

CONSTITUTION OF THE BLACK BEAR YOUTH LACROSSE ORGANIZATION

WRITTEN 2017, AMENDED 1-27-22

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ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this youth lacrosse program is the Black Bear Youth Lacrosse Organization.

BBYLO

PO Box 312

Strafford, NH 03884

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The purpose of the Black Bear Youth Lacrosse Organization (BBYLO) is to provide the participants with an environment to introduce and continually develop the fundamental skills required to play lacrosse as well as to promote the spirit and sportsmanship of the game of lacrosse in the towns of Barrington, Deerfield, Epsom, Northwood, Nottingham, Rochester and Strafford, New Hampshire. BBYLO has adopted the rules of play that have been put forth by the New Hampshire Youth Lacrosse Association (NHYLEA) with the goal of structuring a framework of game regulations that would ensure a safe environment in which to conduct lacrosse games while, at the same time, offering an opportunity for all

participants to enjoy the traditional challenges of the sport of lacrosse. We believe that the current rules governing the BBYLO games do, in fact, satisfy these goals. Of equal importance are the attitudes, purposes and conduct that we as adults bring to the sport. Our primary job is not only to create an atmosphere of learning, enjoyment, and good sportsmanship for all of the youth players who decide to participate in the BBYLO, but to complete our obligation by conducting ourselves in a manner that reinforces the high standards that we expect the players to sustain. We believe that the most effective method to achieve our goals is to remember that the opposing coaches and the officials are engaged in a partnership which is dedicated to providing the players with a quality experience.

ARTICLE III - Membership

Any boy or girl who meets the requirements of NHYLA and resides in the towns of Barrington, Deerfield, Epsom, Northwood, Nottingham, Rochester and Strafford, New Hampshire may apply for membership. Players will be placed in the appropriate age groups as outlined by NHYLA rules and regulations.

ARTICLE IV - Registration

Registration fees are established by the BBYLO Board and approved annually. Each registered player shall pay registration annually, prior to the issuing of schedules for the Spring season and meet US Lacrosse standards and guidelines. All players must also obtain a US Lacrosse membership prior to any practices or games with BBYLO.

ARTICLE V – Team Representation

The purpose of the eligibility rules are to ensure that every player on a BBYLO team roster has the privileges and benefits of participation in youth lacrosse and to protect that person from unfair competition therein. BBYLO will follow the current eligibility rules set forth by the NHYLA and US Lacrosse. As referenced in the membership requirements of the NHYLA league, NHYLA rules will supersede US Lacrosse rules. The interpretation and the applications of these rules rest with the BBYLO Board of Directors and will be explained to all coaches prior to every season.

Each team shall have one head coach and at least one assistant coach with a maximum of 3 coaches on the sideline for games as per NHYLA rules and regulations. Parent helpers are allowed for the 10u and 8u levels per NHYLA rules. The head coach will serve as the official delegate for their team and is responsible to uphold the Constitution and Bylaws of BBYLO.

ARTICLE VI - Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the BBYLO shall be entrusted with the duty of carrying on the work of the Association. The Board is empowered to transact such business of the Organization as it may deem wise and imperative. It is the duty of the Board of Directors to act as a court and to render decisions by majority vote regarding all issues and controversies arising out of documentation interpretations -

including but not limited to: the articles of this constitution; the interpretation or application of rules and regulations whether referencing BBYLO, NHYLA or US Lacrosse league play.

The President and/or the Board of Directors may postpone, cancel or forfeit any or all contests where the safety and welfare of our organizational community is concerned or where the immediate cessation of activities is in the best interest of the Organization. This process may be enacted after consultation with the team or teams involved.

The Board of Directors shall be composed of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Boy's Program Director and Girl's Program Director. All Board of Directors positions will be considered voting members. Four Board members must be present at a meeting in order to constitute a quorum. If there is an urgent need to have a discussion and/or vote on a topic between scheduled meetings, the discussion will be handled via email where all members will be required to respond and vote. This discussion will be captured by the Secretary and registered within the next meeting's minutes.

ARTICLE VII - Duties of Officers

The officers shall perform such duties as are consistent with their office according to usual parliamentary rules as described in "Robert's Rules of Order." The Board of Directors shall appoint other officers as they deem appropriate via a structured vote.

- President Role: To perform the Administrative Duties of the BBYLO. To provide timely agenda topics for discussion and action when the Board is in session.
- Vice President Role: To serve in lieu of the President when necessary and support the directives of the Board as needed. To monitor disciplinary actions as designated by the Board.
- Secretary Role: To document the discussion and actions put forth by the Board in official meetings as well as supervise the player registration process. To maintain the player and organizational records required by NHYLA.
- Treasurer Role: To keep all financial records of the BBYLO and distribute an annual budget. To maintain a financial report of all income and disbursements in the operation of the BBYLO, which is required at minimum to be presented annually at the August meeting referencing the previous year's operation.
- Boy's Program Director Role: To oversee the process and procedure of all components affecting the activity of the Boys Division.
- Girl's Program Director Role: To oversee the process and procedure of all components affecting the activity of the Girls Division.

