

SOUTH COAST LACROSSE LEAGUE

VOL. 1

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CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS 2023-2024



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ARTICLE I – NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

This organization is called the South Coast Lacrosse League. It is provided through the apparatus apparent in Lowlax Savannah, LLC.

ARTICLE II – OBJECT OF THE ORGANIZATION

The objective of the organization is to promote youth lacrosse in the greater Savannah area from a mental, physical, and moral standpoint. It aims to standardize and encourage youth lacrosse participation while fostering sportsmanship through age-based competitions. This league is for the youth first, last, and always. Any attempt by a coach or league official to circumvent or violate these rules is inexcusable misconduct, and will result in a fine, probation, suspension from league participation, or a combination of all three, determined by SCLL eligible voting membership.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: TEAMS ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP

The South Coast Lacrosse League membership includes public and school-affiliated youth teams from Georgia and South Carolina. Programs can enter into membership by certification process.

SECTION 2: CLASSIFICATION OF TEAMS

The SCLL is a grade-based lacrosse association with maximum age criteria. Many lacrosse participants vary tremendously in height and weight even within the same age categories. All participants in SCLL must participate at their age level irrespective of their size or other physical attributes or limitations. The SCLL will not consider any request for a lacrosse participant to play in an age group other than the one that participant is entitled to by virtue of their date of birth.

Bantam 1st - 2nd grade not to exceed 8 years of age as of September 1st of previous year.

Lightning 3rd – 4th grade not to exceed 10 years of age as of September 1st of previous year.

Junior 5th – 6th grade not to exceed 12 years of age as of September 1st of previous year.

Senior 7th & 8th grade not to exceed 14 years of age as of September 1st of previous year.

It is strongly recommended that teams use participants from local school zones to foster community spirit and at the same time prevent hardship on parents in transporting participants for long distances for practices.

Exceptions to this are listed in By-Laws 2.22 (c).

SECTION 3: MEMBERSHIP IN ANOTHER ASSOCIATION

Teams cannot join the South Coast Lacrosse League if they are already members of an association with conflicting Constitution and/or By-Laws.

ARTICLE IV - GOVERNANCE

SECTION 1: LEADERSHIP

The League Leadership (Executive Board) consists of a President & Vice President, known as the Executive Board.

SECTION 2: LEAGUE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The League Executive Committee includes one representative from each program / organization called "Liaison." Liaisons have voting rights on all Association matters except certification and disciplinary action.
- B. Members of the League Executive Committee elected or volunteered by program / organizations serve a two-year term.

- C. If a committee member cannot attend a meeting, the Association's President can appoint a qualified representative from the program/organization.
- D. The President can form smaller committees to address Association issues and proposals.
- E. Each League Executive Committee member has voting rights on all matters before the Committee.

SECTION 3: ADVISORY BOARD

The Advisory Board, appointed by the President, by majority vote, can assess additional penalties for intentional or grossly negligent violations of SCLL by-laws and rules by member teams. Penalties may include fines up to \$2,500 per offense, probation for one calendar year, or suspension from the SCLL for one full calendar year. Any penalties can be appealed to the SCLL Appeal Board.

SECTION 4: LEAGUE APPEAL BOARD

- A. The Appeal Board, consisting of three members, handles duties as outlined in Sec. 9
- B. There is no appeal for eligibility related to age restrictions specified in the by-laws.

SECTION 5: DUTIES OF LIAISONS

It is the responsibility of the Liaisons to educate team officials, players and parents on these by-laws and age specific rules and, when necessary, take ownership of penalties for rule violations.

SECTION 6: VOTE

Each team shall have one (1) vote in a League meeting and the President has (1) vote in a league meeting.

SECTION 7: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

- A. To change the Constitution, it requires a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee members present at a regular or properly called meeting with a quorum. Blank ballots, abstentions, and pass votes are not counted.
- B. To modify the By-Laws, it needs a majority vote of the Executive Committee members present at a regular or properly called meeting with a quorum. Blank ballots, abstentions, and pass votes are not counted.
- C. Any changes made to the Constitution & By-Laws will take effect in the next year unless otherwise specified in the change.
- D. Proposed Constitution changes must be approved at two separate meetings of the Executive Committee held at least 30 calendar days apart.

SECTION 8: VIOLATION OF RULES

- A. Each team is required to abide by all the rules of the South Coast Lacrosse League.
- B. The President is authorized to make such investigation as may be necessary and to have the Advisory Board judge whether a team has violated a rule. When a team is adjudged guilty, the Advisory Board is authorized to direct the penalty or penalties, including but not limited to, declaring a student ineligible to compete in SCLL activities for a period of up to four (4) years. The President shall also have the authority to refer allegations of intentional or grossly negligent violations of SCLL by-laws and rules by SCLL member teams or their personnel to the SCLL Advisory Board for considerations of additional penalties.
- C. A team violating any rule, whether it be due to carelessness, willfulness, ignorance or any other cause, may be subject to a fine of not more than two thousand-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) for each offense, and/or probation in the sports(s) in which the violation has been made, and/or suspension from the Association up to a full calendar year, and/or forfeiture of games and/or contests involved. (NOTE: See Appendix "B" at the end of this publication for a detailed schedule of fines).
- D. PROBATION - placing a team on probation permits a team to compete in regular season games and/or contests, but bars that team from competing for any championship during the period of probation.
- E. A team which, after investigation, is judged guilty of violating the rules of the South Coast Lacrosse League shall pay the costs incidental to such investigation; such cost to be in addition to fines or penalties assessed. Failure to pay the cost shall result in suspension or in lengthening the period of suspension.

SECTION 9: APPEAL BOARD PROCESS

Member teams, following a formal charge process, and receipt of a formal written notification of decision from the League Advisory Board, can appeal a decision of the League Advisory Board.

a. **Who may submit an appeal?**

1. Only the leadership of a club or team can make the determination and file the complaint to the proper authority. Complaints may not be submitted by individuals who are not in highest leadership on a team or club unless the complaint deals directly with that leader in question.

b. **How are complaint appeals conducted?**

1. All complaints shall be decided at a face-to-face meeting, via conference call or by electronic ballot.

What are the possible outcomes of an appeal?

c. **Denied Appeals** - If an appeal is denied the decision is communicated to the appellant, individual/team(s) in question, and team president/leader. No further action is needed beyond this point.

d. **Approved Appeals** – If an appeal is approved then a suitable punishment and path forward shall be handed down to the individual/team in question and the decision shall be communicated to the appellant, individual/team(s) in question, and team president/leader.

e. **What are suitable punishments?**

1. Written warning issued by the SCLL Board of Advisors.
2. Suspension or immediate ejection from a SCLL contest/event issued by SCLL Board of Advisors.
3. Suspension from multiple SCLL contests/events issued by the SCLL Board of Advisors.
4. Season suspension issued by the SCLL Board of Advisors.
5. Fines

f. **The Appeals Process is detailed below:**

Step 1: The Appellant (Team) submits the appeal using the Appeals Submission form. A copy of which can be found in Appendix C.

Step 2: League President will disclose details of the appeal to the League and invites submissions/responses and/or observations.

Step 3: League President will convene an Appeal Board to consider the submission from both parties (team and league). The Appeal Board will comprise of 3 independent members.

Step 4: The Appeals Board will decide on the outcome of the Appeal. Written notification of the decision will be issued to both parties. The decision is final and binding.

Note: Any attempt to influence the decision making process of the appeal board will result in forfeiture of the appeal by either party.

SECTION 10: CODE OF ETHICS

The South Coast Lacrosse League is committed to promoting honesty, truthfulness, and accurate record-keeping. The professional personnel, coaches, parents, players and spectators of member teams must follow the Code of Ethics in Appendix A.

