

INTERIOR FIELD LACROSSE COMMISSION

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1 NAME

The name of the organization shall be Interior Field Lacrosse Commission.

2 AFFILIATION

This Commission shall be subject to the terms and conditions imposed by the Constitution & By- Laws and the Operating Policy of the B.C. Lacrosse Association and the Canadian Lacrosse Association and under the auspices of the BCLA Field Directorate. This policy does not take priority over the policies of those of the Governing bodies.

3 PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization shall be to administer the Interior Field Lacrosse Commission.

4 OBJECTIVES

1. To promote, foster and govern the game of Field Lacrosse for the players aged nineteen and under.
2. To provide coaching, instruction, certification, and encourage fair play and sportsmanship.

5 PLAYER AGES

U18 Field Under 18 years

U15 Field Under 15 years

U13 Field Under 13 years

U11 Field Under 11 years

U9 Field Under 9 years

U7 Field Under 7 years and at least 5 years old

All ages are determined as of January 1st of the playing year (Sept-Aug).

6 PLAYING SEASON

1. The playing season may start as early as the first (1st) weekend after Labour Day and continue until the first weekend in November. A winter break will run from mid-December until early January of the following year. Teams competing in the Provincials or Interior Select teams will continue to practice, attend tournaments and set up games with teams in other zones and/or leagues.

2. At the start of the playing season the IFLC Executive will determine if there are enough teams to compete in a division by city or if the play will consist of a division program. The IFLC Executive will review the program to determine what is in the best interest of the game and the players.
3. Exhibition games may be scheduled at any time during the playing season with the permission of the division commissioner. These games will typically consist of out of town tournaments, coastal, Fraser valley and Island games.
4. All games will count towards Provincial play qualification. Agreement on how the teams competing in the provincial championships will be structured will be reviewed with the field directorate before October 30th of each year.
5. League play points shall be determined as follows:
 - 2 points for a win 1 point awarded to each team for a tie
 - 0 points for a loss
 - In the event of a defaulted game, the non-offending team shall be awarded a goal and shall be awarded 2 points in league standings.
6. Provincial Championship qualification shall be determined by Provincial Championship committee once the request for participation is received from the IFLC

7 LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING

The IFLC Annual General Meeting shall be held no later than July 15 of each year. At the Annual General Meeting, elections of officers for the next year and any changes to the Operating Policy will be the order of business. Any changes to the policy must be submitted forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, and forwarded to each member club thirty (30) days before such meeting.

8 AMENDMENTS

This document may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at the Annual General Meeting or an extraordinary meeting. Required conditions for changes are as per section "7" above.

9 EXECUTIVE

The Executive of the organization shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, 2nd Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Field Scheduler, U18 Program Director, Marketing person and a Commissioner for each division. All positions shall be filled by election at the Annual General Meeting. Should positions be left vacant at the Annual General Meeting, the Chair shall be empowered to appoint persons to the positions.

10 OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Elected Positions

10.1 CHAIRPERSON

The Commission Chairperson shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting by a majority vote of the members present. The Chair will administer the Commission as per the Operating Policy of the Commission, and of the B.C. Lacrosse Association. He/she will chair all meetings of the Commission and will have the vote only to break a tie. He/she shall represent the Commission at all Field Directorate meetings, and shall carry the Commission votes.

10.2 VICE CHAIRPERSON

The Vice Chairperson shall take over the duties of the Chair in his/her absence.

10.3 2ND VICE CHAIRPERSON

He/she will handle all communications between the IFLC Executive and its member clubs, and BCLA. The 2nd Vice Chairperson shall take over the duties of the Chairperson in his/her absence and the absence of the Vice Chairperson.

10.4 SECRETARY

The Secretary will be responsible for recording and keeping minutes of all meetings, keeping INTERIOR FIELD LACROSSE COMMISSION OPERATING POLICY records of all correspondence. He/she will assist the Chair in the distribution of said correspondence to all member clubs.

10.5 TREASURER

The Treasurer will keep records of all financial matters pertaining to the League. He/She will present financial statements at the Annual General Meeting.

