, helmet, arm pads, shoulder pads, mouth guard. Goalies require a throat guard, helmet, gloves, mouth guard and chest protector.

Rules: **Grade 5/6** - All Rules per NYS Modified High School rules; **Grade 7/8** - All Rules per NYS High School rules with the following exceptions:

- No open field body checking is allowed. Defensive players may initiate contact around the crease if the offensive player has the ball and is making a motion towards the goal. Any contact must be from the front, waist to shoulder and not extending hands or the stick in a cross check. Excessive body checks, offensive player in vulnerable position, will be assessed penalties.
- Stick checking must be two handed and is allowed only on the gloves holding the stick or the stick itself, and checks must be under control.
- Technical penalties result in a 1-minute man down situation. Personal penalties result in a 2-minute man down situation.
- Teams cannot have more than 2 players removed from the field of play. If other penalties are assessed the offending team will remove the player for the duration of the penalty and substitute another player from the bench to take his place. Possession will be rewarded to the man up team in the offensive zone.
- Flagrant Penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the officials. If a player is assessed a flagrant penalty, he will sit out the remainder of the half, but can be substituted for after serving a 4 minute non-releasable penalty. If a player has two flagrant penalties in one game, he will be suspended for the remainder of that game and be subject to any team/ organization penalties.
- Sticks must be between 40" and 72" long, and suitable for field lacrosse play.
- **Grade 5/6** – limit of 3 long poles on the field at any time
- **Grade 7/8** - Limit of 4 long poles on the field at any time.
- 5 Goal Rule - If a Team is losing by 5, or more, goals then the Face-off will be suspended and the ball awarded to the Team that is behind in score at the Midfield line.
- Goalie ball - when the goalie is clamped on the ball with at least one foot in the crease, it is the goalies ball.

WNY Summer Lacrosse League Rules 2021

Grade 9/10 Division

Play: 10 versus 10 using 3 midfielders, 3 attacks, 3 defense and a goalie.

Equipment: Required: Gloves, NOCSAE certified lacrosse balls, helmet, arm pads, shoulder pads, mouth guard. Goalies require a throat guard, helmet, gloves, mouth guard and chest protector

Games: 2-25 minute running time halves, no overtime. 2- 1 minute time-outs per game, max 1 per half. Time will stop on timeouts. Half-time break is 5 minutes. In excessive heat the Officials may call for additional halt in play.

Rules: All Rules per NYS High School rules with the following exceptions:

- No open field body checking is allowed.
- Defensive players may initiate contact around the crease if the offensive player has the ball and is making a motion towards the goal. Any contact must be from the front, waist to shoulder and not extending hands or the stick in a cross check. Excessive body checks, offensive player in vulnerable position, will be assessed penalties.
- Stick checking is allowed only on the gloves holding the stick or the stick itself, and checks must be under control.
- One handed checks are allowed but discouraged. Any one handed check deemed "not in control" will be assessed and automatic 2 minute slashing penalty.
- Technical penalties result in a 1-minute man down situation. Personal penalties result in a 2-minute man down situation. Possession will be rewarded to the man up team in the offensive zone.
- Flagrant Penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the officials. If a player is assessed a flagrant penalty, he will sit out the remainder of the half, but can be substituted for after serving a 4 minute non-releasable penalty. If a player has two flagrant penalties in one game, he will be suspended for the remainder of that game and be subject to any team/ organization penalties.
- Sticks must be between 40" and 72" long, and suitable for field lacrosse play. Limit 4 long poles (1 LSM) on the field at any time.
- 5 Goal Rule - If a Team is losing by 5, or more, goals then the Face-off will be suspended and the ball awarded to the Team that is behind in score at the Midfield line.
- Goalie ball - when the goalie is clamped on the ball with at least one foot in the crease, it is the goalies ball.