



Section VI

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2009 GIRLS LACROSSE HANDBOOK

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Forms

(Go to www.section6.e1b.org Under General Information, click on click on *Handbooks & Sports Forms*)

Roster
End of Season Report
Site Chairperson's Financial Report
Statement of Protest

Power Point Rating Form
Official Ranking / Non-Preferred Form
All-WNY Scholar Athlete Nomination Form

(Go to www.section6.e1b.org Under General Information, click on click on *Forms & Info-* listed alphabetically)

Disqualification Report Form
Form X – Sports Contest Discrepancy Report

Sportsmanship Incident Report
Sportsmanship Hearing Request

2009 Girls Lacrosse Calendar

The Section VI approved Girls Lacrosse season is
March 2, 2009 to June 14, 2009

First Practice..... March 2
 First Scrimmage March 11
 First Contest March 13
 First League Contest April 2

Rosters duebefore April 1

ALL-WNY Girls Lacrosse Watch List April 27

Officials Ranking / Non-Preferred Forms due May 13

Notification of Non-Participation in Sectionals deadline..... May 14

ALL- WNY Scholar Athlete Forms deadline..... May 15

Power Point Rating Form due..... May 19

League Game Cutoff Date..... May 19

Post Season Meeting May 29

Easter: April 12
ACT Exam: April 4, June 13
Regents Exams: June 16-25

Memorial Day: May 25
SAT Exam: May 2,3 June 6,7

LACROSSE (Girls)	DATE	LOCATION
Seeding Meeting:	May 19	Amherst Middle
Pre-Quarters:	May 21	Higher Seed
Quarters:	May 27	Higher Seed
Semifinals:	May 29	Higher Seed
Post Season Meeting	May 29	Amherst Middle School 7 pm
Finals:	June 2	TBA
Far West -Regionals: @ Section 5	June 6	Section 5
States:	June 12-13	SUNY Cortland, Section 3
Senior All-Star Contest	TBA	TBA

Purpose

This handbook sets forth the policies and practices for Girls' lacrosse in Section VI. It's intention is to update all coaches and athletic directors on the procedures set forth by the state. These policies apply to all participating schools. All the rules are consistent with and derived from the US Lacrosse rule book, **except those modified by NYSPHSAA and noted in the state handbook.**

Chairpersons/ Committee

Committee voting privileges:

As per the Section VI Constitution p.11 Item 7.6 "The representative members on each sport committee will be appointed by each league and have only one vote per league. Other non-voting members may be selected by the sports chairperson." Voting rights on a federated sports committee are the same as league sports: one vote for each league or division represented. The chairperson generally exercises his right to vote when there is a tie. The voting members of the committee are indicated below with an **asterisk.**

Janet Battaglia*

Amherst HS
55 Kings Hwy., Amherst, 14226
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ECIC Rep – **Doug Kohler***, Clarence

NFL Rep – **Mark DiFilippo***, Niagara- Wheatfield

Participating Schools

- ❖ 22 Varsity teams (includes new team Niagara Falls)
- ❖ 21 JV teams

The alignment will follow the individual leagues. The NFL will consist of 5 teams and the ECIC will have three divisions as such:

ECIC: Div I – Lancaster (A), Frontier (A), Orchard Park (A), Clarence (A), Williamsville North (A)
W. Seneca West (B)

Div II – Hamburg (B), Sweet Home (B), Lakeshore (B), West Seneca East (B),
Williamsville East (B), Iroquois (B)

Div III - Williamsville South (B), Amherst (C), Springville Griffith (C), East Aurora(C), Eden (C),

NFL: Niagara Falls (A), Lockport (A), North Tonawanda (A), Niagara Wheatfield (B), Grand Island (B)

Please note that the two leagues will be scheduling independently of each other, non-league games will be scheduled by individual schools. Post season will follow with a tournament in each of the three classifications organized by league powerpoints.

Standards of Conduct

The conduct of all coaches, athletes, and school personnel on and off the field is expected to be sportsmanlike. Such acts as: taunting jibes, vulgar language, and disrespectful conduct are not acceptable at any time.

Suspension – Any athlete ejected from a game either for un-sportsmanlike conduct or for a red card (slashing, rough check, dangerous check, check to the head, foul language), will be suspended for the remainder of that game and for the next game as well.

The suspension applies to post season Sectional playoffs as well as the regular season.

The coach must fill out the Disqualification Report Form (see Forms page 1), have the official sign it and give it to the AD immediately after the game. The AD will sign it and send it to the Section VI office.

Officials and coaches should notify the Section Chairperson of the suspension as soon as possible.