BY-LAW - GENERAL

****Unless specifically noted, all rules apply to coaches, participants, parents, and spectators. ****

NOTE: All rules are subject to change.

1.01 The abbreviations SCLL used throughout these By-Laws refers to the South Coast Lacrosse League.

1.02 Under no circumstances may an official SCLL document be altered without the expressed written approval from the SCLL President. All official documents of the SCLL are listed and stored on the league drive.

1.03 Nothing in the By-Laws of the SCLL is intended to give any individual students of SCLL member teams any due process or other rights as only member teams are entitled to any notice or opportunity to be heard in any questions coming before the SCLL. No student of SCLL member teams shall have any rights or benefits under these By-Laws as a third party beneficiary or otherwise.

1.10 GENERAL INFORMATION:

1.11 The number of Lacrosse games allowed (not including preseason jamboree and playoff tournaments) shall be twelve (12). If a region/area chooses to hold a region/area tournament, those games must be included as part of the 12-game total allowed.

1.12 Teams arriving late for a scheduled contest by thirty (30) minutes or more shall forfeit the game and shall be responsible for payment of the officials unless prior arrangements are made in a timely manner. Consideration will be given to emergency situations over which the traveling team has no control. The host team has the responsibility of notifying the officials of any changes in the schedule.

1.13 Teams must enter additionally scheduled games, rosters, and weekly game results during the season on Google Drive and be responsible for updates as needed. Any additionally scheduled games must be submitted for approval at least two (2) weeks from when game will take place.

1.20 GAME PLAY:

1.21 It is the responsibility of the head coach of each team to ensure that all participants are properly equipped at game time.

1.22 All games will be played under the US Lacrosse NHFS Rules with SCLL amended stipulations (listed below).

1.23 Exceptions to Rule 1.22 are as follows:

1.24 Field sizes:

- (a) Boys' Bantam Division: Side to Side on Regulation field -60'x40' & 5v5 (No goalies – 4v4)
- (b) Boys' Lightning Division: 30% Smaller if Possible OR Side to Side & 7v7
- (c) Boys' Junior & Senior Divisions: Regulation high school field.

1.25 Times:

- (a) Bantam – 4 (10) ten-minute running quarters
- (b) Lightning, Junior & Senior – 4 (12) twelve-minute running quarters w/ two (2) timeouts per half
- (c) Half Time is (5) five minutes.
- (d) No game official will be allowed to change the length of quarters or half-time to "make up time".

1.26 Clock Operation:

- (a) The clock will continue to run during the game except for team time outs, injury time outs, and for any in-depth rules' discussion with the officials table and/or coaches.
- (b) The clock will stop on all whistles within the last two minutes of each game when the score is within 5 goals (i.e., 9-5). In that case, the last 2 minutes of a game will be normal high school timing. The clock will stop on dead balls (goals, out of bounds, penalty administration, etc.). Only penalties that are called within the last 2 minutes will be 'straight' time - 1 minute penalty is 1 minute in the box. All other penalties that occur before the final 2 minutes will be as they are currently administered, even if they carry over into the final 2 minutes.
- (c) The clock rules apply in a Mercy Rule application. The losing Head Coach may request that the clock run. The request is a one-time request. Should the losing team gain goals they may not request a stop clock implementation.

1.31 GENERAL PLAY OUTLINE:

1.32 Bantam Boys:

- a. No timing restrictions whatsoever.
- b. Must attempt 2 passes after Goalie's outlet pass anywhere on the field, prior to a shot. Officials to make verbal counts.
- c. Only one coach per team is permitted to be on the field. That coach may not be within 5 yards of any player (from either team). The coach must stay at least 10 yards from the official at all times. If the **Head Coach** (and only the head coach) needs to speak with the official, he can do so during a time-out, end of a period or at half time. All inquiries shall be phrased in the form of a question. The official may refuse to speak to the Head Coach if these requirements are not fulfilled.
- d. Penalties WILL be served by the offending player. All time will be served based on the official's administration of the flagged penalty. **A substitute player must come into the game to replace the penalized player** to make both teams even in play. All releasable and non-releasable penalties will be honored. A player that has accumulated a total of five (5) minutes of penalty time will be disqualified from the current game and will remain in the bench area. He is not allowed to play for the remaining of the game (including overtime).
- e. Body checking is not allowed, if someone checks, flag the player for either an illegal body check, cross-check or unnecessary roughness and put the player in the penalty box. **Stick-to-stick checks are NOT allowed.** Allowable checks are "poke checks" and "lift checks" only.
- f. "Man / Ball" technique is allowed on ground balls.
- g. Ensure fair play via stopping the game and awarding the ball to the offended team if necessary.
- h. Face-offs only used to start each half and overtime. After a score, the team that was scored upon will get a free clear at center-X.
- i. Coaches may not screen the defender or offense when in play. Coaches are encouraged to execute their on-field coaching from the side of the field.
- j. **Mercy Rule for Bantam.** Once the goal differential reaches six goals the winning team must attempt four passes before shooting.

1.33 Lightning Boys:

- a. Timing restrictions in place – 4 seconds to clear the ball from the crease and 20 seconds to cross midfield. There is no 10 count at the level.
- b. Very limited body checking.
- c. Man Ball technique is allowed within 2 yards from ball.
- d. Face-offs after scores.

1.34 Junior Boys:

- a. All timing restrictions in place – goalie has 4 seconds to get the ball out of the crease once he has possession 20 seconds to cross midfield, and 10 seconds to get it in the box.
- b. No passing restrictions.
- c. Limited body checking. (Recommended that officials use a USL 3 yd recommendation)
- d. Man ball technique is allowed within 3 to 4 yards from ball with hands down.
- e. Face-offs after scores.

1.35 Senior Boys:

- a. All timing restrictions are in place – goalie has 4 seconds to get the ball out of the crease once he has possession, 20 seconds to cross midfield, and 10 seconds to get it in the box.
- b. No passing restrictions.
- c. Body checking in accordance with USL NFHS Youth Rules is allowed. (Officials shall use the USL 3 yard rule for the safety of the player.)
- d. Man ball technique is allowed within 5 yards of ball unless targeting.
- e. Face-offs after scores.

1.36 Take Out Checks:

- a. NO TAKE-OUT CHECKS ARE PERMITTED BY ANY PLAYER AT ANY AGE LEVEL.
- b. A take-out check is defined as:
 - i. Any body check in which the player lowers his head or shoulder with the force and intent to put the other player on the ground.
 - ii. Any body checks considered more aggressive or more physical than necessary to stop the advancement of the player carrying the ball or to keep or move a player away from a loose ball. This includes but is not limited to: (i) any check in which a player makes contact with sufficient force and intent to knock down the opposing player; (ii) any check in which a player makes contact with sufficient force and intent to injure the opposing player; and (iii) any check made in a reckless or intimidating manner.
 - iii. Any body check on a player in a defenseless position. This includes, but is not limited to: (i) body checking a player from his "blind side"; (ii) body checking a player who has his

head down in an attempt to play a loose ball; and (iii) body checking a player whose head is turned away to receive a pass, even if that player turns toward the contact immediately before the body check. NOTE: *Sports medicine research indicates that the severity of certain injuries may be reduced if a player can anticipate and prepare himself for an oncoming hit. Other sports medicine research indicates that peripheral vision may not be fully developed in many boys before approximately age fifteen. Game officials should be especially alert to blindside checks at all youth levels.*