10.6 FIELD SCHEDULER

The Field Scheduler (FS) will work with local MA's to ensure at least one field day per association (as much as it possible). The FS will create a fair and equitable schedule that works to create even days for team as much as possible – with the rotation of the first game to the home and closest MA throughout the age divisions. FS will ensure each division will have as close to 12 games as possible.

The FS will work with the host association to ensure that ILFC commission participants have access to bathroom facilities for the full duration of the date. FS will create a full schedule that can be provided from the first day of the season with the coaches aware that there may be commission needed changes. While making allowances for Thanksgiving the FS will ensure that field space is available for the duration of the season (most areas close the field on Oct 31st of each year – ensuring access for additional play is crucial). FS will ensure each host MA is provided with a list of game day requirements at the start of the season.

10.7 U18 PROGRAM DIRECTOR

With the support of the Zone 2 Executive, the U18 Program Director will work closely with all Zone 2 Member Associations to coordinate, generate and facilitate the required plans and implementation strategies required to provide a positive playing experience for players within this age group.

Regular communication and planning with the BLCA Field Directorate as well as the Pacific Coast Field Lacrosse League and Vancouver Island Field Lacrosse League will be required to enable the Zone 2 U18 program to integrate and participate where possible in lower mainland league and exhibition play as well as the further development of local league and tournament play where practical. Leading the placement of coaches, team managers, budgeting, fundraising, scheduling, and communications within Zone 2 Executive, Member Associations, and with the BCLA FD are important functions of this role.

Appointed Positions

10.8 COMMISSIONERS

The Commissioners will be responsible for the operation of each of the age divisions. The Commissioners will determine penalties for infractions as per guidelines, prepare League schedules for League play, record team and individual statistics and determine the Provincial Championship qualification requirements for all registered teams in their division.

10.9 REGISTRAR

Each Association will be responsible for the collection of all IFLC player registrations and fees, preparation of a team roster of registered players, and a revenue summary for the Treasurer.

10.10 HEAD REFEREE

The Head Referee will be responsible for certification and overseeing allocation of referees for IFLC games and tournaments.

11 MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to any organization registered with the BCLA within the area of the Thompson Okanagan also known as ZONE 2 at the time of application, is in good standing. New clubs registering teams must submit a written application with clearly defined association boundaries, a team roster, a list of club executive, description of home facilities, and a list of certified officials (field lacrosse referees) as per Regulation 8 of the BCLA Field Directorate Operating Policy, along with League fees to the August meeting.

All clubs must send a minimum of 1 (one) representative to all IFLC meetings.

12 LEAGUE FEES/PERFORMANCE BOND

12.1 Player Fees

The player fee will be set at AGM each year (currently three dollars \$3.00), and must be paid when each player is registered with the team registrations. This fee must be to the commission treasurer by October 15.

12.2 League Performance

Teams found to be not fulfilling their scheduled league commitments may be declared not in good standing by the league executive. Teams declared not in good standing will be expelled from the league and therefore not eligible for provincial championships

12.3 League Performance Bond

At the League's discretion, a performance bond can be assessed. This bond may be used to compensate teams for field fees, referees fees, etc. should a team not fulfill their scheduled commitments.

13 REGISTRATION

13.1 Team/Player Registration

In accordance with Field Directorate Policy 18.03, player registration forms and required fees must be submitted to the Commissioner, Chair or Registrar on or before October 2 or earlier date to be determined by IFLC executive. Late Registration will be closed on October 15th or other date as determined in Field Directorate Policy.

13.2 Team Rosters

Official team rosters for all teams are to be circulated to the league commissioner prior to the third regular season league game.

14 LEAGUE EXPANSION

14.1 New Teams

Applications for entry must be submitted in writing to the League Chair by the August meeting. The application must be accompanied by association boundaries, a team roster, list of executive, list of coaches, list of team officials (certified field lacrosse referees), Team colors (to be approved by league executive) and the League fee as set by the IFLC.