Coach – The official representative and leader of each team is the participating coach. Coaches are primarily responsible for controlling athletes during pre-game warm-up, in the locker rooms, on the field, busses or at any other time that they are representing their school. A coach should NOT demonstrate against officials, or intimidate them. The coach should “set the example” for spectators and players by conducting himself/herself and a good sport at all times. Recommendations for all coaches are:

- Speech: Each coach shall address all people including officials with respect, courtesy and understanding.
- Decisions: Each coach will not attempt to influence the decisions of officials.
- Acting: Each Coach must be careful of his jesters and mannerisms so as not to incite the crowd.
- Sportsmanship: The shaking of hands by players and coaches is strongly encouraged at the end of every game.
- Score: It is expected that coaches will refrain from unnecessarily running up the score.
- Refer to the Code of Conduct (page 11)

Spectators – Whenever possible spectator areas are to be separated from players’ benches and the playing field.

Policies / Procedures

Each Team may play a maximum of 18 games per season, not counting post- season sectional and state tournament matches (NYSPHSAA 2008-2010 Handbook, p 109).

All Section VI league games tied at the end of regulation play will use the overtime procedure according to Rule 11, C of the USWLA Rule book

A game is considered “official” when 80% of the game has been completed.

Season Start Date

Teams are allowed to begin practices for the season beginning on March 2, 2009. Individual Participation in the US Lacrosse Clinic Day in late February does not violate the practice start date. The team must practice 8 times prior to the first scrimmage and 10 times prior to the first contest.

JV Teams

Most schools now have Junior Varsity teams. Please be aware of the strict age restrictions placed on JV programs. A student must be in the ninth or tenth grade or not have turned 16 prior to September 1, 2008; (this may allow some “young” juniors to play at the JV level.) A player may move up to the varsity level, no player may play in more than 18 games total (varsity and JV combined) and no player may play in both a varsity game and a JV game on the same day without violating state policy as set forth in the NYSPHSAA 2008-2010 Handbook, p 109.

Fields and Goals

Fields should be lined in accordance with the US Lacrosse Women’s Rule Book. The field dimensions should be as close as possible to US Lacrosse guidelines. The field must be marked to comply with the new “hard” boundary rule. When possible, spectator areas are to be separated from players’ benches and the playing field.

Please note changes for Girls Lacrosse NYSPHSAA 2008-2010 Handbook, p 112-113

Waivers/Modifications: Girls Lacrosse:

1. Permanently waive Rule 3-C Field Dimension for regular season play only. (8/04)
2. Goalkeeper Substitutions: After reporting to the score table, a goalkeeper is permitted to move down the sideline to await the current goalkeeper to exit the field. She then may enter the field of play. (10/05)

Section VI Policy on Neutral Sites (Approved 9/98)

For finals, no team shall compete on its home site if multiple sites have been scheduled. The exception: if the home field is the only field that's playable.

Officials: For the 2009 regular season, there will be two officials per game on the field.

Goggles: The State Committee has mandated that goggles be used at all levels. Goggles are a mandatory piece of equipment. Refer to the Rule Book. Any question, contact the Section Chairperson.

Helmets: As per the NYSPHSAA Safety Committee 12/12/08, helmets are NOT mandated for 2009.

League Standings: Only those games played against Section VI **division opponents** will count toward league standings. The WINNING coach should call in the score to the league coordinator. It is also highly recommend that the winning coach call the Buffalo News (849-4461).

Section VI All-League & All-WNY Team Selection Procedures

(revised January 2007)

At the end of season coaches meeting, each division will meet to determine the all-league teams: ECIC I, ECIC II, Monsignor Martin, Independent. Teams will be composed of 12 members per team and will be selected on the basis of position (i.e. - 1 goalie, 3 defenders, 5 midfielders, 3 attack). To nominate a player, the coach or his/her designee must be present and have the nomination sheets present. The All-American and All WNY watch lists, due **April 27th**, will be distributed at the spring coaches meeting in February.

Once each league has selected their all-league teams, all the league reps will then meet to select the All-WNY Team. The nominated players must be members of their respective all-league team. The All-WNY Teams (1st, 2nd and Honorable Mention) will each be composed of 14 players deemed to be the top 14 players in WNY regardless of position. The All-WNY meeting will take place on the same night as the Section VI end of season meeting, following the all-league selections.

Girls Lacrosse Rule Changes 2009 (Part 1)

US Lacrosse Rule Changes – 2009 Season

The following rule changes and updates for the 2009 season were passed at the WDBOG's September 2008 meeting, along with editorial and wording changes to the Rule Book outlined below. Complete Official Rules for 2009 available here: http://www.ncaapublications.com/Uploads/PDF/W_Lax_Rules_11_25fb0f2e8d-40e0-4668-a519-00e488777ada.pdf

Rule Changes

Rule 1 – Playing Area and Goals

We will be adding a Note announcing that for the foreseeable future no changes to the field dimensions or field markings will be made.