1.37 Stick Checks: (Lightning, Junior, Senior Divisions)

- a. All stick checks, body checks, legal holds, and legal pushes must be on a player in possession of the ball or within 5 yards of a loose ball or ball in flight.
- b. Stick checks to opponents can be made from shoulder to hand on the arm or arms holding the stick. The check must be an attempt to dislodge the ball from the opponent's stick.
- c. There is to be no stick checks to opponent's free arm.
- d. No stick to helmet contact will be permitted.
- e. No takeout checks.
- f. Checks must occur within 5 yards of the ball.
- g. Spearing (offensively or defensively) must be taken seriously. It is an un-releasable penalty. Please reinforce proper technique with any player.
- h. Body checking- checks must be between the opposing player's shoulders and waist with head in front of opponent. Players cannot lead or lower their head (or shoulder) to make contact. Arms must not be extended away from the player's body prior to contact. Once contact is made, arms may be extended two hands must always remain on the stick.
- i. Any checks to a "defenseless" player will result in a two-minute non-releasable penalty. A "defenseless" player is defined as any player that does NOT see the check coming. This includes players that are ready to catch the ball from his buddy (known as the "buddy pass rule"), players that are attempting to scoop the ball from the ground and is looking down.
- j. No one handed checks at Bantam, Lightning, Junior, and Senior Divisions.
- k. Senior Division: NO one-handed wrap checks are allowed. "Ice Pick" checks will not be allowed.

1.38 Stick Evaluations:

- a. Bantam & Lightning boys will not have required stick checks. Junior and Senior Boys will have stick checks at the end of the quarters or at coach request. Once a player is checked it is not necessary to check the stick unless the referee feels the need.
- b. A stick deemed "pinched" (meaning the ball will not fall out due to the plastic head) is removed from the remainder of the game.
- c. A stick that will not let the ball come out due to the stringing can attempt to repair it and have it checked by the official at quarter's end or time out. If approved, it can re-enter the game. If the same thing occurs a second time stick will not be allowed to return to the game.
- d. A Stick deemed to have a "deep pocket" (See NFHS Interpretation) will be removed until repaired.
- e. Penalty times or goal removal are enforced in concordance with USL NFHS Youth Rules.

1.39 Overtime:

- a. 4-minute overtime period.
- b. The first team to score wins.
- c. One team timeout is awarded to each team.
- d. Unused timeouts from regulation play are not carried over into overtime.
- e. If the score is still tied after 4-minute overtime period, then a second 4 minute overtime period will be played.
- f. If the game is tied after the two overtime periods, the game will be considered a tie.

1.40 Penalties:

- a. Reported penalties will be increased by 50% since we have a running clock.
- b. 30 second penalty = 45 second running time penalty.
- c. 60 second penalty = 90 second running time penalty.
- d. 2-minute penalty = 3-minute running time penalty.
- e. 3-minute penalty = 4 minute and thirty second penalty.
- f. Once the referee has reported the penalty to the bench, the penalty time will start as soon as play is whistled to commence.
- g. The table should handle these in a consistent manner for both teams.
- h. Penalties will carry over into the next quarter, half, and/or overtime.

1.41 Fouling Out: (Senior, Junior, & Lightning Boys)

- a. Any player who accumulates 4 personal fouls or 5 minutes (standard timing) in personal foul penalty time shall be disqualified from the game. A substitute for that player may enter the game when the disqualified player would have been permitted to re-enter had he not fouled out.

1.42 Fouling Out: (Bantam Boys)

- a. For Bantam, a disqualified player must leave the field, but his team may replace him with a substitute; no man up situation should occur.

1.43 Coaches:

- a. Coaches must change into team attire when coaching.
- b. Only head coaches will address the officials. Assistant coaches are not to direct any comments toward officials. If they do, they will get a warning. The Head Coach will be directed to get his coaching staff in order.
- c. Only the head coach can request a time out.
- d. A coach may not enter the field unless asked by a referee.
- e. Only three coaches are allowed in the coaching box during a game. An assistant may be at the scorer's table but may not comment on officiating or coach players in any manner. A violation will be considered a bench conduct penalty against the head coach.
- f. Only three coaches are allowed on the sidelines during games. Sideline coach violation:
 - i. 1st \$50.00 fine.
 - ii. 2nd \$100 fine and a game suspension for head coach.
 - iii. 3rd \$200.00 and out for season.
- g. An assistant coach may not enter their field except in the case of a medical emergency or medical assistance and will do so at the permission of the referee.
- h. Head coach conduct unbecoming to the league will result in a (3) minute non-releasable penalty (4.5 minutes served).

1.44 Unsportsmanlike Conduct:

- a. Unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches and/or players will not be tolerated. Obscenities need not be used for language to draw a penalty. **Tone, intent, and body language can all contribute to unsportsmanlike conduct.** Players and coaches will always exhibit the highest level of sportsmanship. This means that in addition to the unsportsmanlike examples contained in NFHS Rule 10 Section 5, any player or coach who uses derogatory or profane language on the field or bench, whether addressing a player, coach, or official may receive: first offense, 1 to 3-minute non-releasable unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. Coaches and players will never confront (or make contact with) any official(s).
- b. Second head coach offense will be suspension for the duration of the game and (1) full game to follow.
 - i. If the inappropriate behavior occurs after the expiration of a contest, but while the officials still have jurisdiction as referenced in the NFHS rule book, the official may eject the player or coach and published penalties for ejections will apply.
 - ii. If the inappropriate behavior occurs after the officials' jurisdiction has ended, but the official(s) witness the behavior, a Official Ejection Report shall be filed with the SCLL office and administrative penalties will be assessed against the team of the guilty parties by the President.
 - iii. In the case of repeat offenders of unsporting acts, the President will be authorized to levy penalties against the team of the guilty parties regardless of whether or not an ejection has occurred.

1.45 Ejection: (Player/Coach)

- a. Any player or coach or team attendant ejected from a game by a game official (Note: this does not include fouling out per Rule 1.41 & 1.42) shall be suspended for his next regularly scheduled game (at the time of the ejection).
- b. The ejected player (after first ejection) shall come to the next game wearing his/her jersey and is required to sit on the bench for the entire game.
- c. A coach shall have no role nor be in attendance at pre-contest warm-ups or activities and shall not be in uniform in attendance at contests until the period of suspension has expired.
- d. To satisfy the penalty of the sit-out game(s), those games must have been scheduled at the time of the ejection, and must be played to completion.
- e. **Second Ejection:** Coach – Suspended for Season. Player: Suspended for Season.
- f. **If a Player or Coach receives a third ejection in the next season, they are barred from participating in SCLL Activities.**
- g. Ejections are based on judgment calls by a contest official and are not reviewable or reversible.
- h. Penalties imposed by the SCLL Advisory Board may be appealed as described under Section 9 of Article IV, in the SCLL Constitution.
 - i. If the ejection occurs in the last game of a season, the penalty carries over to the first game of the next season in which the student or coach participates (even if the ejected transfers teams).
 - ii. Game Incident Reports (Officials Ejection/Fan Incident) are due within 24 hours of the contest and are to be submitted via the SCLL electronic reporting program.

- i. Any student or coach who **intentionally injures, intentionally attempts to injure, or confronts physically** another student, coach, official, spectator, or other person immediately before, during, or immediately after any SCLL-sponsored activity, may be fined (coach) or declared ineligible to participate (player) in future SCLL activities by the SCLL President and Advisory Board. NOTE: The notice, hearing, and appellate procedures set forth in the SCLL Constitution shall be applicable to such rulings.

