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ANNE ARUNDEL BOYS LACROSSE **2021 RULE MODIFICATIONS**

REMEMBER - SPORTSMANSHIP - BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE GAME !

Incident weather cancellation website: <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/cancellation-notice>
Please sign up for text and e-mail alerts regarding field closures. Click on the cancellation link for more information.

RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES Updated 2/2021

Participation in Recreation & Parks programs is only allowed if you have had no signs or symptoms of COVID-19, and you have not been exposed to someone who has had signs or symptoms of COVID-19 for a minimum period of 14 days before participation. If you have had a positive test for COVID-19, you must be cleared from isolation by the Health Department to resume participation.

- Participation in athletic programs requires a signed Anne Arundel County COVID Waiver Form. The form can be found on our website at:
<https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/forms-and-publications/index.html>
- If you are sick or feel sick, you should remain home;
- Masks are required in all areas except when on the field of play;
- Masks are not required for players and officials while on the field of play, but are recommended;
- Masks are required by all volunteers and spectators not on the playing field. A representative from each team will be asked to ensure Social Distancing and Return to Play Guidelines are followed;
- A list of players, coaches and volunteers who attend each practice and game should be kept. This list will be requested by the Health Department if someone tests positive for COVID-19. If a team member does test positive the organization must contact the Health Department at 410-222-7095 or 443-481-3140;
- Everyone should have and use hand sanitizer during at all activities;
- Assign an area for each player to place their equipment – 6' apart from each other;
- No sharing of drink bottles or any personal equipment;
- No centralized hydration or refreshment areas;
- Participants should refrain from handshakes, huddles and high fives;
- Tents are not permitted with the exception of medical tents;
- At the conclusion of the game, please leave the field immediately after the game. Do not congregate at the field or in the parking lot.

COACH ELIGIBILITY:

BACKGROUND CHECK: As a prerequisite for participation (practice or games), ANY adult who has care, custody or control of youth participants in any youth program or activity is required to successfully complete a background check. Head coach must make sure that all assistant coaches have a current background check with Anne Arundel County Recreation and Park.

CONCUSSION AWARENESS: All coaches should know the Symptoms of a Concussion and the Action Steps to take for a concussion. All players and parents must read and complete the A.A. County Recreation & Parks Concussion Awareness form on the R&P website. This form is to be signed by player and parent and kept on file with the Player's Team Organization.

COACHES CLINIC: The County Coaches Clinic is being revised and will soon be virtual. In the meantime, please review the concussion training on the NFHSlearn.org site and check out the training modules at USLacrosse.org.

POLICIES: All teams, coaches and spectators must follow the Anne Arundel County Guidelines and Reference Manual, which can be found on the County website.

<u>LEAGUES</u>		<u>AGE ELIGIBILITY</u>	<u>GAMES</u>
CLINIC	2 ND /3 RD 8YR & 9YR	9/1/12 through 8/31/11	7 games
PEE WEE	4 TH /5 TH 10YR & 11YR	9/1/10 through 8/31/09	7 games
MIDDIE	6 TH /7 TH 12YR & 13YR	9/1/08 through 8/31/07	7 games
JUNIOR _(No HS)	8 TH /9 TH 14YR & 15YR	9/1/06 through 8/31/05	7 games

Players can only play and be rostered on one (1) team in the 10v10 league and one (1) team in the 7v7 league.

An ineligible player and the coach are liable for suspension and disciplinary action.

Players playing on a High School scholastic lacrosse team at any level may not play in the County leagues.

ROSTERS, PLAYERS' CONTRACT AND COACHES PLEDGE: Due: Tuesday, April 6, 2021

Please submit electronically. Roster Packet should include:

- ✓ A Roster for each team
- ✓ A Players' Contract (sign by parent) for each player on the roster.
- ✓ A Coaches Pledge for each coach.

Documentation should be scanned and placed in a folder for each team.

All paperwork can be found online: <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/sports/lacrosse-boys/>

No new players after April 26, 2021.

MINIMUM PLAY

Clinic & Pee Wee – Each player in uniform shall play a **minimum of 50% of each game.** Exceptions will be made in the event of illness, injury or disciplinary action.