Rule 2 – Equipment and Uniforms

Section 5 – A slightly textured ball will be legal. A bright orange color ball will be legal. Home team will have the choice of ball, and the same color ball must be used throughout the game unless both coaches agree to change. New uniform requirements, to take effect beginning in the **2013** season will be noted in every rule book between now and the 2013 season: All shirts shall be of a single, solid color with the following trim specifications permitted:

- a. Trim around the collar and waistband and at the cuff of the sleeve or around the arm opening if sleeveless shall not exceed 1 inch in width.
- b. Side inserts (armpit to waistband) may be of contrasting color(s) but shall not exceed 3 inches in width. The inserts must be centered vertically below the armpit.
- c. Numbers shall be centered vertically and horizontally and must be a minimum of eight inches tall on the back and a minimum of six inches tall on the front of the shirt.
- d. Numbers must be of a solid color contrasting with the color of the shirt. The numbers may be trimmed in a contrasting color that shall not exceed 1 inch in width.

Rule 7 – Penalty Administration

Section 28-31 – A team will play short from the first card issued rather than waiting until the fourth card. When referring to the penalty for a red card we will use the term “ejected” or “ejection” to differentiate the penalty for a yellow card (warning) or a second yellow card (suspension). Any player or coach receiving a red card will be prohibited from participating in their team’s next game.

Youth Rules – Full Checking Program

A new rule level, Level FC (Full Checking) has been adopted for teams that meet **ALL** of the following guidelines:

1. All players on the team must be in 7th or 8th grade, or on U15/U13 teams. No U12 players allowed. Players must average at least 3 years of playing experience.
2. All coaches of participating teams must have US Lacrosse Level 1 coaching certification.
3. The league/program must be in existence for at least 5 years, and must progress players through from Level B or C to Level A before playing Level FC.
4. Games must be officiated by two US Lacrosse rated officials, both of whom must have held a Local rating for a minimum of 2 years.
5. The league must receive approval from the local umpiring board chair that there are sufficient numbers of qualified umpires to adequately cover the games.
6. Any check to the head in a Level FC game will be penalized with a mandatory red card.

Editorial/Wording Changes

Rule 2 – Equipment and Uniforms

Section 8 – Mouthpiece shall be of any readily visible color other than clear or white. The 2009 season has been announced in past rule books as the start of this requirement.

Rule 5 – Play of the Game

Section 22 – Wording was changed to clarify that substitutes entering the game must only be in the team substitution area when a substitution is imminent. No change to the rule on substitutions was made.

Umpire Procedural Change

A number of years ago the procedures on how to deal with off-setting versus subsequent fouls were changed in hopes of providing greater clarity for officials when handling these situations. The change in procedures has not had the intended outcome, and there has been inconsistency with how penalties are administered. While this will not be a rule change per se, there will be revisions to the Umpires Manual on how to administer penalties in these two situations. For Example:

- a. Blue team player with the ball is fouled. Red player is moved behind. Before play restarts the umpire notices the Blue player is wearing jewelry. Old procedure – red player would get the ball. New procedure – throw.
- b. Blue team moves downfield and crosses the restraining line on attack. Red player is called for a foul, and then the umpires discovers Blue is off sides. Old procedure – penalty would depend on if the umpire discovered the off sides before or after the other foul was called. New procedure – throw.
- c. Blue player with the ball is fouled by the red player. Blue is awarded the free position, but the Blue player verbally taunts the red player before play begins. This is considered a subsequent foul and would be a red free position.
- d. Red player is on her way to goal when Blue defender fouls her. Umpire raises her flag allowing the Red player to continue to goal however before a shot is taken the Red player charges. No change in procedure. This will continue to be a throw.
- e. Red player is going to goal, Blue defender fouls her, and a flag is raised. Red player shoots and the flag is lowered but then Red steps into the goal circle. Subsequent foul and the goalie is awarded the ball on the goal circle violation.

Please direct questions to Pat Dillon, Rules Committee Chair, at pdillon656@aol.com

Girls Lacrosse Rule Changes 2009 (Part 2)

A screened background identifies each change or altered area of the rules. Figures to the left below indicate the Rule and Section where the change has been made, while the page number is listed on the right. Throughout the book, the notation "AR" means "Approved Ruling". (US Lacrosse)

2-5	Slightly textured ball is legal for play, Bright orange ball is legal for play.....	14
2-8	Mouthpiece must be of any readily visible color.....	15
2-13	New uniform requirements will take effect in 2013.....	17
5-22	Substitution procedures clarified; adjustments made because of changes in Rule 7	36-37
5-27	Equipment inspection procedures clarified	39
6-1z	Allow level FC (Full Checking) rules to be used at 7 th /8 th grade level	43
7-27-32	Change in carding procedures. Teams to play short from the first card received. Player or coach ineligible for next game if they receive red card	54-55