14.2 New Clubs

New Clubs will be added to the regular season schedule after 14.1 is complete.

14.3 Expansion requests

All league expansion requests will be voted upon by all member associations of the league, who are in good standing, and must receive a majority vote for expansion to proceed.

15 SCHEDULING OF GAMES

15.1 League Schedule

a) All League schedules will be made up by Commissioners. All League games will take precedence over exhibition games.

b) Any team wishing to reschedule a game must contact their opponent and League Commissioner within 48 hours prior to the scheduled game time. If the appropriate people are not notified within the designated 48 -hour period, a team is not obligated to accept the request to reschedule the game. This does not include extraordinary factors such as field closures due to bad weather.

c) Teams must give justifiable reasons for requesting a game be rescheduled. The commissioner may award points to the non-offending team if the rationale for requesting a game be rescheduled is not justifiable.

d) Games to be rescheduled must be done so within 2 weeks of the original scheduled date. If no agreeable date is available, then both teams must supply a date and time to their League Commissioner within 2 weeks of the original scheduled date. The League Commissioner will reschedule the game based on the date and times submitted. League Commissioners have the authority to assign points or not, if teams do not meet the guidelines by working together to reschedule their games.

e) A defaulted game occurs under one of the following situations.

1. A team fails to appear at the appointed time and place for a game.
2. A team appears at the appointed time and place for a game but does not have the required number of players to start the game.
3. A team, for any reason, fails to finish the game.

Any team failing to appear for a game at the appointed time and place is responsible for paying the referee fees for all assigned referees present at the game. The League Commissioner will be notified of the situation as soon as possible and will report the incident to the Interior Field Lacrosse Commission Executive for further action.

Any club(s) who does not pay any outstanding referee fees from any defaulted game(s) prior to the completion of the current league schedule will be considered in bad standing and none of their teams will be allowed to represent the IFLC in the Provincial Championships.

f) Commissioners are to be notified of all game changes.

g) Potential costs incurred by cancellations of less than 48 hours, will be billed to the offending association/team.

15.2 Play-Off Schedule

The IFLC Executive, if required, will determine a playoff format after the B.C. Field Directorate has declared the number of IFLC teams eligible for the Field Provincials. If no playoff format is required, then the final league standings will be used to determine the declared IFLC teams eligible for the Field Provincials. The league will declare based on the number of players registered and teams registered how it would like to represent the zone at the Provincial Championships.

15.3 Provincial Championships

Participation in the Provincial Championship Tournament will be at a venue, time and under rules and format as set by the Provincial Committee of the Field Directorate.

15.4 Hosting of Provincial Championships

Member Associations of the IFLC interested in hosting the Provincials must apply to the IFLC for endorsement of written application to be submitted to the Field Directorate Annual General Meeting.

16 FIELDS AND GAMES

16.1 Game Time and Field Availability

A list of times and field locations for each association must be submitted to the IFLC Executive prior to August 1 for the creation of a schedule.

16.2 Home Team Responsibility

1. Lining fields and cones
2. Nets
3. Timekeepers table and time/score keepers
4. Balls
5. Officials (certified field lacrosse referees) as per Field Directorate Operating Policy Regulations
6. It is the responsibility of both teams to keep their spectators to the sidelines opposite the player's benches wherever possible.
7. A sign in booth for referees to be accounted for and paid by the home team, as well as picking up game sheets

16.3 Score Sheets

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the game sheet is clearly and properly filled out prior to the start of each home game. Game sheets must be protected from the weather to ensure they are legible. Improper score sheets may be considered invalid for league results and player eligibility for the Provincials. The home team's scorekeeper is responsible for distributing the copies of the game sheet at the conclusion of a game. The winning team's representative is given the top 2 copies of the game sheet (white and yellow). The losing team's representative is given the bottom copy of the game sheet (pink). In the event of a tie, the home team's representative is given the top 2 copies of the game sheet. The winning team's coach or manager is responsible for submitting the original game sheet (top white copy) to the League Commissioner. A copy of the game sheet can be faxed to the League Commissioner. A copy of the game sheet can be faxed to the League Commissioner within 24 hours after the conclusion of the respective game. The original game sheet must be mailed to the League Commissioner within 3 days after the conclusion of the respective game. In the event of a tie the home team's coach or manager is responsible for submitting the original game sheet. Failure to submit a game sheet to the League Commissioner on time will result in the forfeit of any points awarded to teams for the respective game.

