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Anne Arundel Boys Lacrosse 2025 Rule Modifications

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

Inclement weather cancellation website:

<https://www.aacounty.org/services-and-programs/recreation-and-parks-alerts>

Please sign up for text and e-mail alerts regarding field closures. Click on the cancellation link for more information.

COMMISSIONER & COACH ELIGIBILITY:

BACKGROUND CHECK: As a prerequisite for participation (practice or games), ANY adult (age 18 and over) with care and custody of a child and recognized by a Recreation/Sports Association as a prospective Commissioner/Coach/Volunteer must complete a Volunteer Background Consent/Release Form prior to participating with the team. The Volunteer Background Consent/Release Form is good for three (3) years. The Head coach must make sure that all assistant coaches have a current background check with Anne Arundel County Recreation and Park. Here is a link to get a background check, [Click Here](#).

COACHES CLINIC: All Head Coaches must complete a Volunteer Background Consent/Release Form, the Online Coaches Training Modules and the Youth Sports Coaches' Code of Ethics every 3 years. When you complete any of the *free training modules*, you will receive a certificate after each module. Please print the certificate and upload the certificates under *my info link* in the Team Sports Portal. Assistant Coaches must complete the Background and Code of Ethics/Coaches Pledge.

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.

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

LEAGUE AGE ELIGIBILITY

STICKLETTE/CLINIC	K/1 st /2 nd Grade	5 yr, 6yr & 7yr (on or after Sept 1, 2024)
PEE WEE	3rd/4th Grade	8yr & 9yr (on or after Sept 1, 2024)
MIDDIE	5th/6th Grade	10yr & 11yr (on or after Sept 1, 2024)
JUNIOR	7th/8 th Grade	12yr & 13yr (on or after Sept 1, 2024)

Players can only play and be rostered on one (1) team in the 10v10 league and one (1) team in the 7v7 league, 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 Wednesday, March 26th. Go to the Team Sports Portal to submit the roster packet. **No new players after April 21, 2025.**

ID CARDS & ROSTERS: Teams will be required to have both roster and ID cards or the game is subject to forfeiture. Coaches will exchange team ID cards and roster. Opposing coaches will check the roster and ID cards of players. The opposing head coach and referee will monitor the process. No helmets will be worn during ID checks.

MINIMUM PLAY

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 canceled by the coaches or organizations.

Canceled 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, go to the field unless you have received a call that the field is unplayable.

Inclement weather cancellation website: <https://www.aacounty.org/services-and-programs/recreation-and-parks-alerts>. 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 7:30am. If games have not been canceled (*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 canceled due to weather it is considered a full game.***
- ***If a game is less than 50% complete and is canceled 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** the game begins.

Sixes League

Pee Wee: \$37/team for 1 ref	6 games played on Fridays - No Playoffs
Middie: \$37/team for 1 ref	6 games played on Fridays - No Playoffs
Junior: \$37/team for 1 refs	6 games played on Fridays - No Playoffs

10 v 10 League

Pee Wee: \$65/team for 2 refs	A & B levels	7 games played on Saturdays + top 4 Playoffs in each level
Middie: \$65/team for 2 ref	A & B levels	7 games played on Saturdays + top 4 Playoffs in each level
Junior: \$70/team for 2 refs	A & B levels	7 games played on Sundays + top 4 Playoffs in each level

If one official works when there should be two Officials, the one Official will be paid 1-1/2. Example: fee for 2 refs is \$65/team totaling \$130, the fee for 1 ref will be \$48.75/ team, totaling \$97.50.

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 assigned game; game 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. All subsequent games are subject to forfeit until payment is received.

STANDINGS FOR LEAGUES: It is required that the teams report their game results on the Team Sports Portal **by 9am every Monday**. Good habit, update scores immediately after the game. The team must submit scores 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 could = Loss!

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 the remainder of the 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 ejected person may also need to take the officials training.
- 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

2025 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. A 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 un sportsmanlike penalty

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 the coach who is behind informs the officials he wants to continue to face-off.
5. Face-off: players should be standing (off their knees) with a neutral grip hand nearest the head must be palm up. (No motorcycle grip.)
6. Standings will be kept at all levels (A, B and C)
7. If no officials are present, the coaches will officiate.
8. All players must wear a protective helmet, protective gloves, shoulder pads (NOCSEA approved) and arm pads, optional.
9. Goalies MUST wear chest protector (NOCSEA approved) 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. Six 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.).
18. Equipment: cups are now required equipment (we won't do cup checks) when we ask the coach to certify if their players are properly equipped, that will be good enough for us. If it's discovered later, say to injury, a player doesn't have one... it will be a 1 minute non-releasable penalty.
19. Eye black should be a one finger width strip under the eye(s). No face painting or 7's etc.

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. 20 seconds to cross midfield. 10 to get in the box
3. Face-off: players should be standing (off their knees) with a neutral grip hand nearest the head must be palm up. (No motorcycle grip.)
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, games will be rescheduled at a future date.
8. All players must wear a protective helmet, protective gloves, arm pads and shoulder pads (NOCSEA approved).
9. Goalies **MUST** wear chest protector (NOCSEA approved) and throat protector. Arm pads & Shoulder pads are optional.
10. Stick length: 40”- 42” or 52” – 72”;
11. Sticks - follow 2019 NFHS 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. Six coaches are permitted on the team sideline. (This includes penalty time or game time keepers, box coaches, water-boys or any other adult/player not on the team.)
16. Equipment: cups are now required equipment (we won't do cup checks) when we ask the coach to certify if their players are properly equipped, that will be good enough for us. If it's discovered later, say to injury, a player doesn't have one... it will be a 1 minute non-releasable penalty.
17. Eye black should be a one finger width strip under the eye(s). No face painting or 7's etc.

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

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

- 2 Attack, 2 Middies, 2 Defense, Goalie
- Roster max is 14 players
- 60 by 35 yard field
- Goal line is 10 yds from end line, No restraining box
- Cones should be on sidelines, end lines and crease
- PeeWee, Middle and Junior Leagues: two, 20 minute running time halves
- Penalties: 30 sec or 1 min
- 1 TO per half (30secs), No time outs in the last two minutes of the first half or end of game
- All subs on the fly, no horns
- Each team needs to bring cones and their own portable crease

Sixes – (Small Ball) Game Rules and Regulations

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

- 5 Runners, 1 Goalie
- 60 by 35 yard field
- 30-second shot clock
- Goalies initiate play after goals are scored; draws/face-offs occur only at the start of each quarter
- Rosters max is 12 players
- PeeWee, Middle and Junior Leagues: four, 8 minute running time quarters.
- A missed shot that goes out of bounds will result in a turnover.
- Penalties: 30 sec or 1 min
- 1 TO per game (30secs), No time outs in the last two minutes of game.
- All subs on the fly, no horns
- Each team needs to bring cones and their own portable crease