1.46 Game Termination:

- a. Officials will have authority to terminate a boys' youth game in response to flagrant acts of unsportsmanlike behavior including excessively rough play or the encouragement of excessively rough play by coaches, athletes, spectators, or fans. A game termination will be the last resort in ensuring the players' safety and preserving the integrity of the game. If possible, game officials will issue at least one strong warning that the game is in danger of being terminated. However, it is conceivable that games may be terminated on the first instance of a flagrant unsportsmanlike act. Every effort should be taken to avoid game termination, including the enforcement of existing rules for team-conduct penalties, unsportsmanlike-conduct penalties, and ejection fouls.
- b. Mechanics for terminating a game for flagrant unsportsmanlike behavior can be found at www.usalacrosse.com (Program Leader Resources – League Standards - Sportsmanship Conduct). All games terminated by an official will result in a 1-0 victory for the team that is innocent of the terminal offense(s) if they were losing at the time of termination. It is recommended that the game should count in league statistics as a full game, and all goals, assists, saves, and other team statistics should count toward team and league records if the innocent team was winning at time of termination.

1.47 Mercy Rule: (Applies to Lightning, Junior & Senior Divisions).

- a. The mercy rule is applicable at any time during the game.
- b. If the score differential is 6 or more goals, the losing team gets a free clear at the midfield line. It is the losing team's choice to forego the free clear at the midfield line and have a face-off. If the score differential drops to 4 goals or less, then resume normal game conditions.
- c. If the score differential is 8 or more goals, the winning team must follow these rules.
 - i. 10U must attempt four passes on the offensive side of the field before shooting.
 - ii. 14U and 12U must also attempt four passes in the box on the offensive side of the field before shooting. Once the ball enters the box it must stay within the box if it comes out the losing team gets a free clear at the midfield line.
 - iii. If a goal is scored before the four passes, then the goal is disallowed, and the offended team gets the ball at center-X.
- d. The losing team will continue to play with the normal passing rules for their age group. If the score differential drops to 7 goals or less, then the passing restrictions on the winning team are lifted. If a game ends with more than an 8-goal differential, only the 8 will be counted toward seeding, if a game ends with 12 or more-goal differential the winning coach may face disciplinary action from the SCLL board.

1.48 Spectator Location:

- a. Each program shall sit all spectators on the opposite side of the field from players. Any exception to this must be approved by the SCLL Executive Committee. Such an exception may be made by a representative of the Board without the full vote of the Board to facilitate an immediate need on any given weekend.

1.49 Game Procedures:

- a. Only the first game of the day will need to have the National Anthem played if host chooses to play it. The SCLL player and fan conduct creed will be read before each game if able (PA system).

"To all Spectators:

Thanks for coming to today's lacrosse game. We are glad to see you supporting the teams. We think the sport of lacrosse can help teach good sportsmanship to all participants and that sportsmanship is an important component of the game. Accordingly, we expect good sportsmanship from all participants including the spectators. Unsportsmanlike conduct such as vocally or visibly criticizing opposing players, officials, coaches, or other spectators, encouraging injury to participants, profanity, racial or sexually based comments or other provocative comments are inappropriate, unacceptable and will be grounds for removal from the competition site. We would like you to support the participants, coaches, and officials in a positive manner. Cheer for the participants not against anyone.

Please help us make the game enjoyable for all. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance."

- b. Games will start with both starting teams standing at midfield with their coaches with the remainder of the team standing behind them.

- c. Goalies at opposite ends facing each other.
- d. Referees will give their instructions then both teams will shake hands after goalies shake hands. Glove off the right-hand Coaches will shake hands as well.
- e. Make an effort to put players benches on opposite side of fans, away from fans.
- f. There should be three chairs at the sideline table, and it be large enough for the book and two penalty clocks to be administered.
- g. Host Park to have at the scorer's table the SCLL provided "Master Score Sheet" as well as a portion of the book that allows for trainer sign in.
- h. Home Team Table and Clock Administration
 - i. Each team may have one table representative.
- i. The home team of the game must administer the park scoreboard and oversee the penalty clocks. The home team will be responsible for the scorer's book and seeing that game's final scores are initialed by the referee on the field. This may mean arriving early to receive instruction from the previous game's operators.
- j. An assistant coach may be allowed at the scorer's table. Under no circumstances are they allowed to coach, question calls, call time outs or conduct any of their regular coaching responsibilities.

1.50 Home Park Responsibility:

- a. The host (home) association will be identified prior to each game and will be responsible for the following specific items:
- b. Preparing and marking the field in accordance with the SCLL stipulated marking guidelines. Parks should display SCLL banners and make one visible to people entering the parks and one visible to spectators during field play.
- c. Providing all field markers and other officiating equipment.
- d. Make other necessary arrangements for the convenience of the game.
 - i. Visiting coach has the right to request a "standard test", officials have final authority on if the field is playable.
- e. It is suggested but not mandatory that parks provide a uniformed police officer for each field and all games.
- f. Provide one individual who is clearly in charge of the activities surrounding the game and handle any problems which may arise during the game. This individual may be an executive committee member, or a member of the Association, etc.
- g. The individual should make his/her identity known to the officials prior to the game.
- h. Provide comparable facilities for participants of home and visiting teams. (including shade)
- i. Each host association is responsible for entering the scores via e-mail to charris@lowlax.com. The scores must be e-mailed to the designated e-mail prior to midnight on game day by the host park. Late score will result in a \$100.00 fine to the host association.
- j. Host association will make sure that table personnel and clock administration are ready to begin as soon as the previous game finishes. Failure to do so can result in a delay of game penalty if host is playing or fine if guest associations are playing.
- k. Recommended that home associations provide a tent, chair for officials & trainers.
- l. Recommended that home associations provide a cooler of ice for the trainers.

1.51 Opponent Restrictions:

- a. Senior Boys and Junior Boys may play as many as four games outside the SCLL. Games are to be scheduled by associations and submitted to the SCLL President. If by chance the SCLL needs to make up rain date games the SCLL schedule will take precedent. Failure to make up SCLL due to alternate league play will result in a forfeit.

1.52 Officials:

- a. All officials shall be certified by the SCLL and/or from the Georgia Lacrosse Officials Association (GLOA) or from a certified US Lacrosse Level 1 (Junior) or Level 2 clinic.
- b. All officials must participate in a referee certification clinic.
- c. Bantam games may be officiated by both a member of each coaching staff and/or with one high school junior or senior.
- d. Lightning Games may be officiated by one certified adult and/or one adult and one high school junior or senior.
- e. Junior games may be officiated with one high school junior or senior and one adult referee.
- f. 14U games will be officiated by two adult referees. The SCLL reserves the right to use a high school player as a referee provided the player has an advanced lacrosse acumen.
- g. No game shall start without one adult referee on site.
- h. Playoff games for Boys Junior & Senior games will be officiated by 3 referees. Two of which must be adults.

- i. The officials have the responsibility of controlling the entire game. Officials have the duty and right to call bench penalties in between games and at quarters and halves. This is applicable to players, coaches, and spectators.
- j. The officials will report all acts of misconduct and any flags that were thrown to the SCLL President within 24 hours.
- k. Contest officials and officials' associations are independent contractors and not employees of the SCLL or its member teams.