Dangerous Check and Slashing

Dangerous checks, those that are uncontrolled, rough or reckless, are major fouls that must be called by the officials. Officials must carefully evaluate each situation, deciding if the foul warrants an immediate whistle or if a held whistle is appropriate. A card may also be given for a dangerous check. Slashing, or the swinging of the crosse at an opponent's body or crosse with deliberate viciousness or recklessness, must not only be called, but a mandatory card must be given. Whether the crosse hits the opponent's body or crosse has no bearing on the call being made and a card being given.

Use of Cards

Umpires are encouraged to use cards more frequently to control and change player behavior. In addition to the fouls where a mandatory card must be given, umpires are instructed to card for excessively rough, overly aggressive and dangerous play. Officials must take into account repeated fouls by the same team or player and upgrade to cards in order to alter player behavior. Additionally, if yellow cards are not having the intended effect, red cards must be used to control the game.

Stick to Body/Body to Stick Contact

While calling these type of fouls has improved, the Rules Committee continues to place an emphasis on strict enforcement of the rules that prohibit this type of play. Players are not allowed to hit, hold, push or detain opposing players with their stick. Attack players who use their body to push or back through a defender must be called for charging.

New Officiating Procedures

Though not a change to the rules per se, there will be a change in how umpires handle and penalize offsetting fouls versus subsequent fouls. Offsetting fouls are considered to be fouls that are occurring or have been ongoing within the same time frame. For example, one umpire calls a block while the other calls a charge on the same play; or after a player has been awarded a free position because someone fouled her, she is discovered to be wearing jewelry. A subsequent foul is one that occurs after the initial foul has been called. For example, a player is awarded a free position but before play starts, this player is called for a foul, such as taunting her opponent.

Previously, if a player was fouled and then she or someone on her team was found in violation of something such as wearing jewelry, the ball would be taken away and awarded to the opponent. The procedure now will be to take a throw. In the case of a subsequent foul, the second foul will be the one that is penalized. Further explanation and examples are available in the Umpires Manual

2009 Girls Lacrosse Classifications

Class A (1134 & Up) (8 schools)

Niagara Falls	1767	NFL
Lancaster	1550	ECIC
Lockport	1339	NFL
Frontier	1321	ECIC
Orchard Park	1289	ECIC
Clarence	1245	ECIC
Williamsville North	1177	ECIC
North Tonawanda	1163	NFL

Class C (0 - 749) (4 schools)

Amherst	691	ECIC
Springville	535	ECIC
East Aurora	531	ECIC
Eden	445	ECIC

Class B (750-1133) (10 schools)

Niagara Wheatfield	1103	NFL
West Seneca West	1095	ECIC
Hamburg	949	ECIC
Sweet Home	948	ECIC
Grand Island	806	NFL
Lake Shore	802	ECIC
West Seneca East	793	ECIC
Williamsville East	766	ECIC
Iroquois	760	ECIC
Williamsville South	753	ECIC

Post Season Tournament

Open Tournament

Section VI will sponsor post-season tournaments for teams in all three classifications A, B and C. The tournaments will be open to all schools sponsoring varsity women's lacrosse. Teams choosing **NOT** to participate in the open sectional tournament **must notify the Section Chairpersons by May 14**. The representatives to the state tournament will be determined by the sectional tournament results.

Seeding

Tournament seeding will be determined by powerpoints in Division games (see p.3 for Divisional Alignment). Once seeded schools are expected to participate. (see No Shows at Sectionals policy on page 9).

NOTE: SECTION VI POLICY (approved Jan.17, 2007): Any school who has not submitted adequate information to the sportchair in time for the seeding meeting will be excluded from the sectional tournament.

Section VI Seeding Policy

Section VI Seeding Policy, approved by the Athletic Council May 2003, and found in the Section VI By-Laws, page 27, Articles 6.1.2-6.1.4 shall be followed:

1. A team's power rating is the sole method of determining where a team is seeded. Each team is required to submit a Power Point Rating Form (center insert) prior to the seeding meeting.
2. Team power ratings are determined by dividing total league points accumulated by the total number of league games originally scheduled.

$$\text{Power Rating} = \frac{\text{Total League Points Accumulated}}{\text{Total Number League Games Originally Scheduled}}$$

3. Total league points are determined by applying the point chart. Teams receive points for league victories. Points are earned for ties in Boys and Girls Soccer and Field Hockey.

