



Under Age Playing Policy

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Controlling Body: Lacrosse WA



Lacrosse WA – Under Age Playing Policy

Version	Date reviewed	Date endorsed	Purpose	Author
Draft A	14/10/16		Initial creation	LWA President
1	17/10/16		Issued for Use	LWA President
2	15/03/19		Amended to include female players	LWA Executive Officer
3	10/07/23	17/07/23	Updated	LWA High Performance



PURPOSE

To provide guidance in the application of Regulation G.1.2 in the event that a formal written request is received by Lacrosse WA to permit 14 and 15 year old players to participate in the senior grade competition.

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 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 aged 14 and 15 years old, in the applicable calendar year, and may be applied when deemed appropriate. E.g. Currently, registered participants in an Australian Representative squad, may request permission to participate in senior grade competition to develop skills and game sense to enhance their prospects for selection and, if selected, to continue this development, or junior players with exceptional talent.

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.

POLICY CONTENT

1. Eligibility to apply

Players eligible for the U15 playing grade, or aged 14 and 15 years, who have registered for an Australian Representative team, or if there is no Australian Representative team a player deemed to be a talented junior, may apply to Lacrosse WA for permission to play in the senior grade competition.

2. Application

A written application must be submitted at least one month prior to the requested date of commencement in the higher grade.

The application must be accompanied by:

- a) Record of the applicant's inter-club and representation team performance.
- b) Letter from the applicant's parents or legal guardians requesting that Lacrosse WA consider waiving Regulation G.1.2 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 the senior competition.



- c) Letter from the player's registered club supporting the application and setting out the reasons for their support.
- d) Registered in GameDay for the current playing season.
- e) Completion of the skills matrix (Appendix 1) by the senior club coach
- f) Payment of \$100 from the club to cover the cost of an independent assessment from a neutral third party.

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 Director of High Performance to arrange an independent assessor.
- 4.2 The independent assessor will review the player in up to three games, minimum of one game, to determine their ability to play in the senior competition.
- 4.3 The assessor will submit the skills matrix along with a recommendation to the Director of High Performance
- 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 High Performance shall notify the player's club in writing, of the Board's decision.

5. Conditions of participating

- 5.1 If successful, the applicant is no longer eligible to play in the Under 15 or Under 14 competition, ie they can play in Under 17's and seniors only.
- 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 grade lacrosse shall cease:

- 7.1 If the applicant incurs an injury, which requires medical treatment by a medical doctor.
- 7.2 When the Association considers that the safety and/or welfare of the applicant is at risk. In this instance the Director of Men's or Women's Lacrosse will provide written notification to the player's parents/guardian and registered club.
- 7.3 If the applicant is aged 14 when granted an exemption they will be required to submit a further exemption request for the subsequent season. If the applicant remains a member of an Australian squad, the existing exemption will remain in place.



8. Monitoring and Surveillance

The Board of Directors shall put in place a system to monitor the applicant and shall routinely review the applicant during the playing season that this approval is in force.

9. Appeals

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



Appendix 1 – Skills Matrix

The following player evaluation should be completed by the club/coach and assessed on the participation in their ‘normal’ or ‘chronological’ aged grade.

1 = Poor, 2 = Barely achieves standard, 3 = Appropriate for age grade, 4 = Above standard, 5 = Excellent

Criteria	Club to complete					Association to Complete					Feedback
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
Skills											Skills feedback
Passing (dominant and off hand)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Catching (dominant and off hand)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ability to carry the ball under pressure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Shooting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dodging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Checking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cutting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Feeding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Position Specific Skills and Attributes											Position specific feedback
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Athletic Ability											Athleticism Feedback
Ability to beat/hold an opponent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Speed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Agility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Endurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Footwork	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Game Sense and Communication											Game Sense Feedback
Understanding of game style and structures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Awareness of surroundings and situation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Makes effective decisions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ability to effectively communicate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Body Position	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Coachability											Coachability Feedback
Listens and implements advice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Responds quickly & accurately to requests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Asks questions to clarify uncertainty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Team discipline, hustle and X Factor											Team discipline & hustle Feedback
Ability to win a contested possession	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Team above self-attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Interacts productively with teammates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Remains focused, calm & determined	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
X factor, rare and valuable skill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Total/ Total Average											
	_____ /60					_____ /60					
General Feedback											



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