1.53 Participation:

- a. Playtime for each player shall be equally divided or proportionate to the number of players on the team. Minutes of play time will be the sole responsibility of the Head Coach. It will be the Head Coaches' duty to ensure that play time is administered fairly. The SCLL recognizes that goalies and middies play in different segments due to the nature of their position.
- b. The opposing coach will be notified prior to the start of the game if a participant located on the bench is unable to play due to illness.
- c. The opposing coach and a participant's parents will be notified prior to the start of the game if a participant is being disciplined and will not be permitted to play.
- d. Any head coach found to be violating the participation rule will be subject to fine and/or suspension by the SCLL. The following procedures will apply:
 - i. Any head coach suspected by another association of violating the minimum play rule shall be notified of such allegation 24 hours following the meeting where such allegation is presented to SCLL.
 - ii. Such notice shall indicate that any subsequent game played by the team in question may be monitored by a committee of three different neutral SCLL representatives.
 - iii. If said committee reports to the SCLL it has documented violations, the Head Coach shall be suspended immediately by the SCLL Executive Board for his team's next week of practice and games. The member association will be subject to a \$100.00 fine.
 - iv. If a second substantiated violation occurs within the same season, the Head Coach shall be suspended for the remainder of that season and further disciplinary action may be taken. The member association will be subject to a \$200.00 fine.

1.54 Regulations of Competitions

- a. **Interrupted/Postponed Games:** Any SCLL competition may be interrupted due to human, mechanical, or natural causes when it is necessary to protect the safety of players and spectators. The Executive Board shall have the authority to postpone SCLL events and to direct the procedure for rescheduling when deemed necessary.
 - i. The SCLL recommends the host team to provide lightning detectors at all outdoor athletic activities
 - 1. When a lightning detector indicates a dangerous situation (lightning within 8 miles), the game manager will notify the head official. At that point, the official will suspend play and all participants and fans will go to a place of safety (NOTE: If officials spot lightning before being notified, they may suspend play).
 - 2. The contest may resume in accordance with procedures published in the NFHS Rules Book.
 - ii. **Postponed games** are games that are terminated before they actually begin because of weather problems, emergency situations, or mechanical failures
 - 1. The host team should notify the opposing team and officials as early as possible when a contest is postponed.
 - 2. The host team is responsible for determining whether an event is to be postponed until the time the game begins, that responsibility is given over to game officials.
 - 3. Team personnel will agree on the rescheduling of the contest.
 - iii. **Suspended and/or Terminated Games** - When game officials suspend a game due to weather issues, the following procedures are in place:
 - 1. If the contest is terminated before it has reached the halfway point, the contest is declared a "no contest."
 - 2. If the contest is terminated after it has reached the halfway point, the score at the point of termination is final.
 - 3. Administrators from the competing teams may agree to postpone the contest and resume competition at the point of interruption at a later time.
 - 4. The team that is behind may choose not to resume the contest at a later date if mercy rules were in effect and past the halfway point of the game.
 - iv. **Paying Officials** in shortened/postponed games:

1. In the event a scheduled contest cannot be started due to weather-related conditions, officials who have arrived at the contest site will be paid one-half the contest fee in addition to the travel allowance.
 2. If a game is interrupted by weather or darkness before it becomes a completed game, the officials will be paid one-half the regular game fee.
 3. If a game is an official game at the point of interruption, the officials will be paid full fees.
 4. Beyond these conditions, no officials group(s) may hold the teams responsible for weather-related postponements.
- b. All championship contests that end in a tie will have that tie resolved by means of the procedures that are used to resolve ties in preceding rounds of the playoffs.
- c. **Absence of Officials:** In the unlikely event that game officials do not arrive for a contest, both teams should agree on one of the following procedures:
- i. Delay the game until a new set of officials can arrive;
 - ii. Agree to play the game on another date except a Sunday;
 - iii. Use coaches or team personnel from both teams
 - iv. Use registered or formerly registered officials who might be in attendance at the contest;
- d. **Cancelling Games**
- i. The home park has the right to cancel a game for weather or unfit field conditions.
 - ii. The SCLL Executive Board and a SCLL Representative from the hosting association involved can postpone any and all games if the majority determines the weather or field conditions make it unfit to play.
 - iii. If a game completes the second quarter with a Mercy Rule in effect the game is considered complete and official if it needs to be halted for any reason. If either team is not in the Mercy Rule guidance the game will be considered official after six (6) minutes of the third quarter if it needs to be halted for any reason.
 - iv. Only the Association Liaison can request a schedule change.
 - v. The SCLL President will coordinate the rescheduling of the postponed game(s) with the officials and the affected teams. Coaches or SCLL Representatives may NOT reschedule games.
 - vi. The rescheduled game(s) will be played at the new designated time(s) or the team(s) will forfeit.

1.55 Ineligible Participants:

- a. A participant participating or practicing in a lacrosse league other than the SCLL from the start of the SCLL season to the finish of the last game his or her team will play, including playoffs and championship, is ineligible. Note: does not include JV for eligible players.
- b. A participant may participate or practice on only one team within the SCLL in any given year. Exception: after Spring Break players may practice with summer lacrosse programs
- c. A participant who has not been properly certified (See By-Law: 2.19) is ineligible.
- d. Any team found guilty of playing an ineligible participant will forfeit all games in which the participant participated.
- e. A participant who is in the ninth (9th) grade is ineligible to play in the Senior Division unless petitioned by the association and approved by the Advisory Board.

1.56 Injured Participants:

- a. Any participant injured in a game will be taken out of the game when, in the judgment of the trainer and/or the referee, the participant's health or safety is in jeopardy. If the Trainer does not think the participant should return for the remainder of the game, he/she will notify both head coaches and the Head Official of his/her decision. Any coach that returns a participant to the field after this notification will be suspended for the remainder of the year.
- b. A participant who appears to be seriously injured should not be removed from the field unless he does so under his own power or under qualified medical supervision. The game shall be delayed as long as necessary to ensure the safety of the injured participant.
- c. If a participant is determined concussed, that participant may not play again until he/she receives a medical release from a qualified physician.

1.57 Miscellaneous:

- a. There is no maximum limit to the number of captains that may participate in the toss-of-the-coin ceremony. Coin toss is used for an alternate possession and field direction selection.
- b. NOCSAE helmet warning decals or stamps are recommended. It will be the responsibility of the association to adopt their by-laws and enforce implementation.
- c. SCLL may assign a photographer that will take still pictures from side lines.

- d. For non-SCLL photographers, filming of all games by member associations and/or teams will be allowed if the filming is done outside the confines of the playing field. NO cameras of any kind will be allowed on the sidelines or within the confines of the playing field.
- e. Any association field that does not allow filming or spotting from the press box, filming and spotting must be done from the bleachers of the team you are representing. **No coach, parent, or spectator will be allowed on the player's side of the field with a camera, walkie talkie, headset, etc.** Any person found in violation of this rule may be asked to leave the confines of the arena. Repeat offenders may be subject to ejection and/or expulsion or other action from the SCLL

1.58 Post-Season Competition: Senior & Junior Divisions Only

- a. The **League Championship**
 - 1.58.a.1 The championship venue will be a neutral site.
 - 1.58.a.2 The **SCLL** will be responsible for the operation of the venue.
- b. Playoff teams will be any team in the South Coast Lacrosse League.
 - 1.58.b.1 The teams will be decided by the best overall records. In case of a tie, the following tiebreakers will be used.
 - 1. Results of head-to-head competition*
 - 2. Record against common opponents**
 - 3. Coin Flip
- c. Seeding
 - 1.58.c.1 Seeding of these teams will be according to:
 - 1. Overall Records*
 - 2. Results of Head-to-Head Competition
 - 3. Record against common Opponents**
 - 4. Conference Record*
 - 5. Coin toss
- d. Security and crowd control will be a joint effort between the SCLL and the host park. Referees, trainers, EMTs, and police will be at the direction of the SCLL.

*All results will be based on winning percentage

**Common Opponent - If two or more teams are qualifying for a playoff position, all teams involved must play the same teams to constitute a common opponent.

