



# Lacrosse WA International Player Policy (Point-Based System)

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## Index

1. Purpose
2. Scope
3. Definitions
4. International Player Point System
5. Seasonal Point Reduction System
6. Team Composition Limits
7. Player Classification and Documentation
8. Transitional Provisions
9. Appeals and Reviews
10. Policy Review
11. Domain-Based International Player Point Caps
  - 11.1 Field and Box Lacrosse
  - 11.2 Sixes Lacrosse
12. Point Cap Adjustment Requests
  - 12.1 Requesting Additional Points
  - 12.2 Considerations when Adjusting Point Caps
  - 12.3 Approval Process

## 1. Purpose

This policy establishes a fair and transparent framework for the inclusion of international players in Lacrosse WA competitions, balancing competitive integrity, local player development, and international engagement.

## 2. Scope

This policy applies to all international players, teams, and clubs participating in Lacrosse WA-sanctioned competitions across Field, Box, and Sixes lacrosse formats.

## 3. Definitions

- **International Player:** A player whose primary lacrosse development occurred outside Australia and who is not an Australian citizen or permanent resident, regardless of current visa or length of stay.
- **Additional Clause:** A player transferring from a lower ranked club to a higher-ranked club within the same state.
- **Top 10 / Top 5 Team:** As defined by World Lacrosse rankings at the time of the player's participation in a qualifying international event.
- **Highest Applicable Category Rule:** When an international player qualifies for more than one point category, they will be classified under the highest point value category for which they are eligible, based on verifiable lacrosse experience.

## 4. International Player Point System

Each international player will be classified into one of the following categories based on their highest level of verified lacrosse experience:

<b>5 Points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Played in a Division 1 NCAA lacrosse program (USA).</li><li>• Represented a Top 10-ranked national team at the senior level in a World Championship or Qualifier.</li><li>• Represented a Top 5-ranked national team at U20 level in a World Championship or Qualifier.</li></ul>
<b>4 Points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Played in a non-Division 1 college program (e.g., NCAA D2/D3, NAIA, NJCAA).</li><li>• Represented any other national team (senior or U20) in a World Championship or Qualifier, not falling under the 5-point category.</li></ul>
<b>3 Points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Represented a state/provincial team or played in a national-level senior competition.</li><li>• Includes New Zealand representatives without world tournament experience.</li></ul>
<b>2 Points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Represented a state team at U18 level.</li><li>• Played in a recognised high school lacrosse program (e.g., US varsity or equivalent).</li></ul>
<b>1 Point</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Played in a structured international club lacrosse competition for 2+ years, without any representative, high school, or national experience.</li><li>• Players on a temporary visa who don't fall under any other category in the point system.</li></ul>

**Note:** If a player has been away from the sport for at least 5 years, a club may request their point classification be reviewed to reduce their score by 1 point.

## **5. Seasonal Point Reduction System**

- International players will have their point value reduced by 1 point per completed season, provided they compete in at least 50% of official games in any given domain (Field, Sixes, or Box).
- The 50% participation must be verified via match records.
- Reductions apply per domain (e.g., 50% in Field earns a 1-point drop for Field eligibility only).
- A player cannot be reclassified below 1 point under this policy.

## **6. Team Composition Limits**

- Teams may register up to 8 international players per season, regardless of individual points.
- Club compliance is monitored by Lacrosse WA and may be reviewed at any time.

## **7. Player Classification and Documentation**

- Each international player will be assigned a point value based on their highest level of verified experience.
- If a player qualifies for multiple categories, the highest point value will be applied.
  - Example: A player who has represented a top-10 national team (5 points) and played in a non-Division 1 college (4 points) will be assigned 5 points.
- All clubs must submit valid documentation proving eligibility for their assigned category, including:
  - Tournament rosters, match statistics, official letters, or collegiate registration.
- Lacrosse WA reserves the right to audit any classification and may reassign a player's point value if evidence does not support the claim.
- **Clause:** All international player applications must be submitted at least **5 days prior** to the player's first scheduled game. Late submissions will render the player ineligible until approval is granted.

## **8. Transitional Provisions**

- International players registered prior to this policy's implementation will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may be grandfathered into the system with adjusted point values.

## **9. Appeals and Reviews**

- Appeals on point classification or eligibility must be submitted in writing to the Lacrosse WA Competitions Committee within 14 days of notification.
- The committee's decision is final unless new evidence is presented.

## **10. Policy Review**

- This policy will be reviewed at the end of each playing season or as deemed necessary by the Lacrosse WA Board.

## **11. Domain-Based International Player Point Caps**

To ensure balanced competition across all formats, the maximum number of international player points a club may use is determined by their final standing in the previous season, separately for each domain (Field, Box, and Sixes).

### **11.1 Field Lacrosse**

<b>Previous Season Standing</b>	<b>International Point Cap</b>
1st Place	10 Points
2nd Place	12 Points
3rd Place	15 Points
4th Place and Below	20 Points

### **11.2 SIXES and Box Lacrosse**

<b>Previous Season Standing</b>	<b>International Point Cap</b>
1st Place	10 Points
2nd Place	10 Points
3rd Place	15 Points
4th Place and Below	20 Points

- Note: If a team did not compete in the previous season, they will be allocated the default cap of 15 points for their first year in that domain, subject to Lacrosse WA discretion.

## **12. Point Cap Adjustment Requests**

### **12.1 Requesting Additional Points**

- Requests must be made at least 14 days prior to the player playing and the club exceeding their point cap.
- Justifications may include:
  - Lack of domestic player depth in a specific position.
  - Developmental alignment with local players (e.g. mentoring/coaching).
  - Demonstrated efforts to integrate international players into club/community.
  - International player moving to WA for study/work and joining lacrosse incidentally.
  - Team's win/loss ratio (e.g., finished 4th in regular season but won the title).

### **12.2 Considerations when adjusting point caps**

- Conflicts of interest will be noted. Decisions require unanimous approval by at least 3 board members.

- If fewer than 3 board members are conflict-free, an additional member will be appointed for the decision.
- Members with conflicts may join discussions but will not have voting rights.
- Player makeup of the requesting team will be assessed.
- Player makeup of opposing teams will also be considered.
  - Example calculation:
    - $3 \times 5$  points
    - $4 \times 4$  points
    - $3 \times 3$  points
    - $6 \times 2$  points
    - $0 \times 1$  points
    - = 44 total points
    - If the competition average of other teams is 50 points, the team may potentially be granted an additional 6 points.

### 12.3 Approval Process

- Requests will be reviewed by the Lacrosse WA Board.
- Outcomes communicated in writing within 7 business days.
- Board may grant:
  - An increase in total point cap,
  - A temporary exemption, or
  - A conditional waiver tied to specific players.