Middie & Junior – Each player in uniform shall play a **minimum of 25% of each game.** Exceptions will be made in the event of illness, injury or disciplinary action.

HOME FIELD RESPONSIBILITIES

When not playing on AA County turf fields, it is the responsibility of the **organization** whose field the game is to be played to ensure that the field is ready for play. In most instances, this will be the home team, but in some cases it may not. For example, when Team A plays Team B at Organization C's field, it is the responsibility of Organization C to ensure that the field is ready for play. "Ready for play" means that the field is: lined, substitution area is marked, and goals are in position with game quality nets, and field corners must be marked with soft/flexible cones, pylons or flags.

SAFETY TURF RULES

- Follow established Board of Education policies regarding use of athletic facilities.
- Coaches and Players only on the turf areas. Spectators **MUST** use the bleachers and not fields or track.
- Chairs are **NOT** allowed on the fields or track.
- Water **ONLY** on the turf. No gum allowed in stadium areas, near the turf field or track. Sunflower seeds are not allowed on the turf or track.
- Dogs are not permitted within the gates of the stadium or turf field areas.
- No tobacco products are allowed on school property or playing fields.

RESCHEDULING OF GAMES

Rescheduled Games: The County will **NOT** reschedule games cancelled by the coaches or organizations.

Cancelled games by coaches or organizations without notification and acknowledgement by the County Sports Supervisor will result in full payment to the officials by the organization.

Rain out Games:

If game cancellation is not posted on the website or on the hotline number, go to the field unless you have received a call that the field is unplayable.

Inclement weather cancellation website: <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/cancellation-notice>. Please sign up for text and e-mail alerts regarding field closures.

Inclement weather decisions made by the County will be posted by 4:30pm on weekdays, weekends by 9 am. If games have not been cancelled (*there will **NOT** be an update*), go to the field where the official will determine whether the game is playable.

If a game is 50% or more complete and is cancelled due to weather it is considered a full game.

If a game is less than 50% complete and is cancelled due to weather it will be restarted at the beginning.

In either situation the officials will be paid a full game fee as well as if the game is restarted.

OFFICIAL'S FEES – Head Coach of each team is required to have cash on the field to pay Official(s) for the games assigned by the County. Payment is Due BEFORE game begins.
Refs will not start the game until paid in full.

<u>CLINIC</u>	<u>PEE WEE</u>	<u>MIDDIES</u>	<u>JUNIORS</u>
\$27/team for 1 ref	\$52/team for 2 refs	\$58/team for 2 refs	\$58/team for 2 refs

If no Officials show for the clinic division the coaches will officiate the game and there will be no protest. If one Official works when there is should be two Officials, the one Official will be paid 1-1/2. The fee is: Pee Wee - \$39.00/team totaling \$78.00 Middle & Junior - \$43.50/team totaling \$87.00

Note: number of scheduled games played may be less than assigned, due to inclement weather and scheduling conflicts.

- OFFICIALS (NO-SHOW)** - If no Officials show for the an assigned game;
- Clinic - The coaches can ref the game and the game cannot be protested;
 - Pee Wee - Official fee will be paid 1-1/2 times the fee.
 - Middle & Junior Leagues – will be rescheduled on the rain date if schedule permits.

FORFEITS – if Team B does not show, then Team B must pay the refs fee for both Team A & Team B. The official's fee for Team A & B **MUST** be paid to the AACYLA by Team B **BEFORE** Team B can play any other scheduled game. Official's fee from Team B can be dropped off at the R&P office. All subsequent games are subject to forfeit until payment is received.

STANDINGS FOR PEE WEE (A), MIDDIES (ALL), JUNIOR (ALL) LEAGUES:

It is required that the teams report their game results on the aalax.org website **by 9am every Monday.** The team must submit score to the Commissioner within 6 hours of completion of the game. When submitting in score, the email must be in the following format:

1. League name,
2. Location of game,
3. Both teams' names,
4. Final score and
5. Number of officials.
6. Any issues with the field

Please report any game issues immediately.

Failure of winning team submitting game score in proper format = LOSS!

Updated standings will be made online every Thursday.