1.59 Forfeits:

- a. Any team forfeiting a game will be fined \$200.00 (\$100.00 of these funds will be paid to the host association to defer the cost of the forfeited game. The remaining \$100.00 will be added to the scholarship fund.) The fine must be paid before the team can participate in another game.
- b. If a team is unable to play a game, the team or association shall notify the SCLL President forty-eight (48) hours before game time. Failure to make this notification will result in a fine in addition to the fine in Rule (a).
- c. Teams must be at the game field thirty (30) minutes before game time or be subject to forfeit.
- d. Boys minimum players allowed will be (10) players for Senior/Junior Divisions. Bantam/Lightning may share players if needed.

BY-LAW – TEAM

2.10 ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBER TEAMS

2.11 Team Membership to South Coast Lacrosse League:

- a. **The SCLL is a voluntary association** available to any public or school affiliated program, that has been authorized to seek membership by the certification process through the league advisory board
 - i. Member teams agree to **conform to the Constitution and By-Laws of the SCLL**
 - ii. Member teams agree to **conform to the rules of the high school region** organizations to which they are assigned
 - iii. Registration and collection of player fees are the responsibility of the individual member associations
 - iv. It is recommended that no registered participant be registered as a qualified participant unless he/she has attained and sustained a better than fair scholastic record

2.12 Procedure for Membership:

- a. All programs must complete a certification process including, but not limited to:
 - i. Certification Application
 - ii. Sign Code of Conduct acknowledging the association has gone through the By-Laws and

- rules and educated their coaches, parents, and players to the same and agree to play by said rules and accept consequences for violations.
- b. Membership is continued through the original resolution as long as the team is in good standing with the SCLL and recertification happens on a year to year basis.
- c. Jan 15 preceding the next season is the deadline date for new and existing teams to join the SCLL for the next season.

2.13 Dues for Membership:

- a. The amount of the dues is **set annually** by the President, to include scheduling, referees, fields, trophies, balls, and other supplies needed to fulfill a rec season
 - i. Dues must be paid prior to February 15 of each year with a 30 day grace period
 - ii. Teams failing to meet the dues-payment deadline are not eligible to participate in any contest until membership dues are paid
- b. The Dues schedule for 2024 is as follows:
 - i. Dues are set on the expectation that teams will attend the Lowlax Kickoff and compete in at least 8 games. Any added games will be billed.
 - 1. Senior Boys – Paid Before Feb 15th - \$900 / Paid After Mar 15th - \$1000
 - 2. Junior Boys – Paid Before Feb 15th - \$900 / Paid After Mar 15th - \$1000
 - ii. Lightning Boys – Paid Before Mar 15th - \$600 / Paid After Apr 15th - \$700
 - iii. Bantam Boys – Paid Before Mar 15th - \$600 / Paid After Apr 15th - \$700

2.14 Administrative Responsibilities of Executive Committee:

- a. The administrative head of each team shall have on file in the GOOGLE DRIVE:
 - i. a written **Emergency Action Plan** for athletic practices and games. This plan must include responses to natural disasters, serious illnesses/injuries, and must have the involvement of local law enforcement agencies, rescue agencies, medical doctors and hospital personnel
 - ii. The **Emergency Action Plan** (EAP) should include the following:
 - 1. The venue-specific EAP should be reviewed and rehearsed annually prior to each sport season. Recommended personnel include local Emergency Medical Services (EMS), team public safety officials, team administrators, on-site medical personnel or team medical staff (team physicians or athletic trainers) and all pertinent coaching staff members
 - 2. The venue-specific EAP and AED should be accessible to all involved in a potential emergent situation for practices, games or other athletic events
 - 3. All emergency equipment which is available onsite, including Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs), should be listed on the EAP, stored in a safe place, be well-marked and publicized
 - 4. The EAP should identify key personnel and their responsibilities to carry out the plan of action with a designated chain of command, including documentation actions that need to be taken post emergency
 - 5. The EAP should contain appropriate contact information for the local and/or responding EMS personnel
 - 6. The EAP should contain the facility address, GPS coordinates, location and contact information
- b. The administrative head of each team shall **operate** all league **contests and activities** under direct and complete control of the team administration or designated team personnel. These responsibilities are not to be delegated by the liaison to any person or persons who are not a part of the program's staff
- c. The administrative head of each team is expected to be a person who believes in fairness and honesty as evidenced by the **strict adherence to all rules** and regulations regarding eligibility of contestants representing his/her team.
- d. The administrative head of each team is expected to employ those persons who exemplify fairness and honesty. Any certificated person who violates rules regarding player eligibility, or illegal practices, or knowingly misleads a member team and/or the SCLL will have a report of that behavior sent to the League Advisory Board

2.15 Requests for Changes:

- a. The administrative head of each team may submit to the SCLL Executive Board such recommendations for the improvement of the SCLL as he/she may deem necessary.
 - i. These recommendations must be submitted to the SCLL Executive Board at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the meeting of the Executive Committee.
 - ii. A proposal brought to the Executive Committee that is denied by either a subcommittee or the full Executive Committee may not be submitted for three (3) regularly scheduled meetings after the previous submission unless a substantive change has been made to the

proposal.

- 2.16** The member institution has a responsibility to educate athletes, coaches, and other appropriate persons on SCLL rules and procedures that could affect them. Further, the member team should monitor its compliance with League Association guidelines and is encouraged to host a parent meeting to ensure sportsmanship, fairness, and fun are agreed upon shared values for the program.

2.17 Member teams that fail to follow stated procedures and deadlines may be given a fine for each violation.

2.18 Defining Practice:

- a. Practice time starts when the team is assembled and stops when the team is dismissed. Any gathering of the team or parts of the team for the purpose of improving lacrosse skills or knowledge constitutes practice.
- b. Teams will follow their local high school guidelines on spring practices.

These rules establish the provisions governing players' eligibility to participate in SCLL activities.

The word "student" used in these By-Laws refers either to a boy or girl participant. Therefore, according to correct grammatical usage, since the antecedent "student" can involve persons of both sexes, the masculine pronouns he, his, or him used throughout said By-Laws will refer to either male or female participants.

The word "principal" used in these By-Laws refers either to a male or female head of a secondary team. Therefore, according to correct grammatical usage, since the antecedent "principal" can involve or refer to persons of either or both sexes the masculine pronouns, he, him, or his, will refer to a male or female head of a secondary team.

2.19 Roster Submissions, Team Composition and Eligibility:

- a. **Public Rosters** are required for all 14U and 12U teams prior to the first official game date in the SCLL league. It is the responsibility of each association to verify the validity of the information of each player.
 - i. Teams are not allowed to participate in competitions until their rosters have been received and processed by SCLL Leadership.
 - ii. Rosters must include Full Name, Date of Birth, Current Grade
 - iii. Failure to meet the eligibility deadline may lead the SCLL President to:
 1. Assess a fine to the team that is delinquent.
 2. Suspend the membership of a team that does not file rosters.
 3. Forfeiture of any game in which one or more participants were not on submitted roster.
 4. Restriction from competition if the fines assessed are not paid within fourteen (14) calendar days of notification.
 - iv. Reports not filed properly will be returned to the team for resubmission.
- b. To compete in the SCLL, a Junior and Senior team must have a minimum of 12 certified players before the regular season begins or any date designated by the SCLL. The SCLL reserves the right to approve less than 12 players. Example: A program has 26 or 27 players in an age group.

2.20 Seventh ((7th) in SC) and Eighth ((8th) in GA) grade students may participate on a sub-varsity team of a high school team provided they attend a feeder team of that high school team.

