

BY-LAWS OF THE MARYLAND YOUTH LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
WRITTEN 1984, AMENDED 1988, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1998, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2012,  
2013, 2014, 2015, 2025

BOYS DIVISION

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The By-Laws of the Maryland Youth Lacrosse Association (hereafter called MYLA) consists of a) all the rules and regulations governing MYLA and b) all interpretations of constitutional provisions and by-laws which are found in the minutes of the secretary.

A. LEAGUE STRUCTURE	
Pocket	Age 5-6
Tykers	Age 6-7-8
Lightnings	Age 9-10
Middies	Age 11-12
Juniors	Age 13-14

## B. Age Determination

A player's age is determined as described below

Birthdate	Age Bracket
Born between 9/01/2009 and 8/31/2011	U15
Born between 9/01/2011 and 8/31/2013	U13
Born between 9/01/13 and 8/31/2015	U11
Born between 9/01/2015 and 8/31/2018	U9
Born between 9/01/2018 and 8/31/202	Pockets

## C. Entry Requirements

1. Programs with one team in the Pocket, Tyker, Lightning, Middies, and Junior age groups are eligible to enter that team in the MYLA.

2. Juniors, Middies, Lightnings and Tykers will be broken down into A, B and C divisions. The league alignment dictates that if a program has 3 teams one must be an A (club team accounts as an A team). To break league alignment, you must get a waiver from the board.

3. Tykers games are as follow:

Tyker As will play 10 v 10 games. The 10 man game can be played on a smaller field.

Tyker Bs will play 8 v 8 games. The 10 man game can be played on a smaller field.

Tyker Cs will play 8 v 8 games. The 8 man game should be played on a smaller field.

4. League alignment across all age groups:

1 team - play B (or above)

2 teams - play B and C (or above)

3 teams - A, B and C

4 teams - A, B, and 2Cs

5 teams- A 2Bs, and 2Cs

6 teams - A 2Bs and 3Cs

Teams not adhering to this alignment are not eligible for the playoffs. (E.g., If a program has 3 Junior teams and places 1 A and 2 Cs then *all Junior teams* are not eligible for the playoffs.). There are no playoff games for tykers.

## D. Conference Alignments

The Lightning, Middle and Junior leagues shall be divided into A (or club) B and C conferences with the strongest teams in the A division, next strongest B, and least strong C.

## E. Conference Re-alignments

**All programs are encouraged to play at the highest level.** Teams that break league alignment and have a winning record will be required to follow league alignment the following year.

## F. Dues

Annual dues shall be established by the Board of Directors

#### G. Officials

Volunteer or paid officials may be used in the Tyker division. Tyker coaches may be on the field of play and participate if agreed upon by both teams.

All other league games (Lightning, Middie and Junior) games shall be refereed by SLOA officials.

#### H. Rosters

Team rosters and league fees shall be submitted to the President prior to receiving game schedules. This needs to be done no later than the Sunday prior to the first league game. League fees should be mailed to

MYLA  
PO Box 5313  
Timonium, MD 21094-5313

Rosters **MUST BE AVAILABLE** for exchange with opposing coaches prior to each game. It is the responsibility of the program to have rosters. A standardized league roster shall be used and should be signed by all coaches to verify the accuracy of the information. The roster should include players name, birth date, age, and uniform number.

#### I. Roster Revisions

Each team is allowed roster revisions prior to the third game of the current season. Any changes made after that date must be approved by the Board.

#### J. Home Field Responsibilities

1. The home field coach or program shall insure that the playing field is in proper condition (line correctly). There should be a table, a horn, scorebook, a timekeeper, and two time clocks. The scorer's table shall be staffed by no more than 2 people at one time. If no scorer is provided, the referees will keep score on the field.

2. NOTE: A first aid kit shall be provided by the home team for both teams use. Ice, either fresh or chemical cold packs, shall be available for injured players.

3. Shall a field be unplayable, the home team must inform the opposing team and game officials two hours prior to the starting time. An effort to reschedule should occur at that time and all parties notified, including the referees.

4. No parent should be on the bench side of the field at all. Only coaches and players on the roster may be in the team area. One warning by the game official and then an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty will be assessed to the offending team.

5. The home team is responsible for providing a safe site on which to play the game. The safety of the site is not subject to compromise. The decision of the referee in this respect is final.