PLAY OFFS

There will not be playoffs this season

DISCIPLINE ACTION FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

An ejected player, coach or parent will receive a minimum of an automatic two-game suspension; to be served during the next scheduled game, and probation for remainder of season. This punitive action may not be appealed. The ejected player, coach or adult must leave the immediate playing area and may not participate in the game in any manner.

The coach is responsible for the conduct of any person connected with his team at all times. This includes conduct towards the officials. Abuse to an official or an opposing player by a fan with no attempt by the management of the team to eliminate it will be dealt with by the Department of Recreation and Parks.

If a coach feels that a problem spectator(s) is not a team supporter, the coach should request the official to remove the spectator from the vicinity.

LEAGUE PLAYING GUIDELINES

2021 leagues are playing High School Federation rules (with the below exceptions) and are governed by the Recreation and Parks Guidelines and Reference Manual.

****Spectators must be on opposite side of teams****

NFHS Rule Changes and POINTS of EMPHASIS:

No mouthpiece No play! ALL Players must have a colored mouthpiece in their mouth at ALL times during play. • 1st offense - 30 second penalty.

Legal Body Checks as defined by the NFHS Federation Rule Book are still allowed; however, there is an increased awareness and focus on player safety and in accordance with this, "take out checks" or body checks that are deemed "unnecessary" have no part in the game and will be called and penalized accordingly. Officials and coaches should use Unnecessary Roughness as a guide for what can be deemed unnecessary.

RESTARTS - an immediate whistle (unless an offensive teammate is within 5 yards of the player in possession. The defending player on any restart shall establish a distance of 5 yards. Defensive player may be liable for a 'delay of game'.

ILLEGAL CROSSE - ALL illegal crosses will be assessed a 2-minute non-releasable penalty. In previous years the penalty could have been a 1-minute or 3-minute penalty

THROWING A CROSSE - depending on the circumstances the penalty is a 1, 2 or 3 minute non-releasable unsportsmanlike penalty

CLINIC:

****All spectators are required to be across the field from the player's bench. No spectators on the end lines.**

1. 12-minute quarters – running time (clock stops for official timeouts only). NO 10 sec. or 20 sec. count.
2. In the event of a tie – the game is over - NO Overtime.
3. A player called for a time-serving foul must be replaced.
4. One coach from each team allowed on the field during play. Must remain in the alley areas.
5. Controlled stick checks only – NO baseball swings or tomahawk chops. Play must have both hands on the crosse when checking.
6. Free clear after 4-goal lead. Unless Coach who is behind informs official that he want to continue to face off.
7. Face off to start each quarter; (except per NFHS rules book). DO NOT need the mandatory 6 inches of tape on the top of their stick per NFHS rules to face off.
8. Standing and Playoffs for the A league only.
9. There will be one official to officiate. If no official is present, the coaches will officiate.
10. All players must wear a protective helmet, protective gloves, shoulder pads and arm pads.
11. Goalkeepers MUST wear arm pads, a throat protector and a chest protector.
12. Stick length: 36" – 42" or 54" for long pole defender, max 3 on the field.
13. NO random stick checks.
14. A team must attempt a pass once they are across midfield or after a change of possession.
15. Officials CAN require a player to sit out a portion of a quarter, an entire quarter or remove him from the game for repeated personal fouls or for flagrant foul.
16. Coaches and players use of profanity will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the game.
17. Substitutions are permitted after the ball has gone out of bounds at any point on the SIDELINE or the ENDLINE.
18. If a goalkeeper commits a time serving penalty, the In-Home can serve the penalty unless it's for unsportsmanlike conduct.
19. NO BODY CHECKS! (See Point of Emphasis).
20. If penalty is committed, flag down and play continues until possession is changed.
21. Only 6 COACHES ARE PERMITTED ON THE TEAM SIDELINES. (This includes penalty time or game time keepers, box coaches, water-boys or any other adult/player not on the team.)