2.21 Feeder Team refers to a school from which many or most students progress to a particular higher-level educational institution

2.22 Eligibility:

- a. Seventh and Eighth grade students participating on a sub-varsity team may play in the SCLL league.
 - i. Those students must only participate in six (6) total sub-varsity games or less. Furthermore, they may not participate in more sub-varsity and 14U team contests combined than eighteen (18) in a season.
 - ii. A player may not participate in interscholastic competitions more than six (6) quarters per day and SCLL games will take precedence.
- b. **A student's gender** is determined as follows:
 - i. A student's sex is determined by the sex noted on his/her certificate at birth.
 - ii. Girls may participate on boys' teams when there is no girls' team offered in that sport or activity by the team.
- c. A lacrosse participant may play one division above the players normal age group only if the Association the player participates with is unable to field a team in that age division; or has a coaching accommodation that needs to be met. The participant(s) must have prior written approval by the SCLL before participating in any league game. The SCLL will be the sole determinant of skill / size and age in the movement of any player.

- d. No participant will play below his / her grade classification without written permission of the SCLL.
- e. **NO** additional players will be added after week two of the season's commencement. The SCLL reserves the right to allow an addition of a newly non-registered player if a program is short players.
- f. The maximum number of participants on a team will be as follows:
 - i. When any boys Junior or Senior team registers a total of 28 players, it will become the responsibility of that association to split the team into two equal teams. For each additional 16 registered players, the association must add another team. Bantam Boys will have a maximum of 20 players.
 - ii. When any Bantam boys' team registers a total of 20 participants, it will become the responsibility of the association to split the team into two equal teams. For each additional 10 registered players, the association must add another team.
- g. **Under no circumstances will the "stacking of teams" be permitted.**
 - i. Any association who is found guilty of allowing a coach to stack a team will be fined up to \$500.00 and the team will be re-selected by drawing all participants' names out of a hat. The coach found guilty of attempting to stack his team will be placed on probation for the entire season and/or levied fines under the unsportsmanlike conduct violations in Appendix B.

NOTE: Violations of these participation rules will result in a mandatory fine and an automatic forfeiture of the game in which the student exceeded the limit or is deemed to have been ineligible. Additional penalties may be imposed by the Advisory Board in extreme circumstances.

2.23 Coaches:

- a. **Every coach, parent volunteer, or student volunteer at a member team** must be familiar with the "USA Lacrosse Youth Rules" and the SCLL Amended Rules Matrix.
- b. Each member of the coaching staff and each SCLL representative must have a thorough understanding of all SCLL rules, agree to abide by all provisions of these rules, and be willing to accept any penalties which may be imposed as a result of violation(s) of the rules. Coaches will sign a Code of Conduct agreeing to the Responsibilities they are to inherit.
- c. **They are also highly encouraged to complete;**
 - i. It is recommended that head coaches complete the Level 1 Certification through USA Lacrosse
 - ii. Each head coach is recommended to have read the USA Lacrosse NFHS rule book for youth and attend any seminar scheduled by the SCLL Board to obtain admission to the sideline during official league play. All coaches should complete the Positive Coaching Alliance seminar or similar program provided by the SCLL.
 - iii. **CPR (minimum compression only) and AED training** prior to any team activity or within a maximum of 30 days from the start of a team activity and it should be renewed at a minimum of every two years.
 - iv. *A comprehensive training and education program for "Traumatic Head Injuries." The recommendation is the CDC "Heads Up" for coaches.*
- d. All Associations are expected to conduct background checks on all administrators, coaches, team moms and trainers where used.
- e. All liaisons must sign a SCLL Coaches Code of Conduct.
- f. **The rules in this Rule Book are subject to change.** Each SCLL Liaison is responsible for advising his/her association and membership of any rule changes.
- g. The Sideline Coaching Staff
 - i. Coaching staffs will be allowed three coaches per team on sidelines. No exceptions. A 4th member of the coaching staff may sit at the scorer's table but may not coach players or discuss the game's play with officials. It will be the Head Coach's responsibility to inventory his bench prior to the start of the game to verify his or her staff and become compliant. Once the game commences additional representatives to the bench area will constitute a bench penalty against the head coach and be served in accordance with USA Lacrosse Youth Rules.

2.24 Sportsmanship:

- a. SCLL-member teams are required to conduct all relationships with other teams in a **spirit of good sportsmanship.**
 - i. It shall be the responsibility of a member team to use every means at its disposal to impress upon faculty, students, team members, coaches, and spectators the **values of sportsmanship** in preparation for the management of SCLL contests. Contest officials have the authority to have any and all individuals removed from

- the confines of the contest whose behavior has become a distraction and/or hindrance to the administration of the event. This may include, but is not limited to, verbal and visual gestures.
- ii. The Advisory Board shall have the authority to assess penalties against teams and/or coaches for conduct unbecoming a professional educator or coach committed by coaches or other team personnel at SCLL events. Penalties against teams may include fines, probation or suspensions; and penalties against coaches and other team personnel may include suspension from SCLL events.
 - iii. It shall be the **responsibility of the home or host team** to take the following precautions at all SCLL events:
 1. Take proper steps and precautions to insure crowd and spectator control, including having an administrator (or designee) from the host team to function as "**Game Manager**" at all SCLL sanctioned events.
 2. Take steps to insure the **comfort and security** of all players, coaches, and officials.
 3. Have in place sufficient **security personnel** to handle any crowd-control problems that might reasonably be expected.
 - iv. Each team must develop a **plan to handle fight situations** that may occur during an athletic contest.
 1. Attention must be given to keeping **substitutes** in the bench areas throughout the fight, and to keeping **spectators** away from the competitive area.
 2. **Teams** whose substitutes leave the bench area to go to the area of a fight will be **fined** by the SCLL Advisory Board.
 3. All players who are involved in a fight and any substitutes who leave the bench area during a fight or potential fight and are **ejected** from the current contest, will be subject to the sit-out rule.
 4. The SCLL Advisory Board may review film to determine participants in a fight situation, or to determine athletes leaving their bench to go to a fight, or to verify the correct number worn by a player in either of these situations. Note: penalties may then be levied, modified or changed based on this film review.
 - v. Players and coaches are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship before, during and after a contest, even if the game officials do not have jurisdiction. Behaviors such as taunting, fighting, etc., are forbidden.
 - vi. No coach may remove his/her team from competition before the end of the contest unless it is done in accordance with the playing rules of the sport.
- b. Coaches, administrators, contest officials or players are not to make **comments in the media or on any form of social media** that are **critical of officials** and/or their calls in a game. Penalties that could be imposed by the SCLL Advisory Board include fines and/or suspensions.

BY-LAW – SCLL

3.0 SCLL ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES TO MEMBER TEAMS

- 3.11** The SCLL Executive Committee shall meet bi-annually to review By-Laws, policies and procedures of the Association, and to make additions, deletions, and modifications as necessary.
- a. The SCLL Executive Committee shall, from time to time, adopt whatever rules of procedure are deemed appropriate. The Chair of the meeting shall be authorized to conduct all such meetings in an orderly fashion subject to any changes in those procedures otherwise adopted by a majority vote of members present and subject to the following:
 - i. "Pass" votes are not considered "No" votes
 - ii. Any Committee member may request a roll-call vote on any question before the Committee without the requirement of a majority vote.
 - iii. Members of the Executive Committee may propose new or amended rules, by-laws or actions to be taken or considered by the Executive Committee during the new business portion of Executive Committee meetings. Provided however, that if the Executive Board certifies any proposal that has not been timely submitted to be of an emergency nature or to be necessary for the orderly transaction of the business or activities of the SCLL, then he shall have the authority to bring such proposal to the floor of the meeting for consideration

of and action by the Executive Committee.