16.4 Problem Reporting

All expulsion penalties must be reported to the league commissioner either verbally or by email within forty-eight (48) hours, and a written game report submitted within five (5) days by the senior referee of the game. All defaulted games must be reported to the league commissioner either verbally or by email within forty-eight (48) hours by host team.

16.5 Game Length

Games will consist of four quarters - quarter may vary in each division as follows:

- a) Under 10 and Under 12 games - 12 minute quarters (minimum) or as time and field conditions permit.
- b) Under 14 games - 15 minute quarters (minimum) or as time and field conditions permit.
- c) Under 16 games - 15 minute quarters (minimum) or as time and field conditions permit.
- d) Under 19 games - 18 minute quarters (minimum) or as time and field conditions permit.

16.6 Tie Games

In the event of the score being tied at the end of regulation playing time, then overtime shall be played as per the provisions of the International Lacrosse Federation Rule Book. IFLC League games shall consist only of regulation time regardless of the outcome.

16.7 Uniforms

Each team's uniform must conform to the ILF regulations regarding player's numbers on the front and back of team jerseys. It is up to the Home Team to have alternate jerseys or pinnies if there is a color conflict.

16.8 Personal Equipment

All players participating in sanctioned regular season, exhibition or provincial play shall be required to wear mouthguards. The mouthguards must be properly worn when involved in the play on or near the ball. The infraction for not having the mouthguard properly worn in the above noted situations shall be a technical foul.

Concerning jewelry, no player shall wear items of jewelry such as chains and earrings that could cause injury to them (for example: long dangling necklaces or exposed earrings).

1. The onus is on the coaches and/or managers of the player's team to ensure that the player is not wearing jewelry that might be considered unsafe.
2. Officials on the field have the discretion of stopping play to send the player off the field to take the jewelry off. Players who have been sent off but return with the jewelry still on, shall be penalized an unsportsmanlike penalty – time served is at the discretion of the official calling the infraction.

17 OFFICIALS

17.1 Game Officials

A minimum of two officials is preferred for each game in each division, with the Senior Official being certified. In certain circumstances, one referee may be used. This decision will be made with the league executives at the field.

Should only one referee show up for a scheduled game, every effort must be made to locate another referee, certified or not. If another referee is located and it happens to be a parent or a sibling of one of the players playing in that game it should be noted on the score sheet. Both coaches should also be made aware of the fact and they should initial the score sheet to indicate that they have been notified.

If only one official is present to referee a game, then that official has the right to call off the game if there are concerns about his/her ability to maintain control of that game. The decision to continue must be made in consultation with BOTH coaches AND BOTH coaches must agree to continue with one referee. As per B.C. Field Directorate Operating Policy, a game cannot be played without at least one certified official.

17.2 Officials Credentials

Each official must be certified as a field lacrosse referee. A field lacrosse referee should be at least 2 (two) years older than the division being refereed.

17.3 Proper Uniforms and Equipment

Officials must wear approved uniforms (minimum striped jersey and hat) and must carry the following equipment:

- penalty flag
- whistles
- tape measure
- coin (for toss)
- string for repairing net

17.4 Payment of Officials

- Game fees are those set by the BCLA Operating Policy OR those recommended by the League.
- Officials are to be paid after the game unless other arrangements have been made beforehand.
- If only one official is present to referee a game, and the game is played with only one referee, then that official will receive both game fees. If the game is not played, then he will only receive payment from the home team.
- Officials will still receive payment if a team(s) does not show up for games.
- Officials must be given 48 hours notice of cancellation; otherwise they are entitled to their fees. This does not include unforeseen circumstances such as weather and field closures.

