

Franklin Lakes Lacrosse Policies and Procedures

1/23/12

Description

Franklin Lakes Lacrosse is unique among the other Recreation programs offered in that it incorporates a travel team within the overall program. Teams in this program play in the North Jersey Junior Lacrosse League (NJJLL). Typically, children will break up into the A and B levels based on their age and skill level.

The A level is the travel team. Players at this level are the most accomplished in their age group. Their games represent the Franklin Lakes program in the NJJLL. The competitive goal of this level is to refine and develop the lacrosse skills of each player and to win lacrosse games. The B program is developmental. Players receive the same instruction as the A players but their competitive goals are focused more on testing their learned skills in game situations. With no pressure to win or lose, the games are meant to be fun. Games are, in a sense a reward for all the hard work players put in during the weeks of practice they participate in, therefore practice attendance is important and will factor into playtime.

Children at both levels will play in games. Those at the B level should play equal time, as much as that is possible up to and including half a game. Playing time in these games can vary due to the course of the game and the number of children on the team. (More than 20 children on a team makes it mathematically impossible). Losing efforts may have more defensive plays. Winning games can generate more offense. Generally, playing time will balance out, but will not measure out exactly. However it is the responsibility of the coaching staff to make their best effort to equalize playing time.

The A program is the exception to this practice. This is the competitive team with the overall goal of winning a league championship (8th grade). Playing time at this level is not specified other than a directive to provide equal play for children who can only play at this level. Players that don't get time playing in the A game are entitled to play in the B game.

Team Selection

Franklin Lakes Lacrosse is unique among the other Recreation programs offered in that it incorporates a travel team within the overall program. Teams in this program play in the NJJLL where each town has varying number of participants and therefore may have multiple teams at single grade levels, one team or combined grade (3rd/4th, 5th/6th & 7th/8th) teams. The Program Director attends a scheduling meeting and schedules the games. At that time the Director is informed of the skill level of the other programs and schedules the games accordingly to their skill level.

Boys 3rd & 4th Grade Lacrosse

- **If 20 or less players**
 - 1 team
 - All players go to all games

- All players get roughly the same playtime and attend the same amount of games (not an exact science – approximately 1 ½ - 2 quarters)
 - Attendance at practice is required and will have an impact on game playtime
- **If 21 to 28-30 players**
 - 1 team
 - Divided into 3 groups where 2 groups go to each game
 - Groups should be rotated for each game although schedule may not allow an alternating A/B rotation
 - Groups should be divided by skill level and specific groups should play specific teams (i.e.: higher skilled group players high skilled opponent)
 - All players get adequate play time and attend the same amount of games (not an exact science – approximately 1 ½ - 2 quarters)
 - Some players may play on multiple groups if required to fill in for another player, as determined by coach
 - Goalies will be exempt and may play all games
 - No more than 20 players should be taken to a game
 - Attendance at practice is required and will have an impact on game playtime
- **If over 28-30 players**
 - 2 teams or multiple groups
 - Practice together as 1 team or practice separately if enough coaches are available
 - All players get adequate playtime and attend the same amount of games (not an exact science – approximately 1 ½ - 2 quarters)
 - Some players may play on both teams if required to fill in for another player
 - Goalies will be exempt and may play all games
 - No more than 20 players should be taken to a game
 - Attendance at practice is required and will have an impact on game playtime

Boys 5th thru 8th grade Lacrosse

If 18 or less players

- 1 team
 - All players go to all games
 - All players get roughly the same playtime and attend the same amount of games (not an exact science – approximately 1 ½ - 2 quarters)
 - Attendance at practice is required and will have an impact on game playtime

If over 19 but less than 28-30 players

- 1 team
 - All players go to all games
 - All players get roughly the same playtime and attend the same amount of games (not an exact science – approximately 1 ½ - 2 quarters)
 - Attendance at practice is required and will have an impact on game playtime

- 1 team divided into 3 groups – if Rec Director and Program Director approves
 - Divided into 3 groups where 2 groups go to each game
 - Groups should be rotated for each game although schedule may not allow an alternating A/B rotation
 - Groups should be divided by skill level and specific groups should play specific teams (i.e.: higher skilled group plays high skilled opponent)
 - All players get adequate play time and attend the same amount of games (not an exact science – approximately 1 ½ - 2 quarters)
 - Some players may play on multiple groups if required to fill in for another player, as determined by coach
 - Goalies will be exempt and may play all games
 - No more than 20 players should be taken to a game
 - Attendance at practice is required and will have an impact on game playtime

- 2 Teams A (competitive) & B (developmental) – if Rec Director and Program Director approve
 - A Team
 - Play to win
 - Playtime is not an exact science although every player will play approximately 1 quarter
 - Attendance at practice is mandatory

 - B team
 - Goal is to develop player skill and knowledge of the game
 - All players get roughly the same playtime (not an exact science).
 - Some players may play on both teams – similar to football program
 - Goalies will be exempt and may play all games on both teams
 - No more than 20 players should be taken to a game unless head coach believes all attending players will get playtime
 - Attendance at practice is required and will have an impact on game playtime

If 28-30 or more players

- 2 Teams A (competitive) & B (developmental)
 - A Team
 - Play to win
 - Playtime is not an exact science although every player will play approximately 1 quarter
 - Attendance at practice is mandatory
 - B team
 - Goal is to develop player skill and knowledge of the game
 - All players get roughly the same playtime (not an exact science).
 - Some players may play on both teams – similar to football program
 - Goalies will be exempt and may play all games on both teams
 - No more than 20 players should be taken to a game unless head coach believes all attending players will get playtime

Practices

Lacrosse is a contact sport and practice is critical to the development of the player's lacrosse skills and safety on the field. All players are expected to attend every practice session with illness, preplanned family vacations or religious obligations being the only acceptable absence. During the season, the coaches will make players aware of the practice schedules via email or handout. Practices will be 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 hours in length. In order for practices to end on time, however, it is important that each player is ready to start on time. Be sure that your gear is on and you're ready to go at your scheduled time!

Attendance

- Absence from practice or games due to a conflict with another sport is considered an unexcused absence; the player will not play in the next scheduled game.
- If a player has an unexcused absence from practices in a given week, the player will sit out a minimum of half of the next scheduled game.
- If a player has two unexcused absences from practices in a given week, the player will not play in the next scheduled game.
- Excused absences are those related to scholastic or religious commitments.
- In all cases, a call must be made to the Head Coach PRIOR to the missed practice. If no call is received prior to the practice, it will be counted as an unexcused absence.
- Injured players are expected to attend practices as observers.

Equipment

Each player is responsible for proper care of the equipment issued. Any player that does not return borrowed equipment to the Department of Recreation will be barred from registering for any other Department of Recreation programs. Players are fully responsible for lost, broken or destroyed equipment and will be required to reimburse the Department of Recreation. Any player forgetting any part of their gear will not participate in practices or games - on the spot replacements will not be available.

Parental Responsibilities

Please remember that all of our coaches are volunteers who are putting in an enormous amount of time for the benefit of the players. Please give them your support. Until a coach from your child's level arrives for a practice or game, please do not drop your child off and leave them unattended under any circumstance. As coaches cannot leave a player unattended at a field after a practice or game, it is imperative that a dependable adult is available to assume responsibility of the child promptly at the conclusion of the team function. As per league rules only players and coaches are permitted on the team sidelines, spectators must stand on the opposite side of the field.