POINT CHART

Winning Points

	A	B	C
A	3.0	2.0	1.0
B	4.0	3.0	2.0
C	5.0	4.0	3.0

4. **Tie Breaking Procedure:**

If teams have identical power ratings, the following criteria will be used to break the tie:

- a. The team with the most league wins will be the higher seeded team.
If still tied:
- b. The team with the fewest league losses will be the higher seeded team.
If still tied:
- c. The team with the higher winning percentage of games played will be the higher seeded team.
Determined by total league wins divided by total league games played.
If still tied:
- d. If teams are in the same league, use head-to-head results.
If still tied:
- e. A toss of a coin will determine the higher seeded team.

5. If a team is seeded, they are required to participate as per the “No shows at Sectionals” Policy (see below).

Section VI Policy on No shows at Sectionals

A school team that does not show or refuses to play in a Sectional contest after the seeding meeting spoils the integrity of the tournament. The following Section VI policy was adopted by the Athletic Council 11/98:

- a. Schools shall declare their intent to play or not play prior to sectional seeding, as per the sport specific sectional handbook. Schools failing to fulfill their pre-tournament commitment shall be subject to the following sanction:

One year ineligibility for sectional play in that sport with the ability to appeal to the Athletic Council. Appeal must occur within 60 days of the completion of sectional play.

- b. The Section Chairperson must notify the Executive Secretary of the occurrence and the Section office will notify the Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Director of the sanction.

School Responsibilities

- Home Team is responsible for crowd control. It is suggested that each participating school have at least one adult supervisor present at the game other than a coach.
- Winning coach is to call the results to Chairperson as soon as possible.
- Each coach will provide two game balls (yellow) for the game.

Start Times

Start times for sectionals contests are standardized, however, if a legitimate need for a time change arises within a district, a request must be submitted in writing to the chairperson 48 hours before the seeding meeting. No time changes will be allowed after this deadline.

Admission

Schools are expected to charge admission at the Section Semi- Finals, Finals, and Far–West Regional. The cost of admission for students and adults is as follows:

Semi Finals:	\$3.00	Regional:	\$6.00 (price may be adjusted by host section)
Finals:	\$5.00	States:	\$8.00

Awards

First place schools will each receive plaques from the Section. Individual players on the two championship teams will each receive blue patches and certificates. Individual players on the two-second place teams will each receive red patches and certificates. Each school will receive 25 certificates.

Selection of officials for Sectional Playoffs

Sectional playoff officials will be selected from "A" level officials who have a high evaluation rating. The rating is determined by both coaches and officials. Coaches rank the officials and officials rate each other. The purpose of this evaluation is to determine the top officials each season. These officials will be used in sectional playoffs.

All Sectional coaches are required to turn in their officials' evaluation rating form by **May 13** to Michelle Barczak, 5773 Fisk Rd., Lockport, NY 14094, 625-9421 (h), 983-2872 (c). Coaches are asked to only rate officials who have officiated their games this season. Each coach who completes this evaluation will be allowed to name two non-preferred officials for Sectional play.

Rating forms will be issued at the preseason league meeting. The coaches may use a separate coaches report form to register complaints. E-mail complaints directly to Michelle Barczak at michelle.j.barczak@usace.army.mil.

End of Season Report

Please complete the End of Season Report (see Forms page 1) as soon as possible. Please be sure to note if the game was a league, non-league or sectional game. Make sure to include your leading scorer and your goalie's number of saves and goals allowed.

Game-Site Chairperson

General Responsibilities

- Recruit personnel for ticket takers, security, reporting results to the media.
- Make sure that all supplies are available: tickets, small change, clocks etc.
- Make sure field is lined properly.
- Serve as a protest committee member with two coaches from the other division. The "A" school protest committee will consist of the site coordinator and two "B" school coaches. The "B" school protest committee will consist of the site coordinator and two "A" school coaches.

Special Responsibilities at Finals and Regional

- The Game- Site Chairperson will inform the participating coach there will be a 20 minutes for pre-game warm-up.
- Provision shall be made for a simple "flag ceremony" or Star- Spangled Banner prior to game time.
- Starting teams and game officials should be introduced to the spectators.
- Follow Financial Procedure on page 15.

State Tournament

There will be ten sections represented in this spring's state tournament: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII, IX, X, & XI. There will be state champions for an "A", "B" and "C" school. For date and location, see page 2. Admission is: \$8.00

Teams traveling to REGIONALS and the STATE TOURNAMENT must have a NYSPHSAA Code of Conduct form for each player participating. The Code of Conduct can be downloaded from the section website www.section6.e1b.org Under General Information, click on *Forms and Information*.

- **Regionals:** Upon request, schools traveling to regional competition will be partially reimbursed by the Section, for mileage only.
- **States:** Effective September 2007, schools traveling to state competition will be responsible for all costs. Please refer to the Section VI Travel Policy on the section website www.section6.e1b.org Under General Information, click on *Forms and Information*. A summary is on page15.