- b. The SCLL Executive Committee shall consider recommendations at its bi-annual meetings from member teams that are submitted in writing to the SCLL Executive Board at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the meeting.
- c. The SCLL Executive Board shall maintain an official record for all dues and fees received from any source, through Lowlax.
- d. The SCLL Executive Board shall provide all necessary forms on the SCLL web site and/or Google Drive, including the following forms from which copies are to be made to satisfy the needs of the member teams:
 - i. Roster Submission forms.
 - ii. Contact Forms
 - iii. Game Schedules
 - iv. EAPs
 - v. Certification to enter SCLL activities.
 - vi. Appeals Forms
 - vii. Incident Report Submission

3.12 Scheduling:

- a. The official SCLL schedule will be prepared by the SCLL President.
- b. Total minimum number of games will equal the number of opponents in the league, maximum will be twelve (12)
- c. Any left over slots for games will be scheduled by the association teams and submitted to SCLL two (2) weeks in advance to ensure referees
- d. No change to the schedule is permitted without the approval of the SCLL President. Coaches and/or SCLL representatives may NOT reschedule games.
- e. No association may schedule games outside of the South Coast Lacrosse League without written approval by the SCLL Board.
- f. Special schedule requests must come from Association Directors.

3.13 Special SCLL Policies:

- a. **Penalties for Violations:** In accordance with the SCLL Constitution, the Advisory Board is empowered to make a determination as to whether a violation of SCLL rules has occurred, and to assess the appropriate penalty which may include a fine and/or probation. A non-exhaustive list of violations and fines is published in **Appendix B** of the Constitution & By-Laws.

3.14 Protests

- a. Any team has a right to protest certain matters occurring during a game. To file a protest, a written notice of the protest outlining specifically the conduct protested with all pertinent details must be delivered to a SCLL Executive Board Member within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of any event protested. In addition, the team protesting the activity must pay a \$50.00 to the SCLL which will be refunded by the SCLL only in the event the protest is upheld in its entirety.
- b. A protest shall not be considered unless:
 - i. the referee in charge of the game in question has been notified before or at the end of the game that the game is to be / has been played is under protest.
 - ii. any protest not submitted in writing and presented to a SCLL Board Member within forty-eight (48) hours after the end of the game together with a \$50.00 protest fee attached shall not be considered.
- c. **A protest on matters of judgement rendered by an official will not be considered.**
- d. Protests dealing with the conduct of a coach, team official, game official, participant, or spectator will be considered. Rule interpretations by officials will be considered. Eligibility of participants will be considered. Any violation of the Code of Conduct or Rule 2.22 will be considered.
- e. Upon the SCLL receiving a protest in proper form with the fee paid at the time the protest is delivered, the SCLL will convene within seven (7) business days to review the written protest. The association, team, or party against whom the protest is lodged will be afforded the opportunity to present a written statement in contravention of the protest. They are not required to do so.
- f. At a regularly scheduled or a specially called meeting of the SCLL the matter protested shall appear on the agenda. The entire board of the SCLL shall determine by majority vote whether to over-rule or sustain the protest. The association, team, or party lodging the protest shall be allowed a maximum of ten (10) minutes at the SCLL meeting to present the protest. The association, team, or party that is the subject matter of the protest shall be allowed ten (10) minutes to present any rebuttal. The decision of the SCLL board majority vote shall be binding upon all parties.

3.15 Hearings

- a. Any association personnel, participant, or spectator that is suspended or expelled from the SCLL for more than one season or for a period in excess of the remaining portion of an existing season, shall be entitled to a hearing before the full Board of the SCLL provided that individual or entity

facing suspension or expulsion of more than a year beyond the existing season notifies the SCLL in writing within three business days of receiving a notice that a formal charge has been filed against that individual or entity.

- b. The SCLL shall deliver written notice to that individual or entity who has been suspended or expelled beyond one year or the season in progress by mailing same to the Association to which that individual or entity belongs and advising that individual or entity that they have been suspended or expelled beyond one year or the existing season and that they have a right to a hearing before the full SCLL Board provided they give written notice of their request for a hearing within three business days. There shall be no requirement that the notice set forth the facts in support of the charge with any particularity. In order to offset the SCLL's cost associated with providing a hearing officer for the hearing, any individual or entity requesting a hearing before the full SCLL Board shall pay a \$150.00 fee to the SCLL to be included with the written request for hearing.
 - c. The SCLL encourages individual associations to deal with any conduct that is prohibited by the rules and regulations of the SCLL or the Code of Conduct of the SCLL. Action by an individual association does not prevent the SCLL from taking additional action and shall not constitute double jeopardy in that regard.
 - d. Any individual or entity that in proper form requests a hearing before the SCLL and pays the required administrative fee shall be afforded that hearing within fourteen (14) business days from receipt of their written request by the SCLL. Notice of the date and time of the meeting shall be given to the individual or entity through the Association that the individual or entity is a member.
 - e. The hearing shall be conducted by a hearing officer appointed by the SCLL President. The hearing officer shall conduct the hearing under the Rules of Civil Procedure with some latitude allowed for the introduction of hearsay testimony and the admissibility of documents. The hearing officer's decisions regarding admissibility of evidence shall not be appealable.
 - f. The SCLL shall appoint from its membership one (1) individual to collect information to present to the SCLL Board on behalf of the person or entity bringing the rule violation to the SCLL. Witnesses may be called by the SCLL representative. Hearsay testimony may be admitted on a limited basis under the sound discretion of the hearing officer. Affidavits presented by either side may be admitted provided the other side is given a copy of the affidavit forty-eight (48) hours before the hearing. Otherwise, they shall not be admissible. A representative of the SCLL shall have twenty (20) minutes to present all the evidence in support of any charge against the association or individual. The association or individual charged may be represented by an attorney or by any other single member appointed by the association or individual. Multiple representation shall not be permitted.
 - g. Any individual or association charged with any offense that resulted in suspension or expulsion for one year or beyond the current athletic year in progress shall have twenty (20) minutes to present any evidence to the SCLL Board to refute the charge or in mitigation of the charge.
 - h. The SCLL board then shall consider the evidence presented by the representative of the SCLL and the representation of the association or individual charged and shall, based upon the preponderance of the evidence, make its decision in the best interest of the South Coast Lacrosse League.
 - i. Any association or individual suspended or expelled for one year may be suspended for a period up to two (2) calendar weeks by the President and two other members of the SCLL Board not involved in any manner in the conduct complained of provided all three (3) agree that such two (2) weeks" suspension is warranted. Such two (2) weeks" suspension is not appealable.
 - j. The SCLL reserves the right to suspend or fine any association who through its failure to act in an egregious situation has violated the Code of Conduct and rules and by-laws of the South Coast Lacrosse League.
 - k. **The imposition of fines against an association is not appealable.** There is no right to a hearing before a fine is imposed. A simple majority of the board may impose a fine based upon any evidence presented to the board.
 - l. All hearings regarding the suspension or expulsion of an association or individual shall be open to the public. All deliberations of the board after hearing the evidence shall be closed. The decision of the board is not appealable.
 - m. There is no right to a hearing unless the penalty to be imposed involves suspension or expulsion from a SCLL activity or activities that extend beyond the period of either one year or the start of the next season.
- 3.16** If a team or team system initiates litigation against the association and the court rules in favor of the association, the team or team system shall be responsible for paying all court costs and attorneys' fees.
- 3.17** If the association conducts an investigation of a member team in reference to a possible violation of association rules and the member team is found to be in violation, the team shall be assessed the cost of the investigation in addition to any fines.