17.5 Authority of Officials

Officials' authority begins when he arrives at the field and will end when the teams proceed to their respective bench area following the handshakes, should there be one. If there is no handshake, the authority will end when the teams are under the control of the head coach.

18 AGING UP or DOWN/PLAYING UP

18.1 Aging Down

A player of small stature and/or limited skills may be allowed to play down one division. The association with which he/she registers must apply in writing along with a request from the parent(s) to do so, to the League Commissioner. The Commissioner shall evaluate the player to decide whether or not the player should play down in the lower division. Notwithstanding the said player will not be eligible to compete in the lower division for provincial championship.

18.2 Playing Up

Subject to the residency rules, and as long as the player fulfills his/her commitment to his/her registered team first, a player can play up unlimited games in a higher division provided his/her club or association, coach or team manager has given permission, subject to the following:

- a) A player may play up one age division to their existing tier caliber or higher
 - a. ie: tier 1 to tier 1 only, tier 2 to tier 2 or tier 1, tier 3 to tier 3 or tier 2 or tier 1.
- b) Players may play up any tier caliber within their age division to a maximum of 3 regular season games. ie: tier 2 to tier 1, tier 3 to tier 1
- c) No player may play from a higher caliber tier to a lower caliber tier
ie. tier 1 U-13 to tier 2 U-13, tier 1 U-13 to tier 2 U-15.

19 RESIDENCY RULES

19.1 Residency

A player living in an area/municipality or city which has an association registered with the Interior Field Lacrosse Commission and the B.C. Lacrosse Association must register and play for said team in the association area, unless the player has been released by his/her home association. If a player does not want to play with the home association, the player must obtain a release from the home association. With the written permission of the player's home association, as well as the permission of the association that the player wishes to join, the player may move to an association other than that in which he/she lives. A copy of the release must accompany the team registration to the Field Registrar and the BCLA Office. If the player has played the two previous consecutive seasons with another association as an eligible player (living within that association's home area, or properly released), the player has the option of signing and playing with either his/her home association or the association he/she previously played for. Failure to abide by this regulation will result in the player be declared ineligible. Any team found guilty of playing an ineligible player shall forfeit all games won during which an ineligible player was a participant.

19.2 Releases

a) Where no team is available within the player's age group, the player may play for another Association with written release from his/her home association for the current playing season only. This release may not be counted as a grandfathering year.

b) No player may play with two associations in any given year unless the player who is already signed with an association moves to another area during the playing season. He/She must then receive permission from the division commissioner of his/her new area before he/she is eligible to play with a team in the new area.

c) If there is a dispute between associations concerning the release of a player, the division commissioner and the IFLC executive will have the right to place the transferring player with the association that they feel is in the best interest of the league and the player.

19.3 Boundaries

Boundaries shall be recognized as city or municipal, and all players living within these boundaries must register with their home association. IFLC registration boundary guidelines will be defined by where the registrant attends school and the corresponding school district map.

HOME ASSOCIATION	SCHOOL DISTRICT	MAP BOUNDARY EXCEPTION/AMENDMENT
Nicola Valley	Nicola-Similkameen 58	None
Kamloops	Kamloops/Thompson 73	Excluding Chase
Shuswap	Okanagan-Shuswap 83	Including Chase Excluding Armstrong and Spallumcheen
North Okanagan	Vernon 22	Including Armstrong and Spallumcheen
Kelowna	Central Okanagan 23	Excluding Peachland
Penticton	Okanagan Similkameen 53 Okanagan Skaha 67	Including Peachland

20 CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

20.1 Coaches

All team coaches and assistant coaches must be properly certified to participate in league games as required by the B.C. Lacrosse Coaches Association. All team coaches and assistant coaches must be properly certified to participate in the B.C. Youth Field Provincial Championships as required by the B.C. Lacrosse Coaches Association.

20.2 Referees

Each club is responsible for having not less than three (3) certified referees, with certification meeting the requirements as set out by the Head Referee of the B.C. Lacrosse Field Directorate.