Officials

For the Sectional Finals and Far West Regionals, there will be three field officials and one table official. At the state tournament, there will be 6 officials for the games and 2 standby. For each game there will be 3 field officials and 1 table. Last year there were 5 national officials and 1 district at the state tournament.

Lacrosse Protest

At the earliest possible time out following an alleged rule or regulation infraction, the coach must inform the referee and game Chairperson that the game is being played under protest. The specific rule or regulation must be stated at this time and then entered in the scorebook. The signatures of both coaches, both officials, and the game chairperson shall be entered in the scorebook along with the game score and time remaining.

Within forty-eight hours of the alleged violation, a formal written protest must be submitted to the lacrosse Chairperson, and copies forwarded to parties involved including the principals of both schools, the lacrosse officials and the game-site chairperson.

Before a protest is formally initiated, it should be carefully considered, and then signed by the Superintendent, the Principal, and the Athletic Director. As soon as possible but not later than the next scheduled playoff game affecting the schools involved, the Lacrosse Chairperson and the protest Committee, will meet with the parties involved in the protest.

The Lacrosse Chairperson (or designee) will conduct a hearing and a transcript of the proceedings will be taken. Involved parties will have the right to bring witnesses, listen to all testimony and cross-examine witnesses. Witnesses will testify voluntarily. If this is not possible, a written-signed statement will be admissible. All documents submitted at the hearing will be retained by protest committee. It shall be understood that involved parties may be accompanied by their Superintendent, Principal, and Athletic Director.

The Lacrosse Chairperson will notify the parties involved of the protest committee's decision as soon as possible but no later than the next scheduled contest affecting the teams involved.

US Lacrosse Association

Coaches are encouraged to join the US Lacrosse Association. Membership is imperative because it provides opportunities for your players. Your school's membership allows your players to try-out for the National Tournament Team and the New York State Scholastic and Open teams.

The number of All- Americans our area can select is based on membership. The more members we have the more All-Americans we can select.

NYSPHSAA Eligibility Standard #27: Sportsmanship

2008-2010 HANDBOOK, page 102-103. **Updates shaded grey.**

SPORTSMANSHIP: The Association recognizes and appreciates that the influence and responsibility of the school administration with regard to good sportsmanship extends to all levels of competition. However, it must also be seen that the NYSPHSAA has been vested with the responsibility to ensure that all contests under its jurisdiction are conducted satisfactorily. This standard applies to all regular season and post schedule play.

a. Coach:

1. Any coach excluded by a certified official from an interschool competition for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, is ineligible to coach any interschool competition in that sport until after the next previously scheduled contest at the same level (e.g. junior varsity, varsity, etc.) has been completed. In individual sports a multi-day contest is considered to be a contest. Disqualification from one season carries over to the next season of participation. The coach may not be present at the game site **nor communicate in any manner during the contest with**

any person present at the site. **NOTE:** "Not being physically present at the site" means the disqualified coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the sidelines, in the stands or site area before, during or after the game/meet. (see Taunting, p. 89, Next Previously Scheduled Contest, p. 87)

Any coach:

1. Ejected from one contest shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;
 2. Ejected from a second contest in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and
 3. Ejected from a third contest in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season. If the third ejection takes place in the last contest of the season (regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.
2. A coach who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass or intimidate another person (e.g. official, another coach, player, fan) shall be expelled immediately and banned from further participation or coaching in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section not to exceed one year from the date of the offense.

b. Player:

1. Any member of a squad ruled out of a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, or for a flagrant foul shall not participate in that sport in the next previously scheduled contest with a member school or in NYSPHSAA tournament play. In individual sports a multi-day contest is considered to be a contest. The contest in which the athlete was disqualified must count in the total maximum number of contests permitted. Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season of participation. (see Taunting, p. 89, Next Previously Scheduled Contest, p. 87)

Any player:

1. Ejected from one contest shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;
 2. Ejected from a second contest in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and
 3. Ejected from a third contest in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season. If the third ejection takes place in the last contest of the season (regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.
2. Any member of the squad who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass or intimidate an official shall be expelled from the game immediately and banned from further participation in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section not to exceed one year from the date of the offense. **NOTE:** Member of the squad includes player, manager, score keepers, timers, and statisticians.

c. Official:

1. Unprofessional conduct on the part of the official such as, but not limited to, taunting, baiting, use of profanity, shall be reported by a school administrator from the aggrieved school to the section executive director. A request will be made to the appropriate sport officials chapter to investigate the incidence and to report their action to the section in a timely manner.