ARTICLE VIII - Elections

Board of Director nominations and voting will be held at the annual meeting in August. Nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the elections, or selected by the board when a replacement is necessary. The Board of Directors shall elect a President from within the existing body of Board members, which includes current voting term members and active MAL's. In the event of extenuating

circumstances, the Board may elect a President from outside of the current body of active members when accompanied by a unanimous vote in favor of the appointment.

The President, along with the Board's majority approval, has the right to replace a Board member should they not fulfill their obligation. The elected Board Members will each serve a two year term, with the option to renew their position for another term with a majority vote of the Board at the Annual meeting. Following their two year term, if there is no term renewal, the member will transition to the "immediate past" role during a third year transition year. The role of the "immediate past" will be to educate and mentor the newly appointed Board member. The "immediate past" member will not be considered a voting member. The positional terms of the Board members will be staggered over odd and even years in order to ensure that the institutional memory is maintained. The rotating terms are as follows:

- Even years- President, Secretary, and Boys Director
- Odd years- Vice President, Treasurer, and Girls Director.

In the extenuating circumstance that a Board of Director is unable to complete their term of service, the remaining Board of Directors will elect an Interim plan of coverage of the necessary positional duties until the natural term schedule has been reached or until an eligible candidate is found to complete the term schedule.

ARTICLE IX - Meetings

The BBYLO shall meet at a minimum of six times annually. The President or Board of Directors shall add additional meetings as necessary to fulfill the needs of the organization. BBYLO shall hold at minimum two public meetings per fiscal year. The first public meeting will be held postseason near the closing of the fiscal year on August 31st, while the second public meeting will be held prior to the start of the spring season and will serve as an informational meeting to coaches and families. Notification will be provided at least 30 days in advance of any public meeting. Off-season meetings may be open to the public at the Board's discretion. Board members must make 80% of the scheduled meetings unless excused by the President. A written agenda will be issued prior to each meeting and minutes from each meeting will be preserved on record. Agendas will be provided in advance of the meeting; it is the responsibility of all Board members to provide agenda items to the President prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE X - Members at Large

A Member at large is a non-voting position that includes a one year term with the option to renew annually with Board approval. Members at Large (MAL) may be voted in by the Board of Directors at any scheduled Board meeting. Each MAL will be provided opportunities to volunteer in a specific or nonspecific role of assistance throughout the year. It is the expectation that a MAL will provide ongoing updates to the Board prior to every scheduled meeting and as requested regarding their assigned responsibilities. It is suggested that a MAL join the Board meetings when available, but they are not required to attend a minimum amount of meetings during a calendar year.

ARTICLE XI- Dissolution

Upon termination or dissolution of the Black Bear Youth Lacrosse Organization, any assets lawfully available for distribution shall be distributed to one or more qualifying organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or described in any corresponding provision of any successor statute) which organization or organizations have a charitable purpose which, at least generally, includes a purpose similar to the terminating or dissolving organization.

ARTICLE XII- Conflict of Interest

Any possible conflict of interest on the part of any member of the board, an officer or member of the Organization, shall be disclosed in writing to the Board and made a matter of record through an annual procedure and also when the interest involves a specific issue before the Board. Where the transaction involves a Board member, trustee or officer exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) but less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) in a fiscal year, then a two-thirds vote of the disinterested directors and publication in the required newspaper is required. The minutes of the meeting shall reflect that a disclosure was made, the abstention from voting, and the actual voting itself. Every new member of the Board will be advised of this policy upon entering the duties of his or her office, and shall sign a statement of acknowledgement, understanding of and agreeing to this policy. The Board will comply with all requirements of New Hampshire law in this area and the New Hampshire requirements are incorporated into and made a part of this policy statement.

ARTICLE XIII- Amendments

The Constitution or By-laws of the BBYLO may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Any proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the President at least three weeks before the next scheduled official Board of Directors meeting.

Signature Page

Position: President

Name: _____ Signature: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Date: _____

Position: Vice President

Name: _____ Signature: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Date: _____

Position: Boy's Program Director

Name: _____ Signature: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Date: _____

Position: Girl's Program Director

Name: _____ Signature: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Date: _____

Position: Treasurer

Name: _____ Signature: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Date: _____

Position: Secretary

Name: _____ Signature: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Date: _____