PEE WEE:

****All spectators are required to be across the field from the player's bench. No spectators on the end lines.**

1. 12-minute quarters – running time (clock stops for official timeouts only). NO 10 sec. or 20 sec. count.
2. In the event of a tie – the game is over - NO Overtime
3. Controlled stick checks only – NO baseball swings or tomahawk chops. Player must have both hands on the crosse when checking.
4. Free clear after 4-goal lead: Unless Coach who is behind informs official he wants to continue to face-off.
5. Face off to start each quarter; (except per NFHS rules book). DO NOT need the mandatory 6 inches of tape on the top of their stick per NFHS rules to face off.
6. No standings will be kept except for A division
7. If no officials are present, the coaches will officiate.
8. All players must wear a protective helmet, protective gloves, shoulder pads and arm pads, optional.
9. Goalies MUST wear chest protector and throat protector. Arm pads & Shoulder pads are optional.
10. Stick length: 36" – 42" or 52" – 72"
11. NO random stick checks.
12. Officials CAN require a player to sit out a portion of a quarter, an entire quarter or remove him from the game for repeated personal fouls or for flagrant foul.
13. Coaches and players use of profanity will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the game.
14. Substitutions are permitted after the ball has gone out of bounds at any point on the SIDELINE or the ENDLINE.
15. If a goalkeeper commits a time serving penalty, the In-Home can serve the penalty unless it's for unsportsmanlike conduct.
16. NO TAKE-OUT CHECKS or UNNECESSARY or EXCESSIVE body contact as defined in the NFHS Rules. (See Point of Emphasis)
17. Only 6 COACHES ARE PERMITTED ON THE TEAM SIDELINES. (This includes penalty time or game time keepers, box coaches, water-boys or any other adult/player not on the team.)

MIDDIES AND JUNIORS

****Coaches and Players only on the turf areas, this includes track. Spectators must use the bleachers, not on field or track.**

1. 10-minute quarters with start/stop time.
2. 10 or 20 second count will be used for ALL LEVELS.
3. Face-off to start each quarter and overtime period; (except per NFHS rules book).
4. Free clear after 4-goal lead, (Jr only B&C) unless coach who is behind informs the official he wants to continue to face off.
5. If there's a 10-goal differential anytime during the 4th quarter, the clock is running and stops only when the differential is lower than 10 goals or an officials time out.
6. If after four quarters the game is tied – there will be a 4-minute "sudden victory" period. **No limit on the number of overtimes.**
7. If no officials show, game will be rescheduled at a future date.
8. All players must wear a protective helmet, protective gloves, arm pads and shoulder pads.
9. Goalies MUST wear chest protector and throat protector. Arm pads & Shoulder pads are optional.
10. Stick length: 40"- 42" or 52" – 72";
11. Sticks - follow 2019 NHFS rules regarding stick dimensions.
12. Tape rule. Contrasting colored (head and gloves) tape is OK as long as not touching head and contrasting colored shafts are permitted.
13. Coaches and players use of profanity will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the game
14. NO TAKE-OUT CHECKS or UNNECESSARY or EXCESSIVE body contact as defined in the NFHS Rules (See Point of Emphasis)
15. Only 6 COACHES ARE PERMITTED ON THE TEAM SIDELINES. (This includes penalty time or game time keepers, box coaches, water-boys or any other adult/player not on the team.)

7 v 7 – (Small Ball) Game Rules and Regulations

2 Attack, 2 Middies, 2 Defense, Goalie

60 by 35 yard

Goal line is 10 yds from end line, No restraining box

Cones should be on sidelines, end lines and crease

Clinic, PeeWee & Middle Leagues: 2 16-min running halves, 4-min halftime

Junior League: 10-minute Start/Stop clock.

Penalties: 30 sec or 1 min

1 TO per half (30secs), none in last 2mins of the half or game.

All subs on the fly, no horns

7v7 Rule Update:

- More of a Clarification: 7v7, each coach pays the ref \$25
- One Pass Rule - One pass (attempt) must be made on the offensive half of the field prior to shooting.
- Anyone can restart after a goal is scored. If it's a field player, the restart must occur in one of the alleys of the field
- We are good to move the time to 20 minutes a half, but only have a 3 minute half time. You all have to immediately leave the field so the next two teams can have 10 minutes of a warm up, as well as set up the field.

OFFICIAL'S FEES – Head Coach of each team is required to have cash on the field to pay Official(s) for the games assigned by the County. Payment is Due BEFORE game begins.

Refs will not start the game until paid in full.

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STANDINGS FOR MIDDIES, JUNIOR LEAGUES:

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1. League name,
2. Location of game,
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