Code of Conduct

Philosophy

Interscholastic athletics is an integral part of the physical education program. While participation in physical education is mandated for every student, only the opportunity to participate is provided in interscholastic athletic programs. Students participate in interscholastic athletics on the basis of developed interests and desire, demonstrated skills and ability.

Interscholastic athletics are aimed at enhancing academic achievement, strengthening the student's self-image, mind/body relationships, personal assessment and individual and group sportsmanship through a program that provides for both success and challenge.

Code of Conduct

- The coach will always set a good example for participants and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior.
- The coach will enforce the code of conduct for student athletes.
- The coach will respect and support the contest officials. He or she will not engage in conduct which will incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.
- The coach will promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.
- The coach will be a perfect host to opponents. Opponents will be welcomed as guests.
- The coach will enforce and implement all sportsmanship policies.
- The coach will stress the importance of playing the game fairly.
- The coach will take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco use and abuse.

Section VI Policy on Neutral Sites

(approved 9/98)

For finals, no team shall compete on its home site if multiple sites have been scheduled. The exception: if the home field is the only field that's playable.

All-WNY Scholar Athlete Girls Lacrosse Team

Coaches and Athletic Directors are encouraged to nominate athletes for selection to the **All-WNY Scholar Athlete Girls Lacrosse Team**. The criteria for selection are listed on the Nomination Form (see forms page 2) which must be submitted to the Section VI office by **May 15**. The team will be honored by both Section VI and the Buffalo News.

Section VI AED Policy

(effective Feb. 2003)

The game site-chairperson will be responsible for securing an AED for the certified trainer's use at all sectional contests, and at all regional and state contests that are hosted by Section VI. The certified trainer will be provided by an orthopedic group contracted by Section VI, at all post-season contests held at **neutral sites**. **Note:** If a school suffers loss or damage to an AED that is being used for post-season contests, the Section will be financially responsible.

Section VI Lightning Policy

(adopted January 20, 1999 - rev. 3/03, 11/04)

“Thunder and lightning necessitates that all contests be suspended. The occurrence of thunder and/or lightning is not subject to interpretation or discussion - thunder is thunder, lightning is lightning. If lightning and/or thunder is observed, all outdoor activities will be suspended immediately. Players and spectators shall be directed to report to a shelter, a building normally occupied by the public or if a building is unavailable, participants should go inside a vehicle with a solid metal top (e.g. bus, van, car). The officials and responsible authorities shall make every reasonable effort to resume and complete the contest, with full consideration of the weather and site conditions (as they affect safety and playing conditions). The official/coaches shall wait 30 minutes from the time the last boom is heard and/or the last strike is seen before starting or resuming play.

CLARIFICATIONS:

PRIOR TO CONTEST

If thunder/lightning is observed at the site of an outdoor contest by the officials/ coaches 30 or fewer minutes prior to the scheduled start of that contest, the official/ coaches and the responsible school authorities shall not permit the contest to begin. Before the contest can begin a 30-minute period void of any strike or boom must be observed.

DURING THE CONTEST

If thunder/lightning is observed at the site of an outdoor contest by the officials during the playing of the contest, the official/coaches shall immediately cease play for 30 minutes. Play may not resume until there has been a period of at least 30 minutes in which a boom or strike has not been observed. The rules of the particular sport shall determine whether the contest is ‘official’ or must be resumed at a later date.”

Section VI Safety Policy on Cheerleading

If your school is considering allowing cheerleaders to accompany your sports team to post season play, refer to the Section VI Safety Policy on Cheerleading found on the Section VI website, www.section6.e1b.org , Under General Information, click on *Forms & Information* then Safety Policies or call the Section VI office at 821-7299.

NOTE: Both cheerleading squads will have the option to perform at half time at all sectional contests.

Regulations Regarding Senior All-Star & Outside Agency Contests

1. All Senior All-Star and Outside Agency contests MUST be approved by Section VI. In addition, Senior All-Star contests must be approved by NYSPHSAA. The forms required are posted on the section website www.section6.e1b.org Under General Information, Click on *Forms and Information*, or call the Section office 821-7299.
2. A student who participates in any unapproved All-Star contest shall be ineligible to compete in interschool athletics in all sports for a period of one-year from the date of such participation.
3. All Senior All-Star and Outside Agency contests must be conducted within the season dates approved by the Section VI Athletic Council for that sport (see page 1). The complete calendar of approved season dates for all sports is posted on the section website www.section6.e1b.org Under General Information, Click on *Forms and Information*, then go to calendar.
4. **NOTE:** A Senior All-Star contest by NYSPHSAA standards, is one in which an athlete’s participation is based solely on outstanding performance as a member of a high school team. If open-tryouts are held, the contest is NOT a NYSPHSAA All-Star contest.

