



Under Age Male Playing Policy

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Controlling Body: Lacrosse WA



Lacrosse WA – Under Age Male Playing Policy

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PURPOSE

To provide guidance in the application of [Regulation G.1.2](#) and [G.11.3.1](#) in the event that a formal written request is received by Lacrosse WA to permit a 15's grade player to participate in senior men's grade competitions.

POLICY STATEMENT

Lacrosse WA supports the ethos that each individual player should be afforded the opportunity to aspire to be the best they can in the sport of Lacrosse.

In supporting this ethos Lacrosse WA notes that it has established Regulations that restrict the opportunity for minors, by restricting them to participate as a player in one age group higher than that player's normal age restricted competition.

This Policy is to provide guidance in those exceptional circumstances when it would be to an individual player's growth and benefit to be permitted to participate in the senior men's grade competition.

The assessment of, and decision, about a junior player's participation in a senior grade reflect sound practices and standards and meet the objectives of Lacrosse WA, while providing adequate protection for both the player and Association.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to players in the 15's age grade and may be applied when deemed appropriate. E.g. Currently, registered participants in an Australian Representative squad, may request permission to participate in senior men's grade competition to develop skills and game sense to enhance their prospects for selection and, if selected, to continue this development.

DEFINITIONS

Approving Authority - Lacrosse WA Board of Directors.

Generally - Where the term 'generally' is used in any provision of this policy, it is taken to mean that what is stated in that provision is the intention, and may only be varied in rare and exceptional circumstances. Where such a decision is made, both the decision and reasons must be recorded.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

- 1.1. 15's grade members, who have already been granted permission to participate in senior grade men's competition prior to the formalization of this policy may continue without the need to re-apply, provided they continue to be a registered participant in an Australian representative squad or team.
- 1.2. A 15's grade member, who have already been granted permission to participate in senior grade men's competition prior to the formalization of this policy and who is no longer a registered participating candidate in an Australian representative squad or team ceases to be eligible to play more than one grade above their age level restriction.



POLICY CONTENT

1. Eligibility to apply

15's grade members who have registered for an Australian Representative team who have passed the first selection cut may apply to Lacrosse WA for permission to play in senior men's grade competition, whilst they remain a registered participant in the selection process.

2. Application

A written application must be submitted at least two (2) months prior to the requested date of commencement in the higher grade.

The application must be accompanied by:

- a) Supporting documentation from the Head Coach of the Australian Representative team confirming that the applicant is a registered participant and they have passed the first selection cut.
- b) Record of the applicant's inter-club and representation team performance.
- c) Letter from the applicant's parents or legal guardians requesting that Lacrosse WA consider waiving Regulation [G.1.2](#) and [G.11.3.1](#) and setting out their reasons for their request and confirming that they regard their child to be of sufficient maturity and ability to participate in senior men's grade lacrosse.
- d) Letter from the player's registered club supporting the application and setting out the reasons for their support.
- e) A signed and fully completed Lacrosse WA Membership Registration form (LWA1) for the current playing season.

3. Assessing the application

Participation in a senior grade is a privilege and applications will be assessed in relation to the aim to assist the individual in their development, their current standard of ability and the merits of the application. The safety of the individual is considered paramount and therefore, in recommending /approving an application, the player must be assessed as not posing an unreasonable risk to themselves.

4. Application approval process

- 4.1 Upon receipt of an application, it shall be referred to the Men's Lacrosse Sub-Committee, who shall assess the application and make a recommendation to the Lacrosse WA Board of Directors.
- 4.2 The Men's Lacrosse Sub-Committee may request that the player and his parents attend and be interviewed.
- 4.3 The Board of Directors shall assess the application in accordance with this policy and may defer making a decision, not approve the application, or approve the application.
- 4.4 The Director of Men's Lacrosse shall notify the player's parents, the player's club and ALRA(WA) in writing, of the Board's decision.



5. Conditions of participating

- 5.1 The applicant must first play in at least one under-age competition(s), before participating in any senior game.
- 5.2 Should the child incur an injury that requires medical treatment by a medical doctor, the child's participation shall be withdrawn until the Association receives medical confirmation that the injury is either healed and /or participation will not exacerbate the injury.
- 5.3 The safety of the individual is considered paramount and therefore the Association remains the right to withdraw this privilege at any time.

6. Commencement of approval

Approval for participation shall commence once the application process has been adhered to, refer to sections 2 and 4 of this policy.

7. Cessation of approval

The approval for participation in senior men's grade lacrosse shall cease:

- 7.1 When the applicant is cut from the selection squad. The applicant will immediately cease being permitted to participate in any senior men's grade lacrosse match as a player.
- 7.2 When the applicant incurs an injury, which requires medical treatment by a medical doctor.
- 7.3 When the Association considers that the safety and/or welfare of the applicant is at risk. In this instance the Director of Men's Lacrosse will provide written notification to the player's parents / guardian and registered club.

8. Monitoring and Surveillance

The Board of Directors shall put in place a system to monitor the applicant and shall receive monthly reports during the playing season that this approval is in force. The Australian Team Head Coach, Executive Officer or Manager will be requested to provide immediate notification to Lacrosse WA if and when the applicant ceases to be a member of the selection squad or team.

9. Appeals

The decisions of the Board of Directors of Lacrosse WA shall be final and not subject to appeal.

Adopted by the board: 17 October 2016

Reviewed and updated: 17 October 2016

Scheduled review: October 2017