#### K. Equipment

National High School Federation rules apply, with the following exceptions:

1. Stick length for Tykers is maximum 52" and minimum 36"

And for Lightning the maximum is 72” and the minimum is 36”.

2. Helmets should have 4 point chin straps (not mandatory).
3. Shoulder pads are mandatory (football pads are illegal on field players).
4. Arm pads are mandatory for ALL players (including goalie).
5. Gloves must cover entire hand.
6. Cups are encouraged
7. All balls must be Nocsae approved. Games will not be played with any other ball.

#### L. Time of Play

Tyker - 10 minute running clock, with regulation clock the last two minutes of game if score is within 2.

Lightning - 10 minute running clock, with regulation clock the last two minutes of game if score is within 2.

Middie - 8 minute regulation clock.

Juniors - 10 minute regulation clock

Overtime – Tyker games end at the end of regulation play and no overtime is used. Lightning, Middie and Junior games play 4 minute overtime periods by Federation rule until a winner is determined.

During the last 2 minutes of play and during any overtime play, the 20 and 10 second counts by Federation rule will be enforced.

#### M. Time Outs

Tyker, Lightning, Middie, and Juniors - 2 time outs per half

#### N. Penalties

National High School Federation rules apply with the following exceptions;

Tykers may substitute for offending player (who will serve the penalty).

All one handed checks shall be called a slash (whether contact is made or not) and the player shall be assessed a penalty.

#### O. Four Goal Rule

This rule applies to all leagues and conferences.

If a team is behind by 4 goals, the face-off is suspended. Face-offs shall continue at the beginning of each quarter.

#### P. Game Schedule

Lightning, Middie, and Juniors shall play a 10 game schedule. 7 games played on weekends and 3 weekday games when possible. Tykers shall play a 7 game schedule.

**NO GAMES SHALL BE SCHEDULED ON EASTER WEEKEND**

#### Q. Official Fees

Teams utilizing SLOA officials will be assessed a scheduling fee per official, to be paid to the Commissioner of Officials.

Game fees along with administration fees will be billed directly to the program directors. Referee fees are paid by MYLA through the RefPay app. No cash is exchanged on the field. If no official is

present, the game may be rescheduled. However, if both teams agree an unofficial referee may preside over the game in order so the game may be played.

#### R. Rescheduling of Games

No games are to be rescheduled. Exceptions to this are weather and field conflicts such as when two games are scheduled at the same time. All games are to be played as scheduled. If a team is unable to field a team for a game they must notify the opposing team and officials 48 hours in advance. The game is considered a forfeit.

#### S. Minimum Play

All players shall participate to the fullest extent possible and must participate at least the equivalent of one quarter of every game. The coach is responsible for carrying out this rule.

#### T. Post Season Play

Post season play applies to Lightning, Middie and Junior divisions:

In each division the top four teams shall be eligible for the playoffs. The first round: the top seed will play the fourth seed, and the second seed will play the third seed. The first round of games must take place during the first week of playoffs.

The championship round: The winner of the top bracket (1 v 4) plays the winner of the second bracket (2 v 3), the winner of the third bracket (3 v 6) plays the winner of the fourth bracket (2 v 7). These games shall take place during the MYLA championship weekend.

The championship team will be awarded medals for their players.

#### U. Substitution

A horn for substitutions may be requested on any out of bounds ball. No horns for substitution may occur: for inadvertent whistles, officials time-out, and non-time serving penalties.

#### V. Bleeding

Any player who is bleeding must leave the field, and have the injury immediately tended to with cleansing agent and bandage. The player may return with approval from coach.

#### W. Tyker Rules

Fast Break Rule: On any normal time serving penalty, the team which has been fouled will be awarded the ball and placed in position for a fast break. The player who has committed the foul must be substituted out. He is replaced by another so that both teams are always full strength and never play man down. The ball will be restarted on the offensive end, in front of the goal, a few yards outside the offensive box by a middie. All other middies are positioned on the defensive half of the field. On the sound of the whistle, all players are live. The offensive team will have a brief man-up opportunity.

Body Check Rule: At the Tyker level, the only player permitted to be body checked is the player in possession of the ball while attacking the goal. All other body checking will be illegal. This rule is not intended to prevent boys from having contact when going after a loose ball or playing good

defense. It is intended to penalize a player from body checking another player who is standing outside of a pile, even though the ball is loose and he is within 5 yards. No take out checks allowed.