Section VI Financial Procedure

Section VI Financial Procedure

(adopted 9/97, updated 6/06, **9/07**)

*** PLEASE NOTE **UPDATE TO POLICY - READ BELOW** ***

For Pre-quarters and Quarters:

Expenses and revenues are the responsibility of the home school.

For Semi's at a home-school site:

Schools are expected to charge admission. Home school pays administrative expenses. Section VI will reimburse the school for administrative expenses only if gate receipts are collected.

Officials will be paid by the Section VI office only if gate receipts are collected.

Schools that fail to charge admission will be responsible for ALL EXPENSES including payment to officials.

The Game-Site Chairperson will submit *within 5 business days*:

1. The completed Financial Report (see Forms page 1) and
2. A check for total gate receipts payable to **Section VI, NYSPHSAA, Inc.**

Mail to: **Treasurer, Section VI, 355 Harlem Rd., W. Seneca, NY 14224**

For Finals, Contests at Neutral Sites or Contests in tournament format:

Section VI will pay all personnel, both administrative and officials. All personnel must have **Name,**

Complete Address, Social Security Number, Duty and Signature.

The Game-Site Chairperson will submit *within 5 business days*:

1. The completed Financial Report (center insert) and
2. A check for total gate receipts payable to **Section VI, NYSPHSAA, Inc.**

Mail to: **Treasurer, Section VI, 355 Harlem Rd., W. Seneca, NY 14224**

The Game-Site Chairperson will mail a copy of the Financial Report to the Sport Chairperson.

NOTE:

Officials are to be paid as per the Officials Agreement 2007-2010, Fee Schedule (Appendix E) or www.section6.e1b.org click on Officials, Fee Schedule. Officials assigned outside their "Geographic Area" will receive a \$20.00 premium for all Sectional Games.

Section VI Travel to State Competition Policy (updated 1/21/09)

Summary for Team Sports

This policy in its entirety is posted on the Section website:

http://www.section6.e1b.org/11391049112849960/lib/11391049112849960/Travel_Policy_Jan09.pdf

Member schools participating in state competition will be responsible for all costs related to that participation.

Supervision

One or more certified coaches are required to travel with the student athletes from their school district and must be present on any Section VI contracted bus, as well as the location where the athletes are housed, state competition where the athlete(s) will compete and all related events.

Transportation:

Schools will be responsible for all transportation costs. Schools will make their own transportation arrangements for their athletes involved in state competition in team sports. Section VI will apply to NYSPHSAA for the allowed reimbursement of \$1.00 per mile on the state grid (for one bus per team) and will forward this reimbursement to the schools upon receipt of funds from the state.

Lodging:

Schools will be responsible for all lodging costs. The Sportchair will advise participating schools if accommodations are to be arranged by the state or by the schools.

Meals:

Schools will be responsible for the cost of athletes' meals at state competition.

SECTION VI - NYSPHSAA

Sportsmanship Philosophy & Code of Conduct

Philosophy

1. We believe that interscholastic athletics is an important part of education and support the ideals and values embodied in good sportsmanship.
2. We believe that sportsmanlike behavior is essential if interscholastic competition is to contribute usefully and constructively to the broad goals of education and to the quality of life of those involved.
3. We pledge ourselves individually and collectively to encourage and support the development and maintenance of a sportsmanlike atmosphere for athletic competition.

Code of Conduct

1. A genuine interest in and enjoyment of interscholastic competition requires conduct that reflects the understanding that contests as a part of an overall school program are intended to be enjoyed. Behavior that reflects a winning at all cost attitude violates this standard.
2. Interscholastic competition provides valuable lessons and learning experiences that are not possible in the regular classroom setting. All involved must support the need to develop the ability to compete with enthusiasm and to accept winning with grace and losing with dignity.
3. Coaches, players, and fans should know that participation is an honor and privilege which requires them to conduct themselves in a manner that brings honor and pride to their school and community.
4. Respect for the cultural and ethnic diversity of one's opponents, their school, and community is a fundamental tenet of wholesome athletic competition. This standard suggests that planned activity is needed to demonstrate a warm and friendly welcome, mutual respect, and a genuine readiness to participate in a sportsmanlike manner.
5. Players should demonstrate both knowledge of the rules and respect for game officials and their decisions. Coaches and school officials have the responsibility to teach and encourage these attributes.

******* Sportsmanship Statement Reminder *******

The following statement will be read over the public address system just prior to the pledge to the flag. If there is no public address system, the statement will be read to both teams by the site chairperson or his representative:

“Welcome to Section VI (name of sport). Athletic competition can provide everyone with a sense of accomplishment and pride, if all of us - players, coaches and spectators - abide by the rules of good conduct. We ask that you enjoy the performance of our outstanding athletes in a spirit of sportsmanship and appreciation of competition.”