

# North Jersey Junior Lacrosse League

## Information and Application Package

### Program Application

***PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE***

Please complete all information and attach a check payable to NJJLL for \$500.00. Mail completed application to: **Charlie Dwyer, Treasurer NJJLL 114 Hobart Ave. Short Hills, NJ 07078. (973-467-1763)**

Application status: Full League status \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliate Status \_\_\_\_\_

Program Name \_\_\_\_\_ Colors \_\_\_\_\_

Team Nick Name (Tigers, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Home jersey color \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor (Town recreation, PAL, private club, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Director or President** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(h) \_\_\_\_\_

(w) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**League Scheduling Representative (Primary contact)** ( ) check here if same as above or:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(h) \_\_\_\_\_

(w) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### **Secondary Contact**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(h) \_\_\_\_\_

(w) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Please complete if known at time of application. Indicate number of teams at each level and the grade composition if known (example: 1 Varsity Team Mixed 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>).*

Number of teams	Comments: (grade composition)
_____ Varsity	_____
_____ JV	_____
_____ Majors	_____
_____ Minors	_____
_____ Clinic	_____
_____ Mites	_____

**Directions to home field(s):** Must be placed on the League website ([www.njlacrosse.com](http://www.njlacrosse.com))

**By submission of this application, I hereby verify that as a sanctioned representative of the participating program, I have read and fully understand each of the following conditions for permitting my program to participate in any US Lacrosse and/or NJJLL recognized or sanctioned event, and I accept each of the conditions below, especially the waiver and release set forth in paragraph one. I also verify that my program has read and agreed to the terms in the Code of Conduct below.**

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCEPTANCE OF THIS WAIVER IS REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE OF MEMBERSHIP**

**In consideration of my program's membership in NJJLL, and my program's participation in US Lacrosse and/or NJJLL recognized or sanctioned events, I agree to the following:**

**1. Waiver and Release: our program is fully aware of and appreciates the risks, including the risk of catastrophic injury, paralysis and even death, as well as other damages and losses, associated with participation in a lacrosse event. Our program further agrees on behalf of our participants, heirs of our participants, and personal representatives, that US Lacrosse and/or NJJLL or NJJLL associated programs, the host organization, and sponsors of any US Lacrosse and/or NJJLL recognized or sanctioned event, along with coaches, officials, referees, umpires, volunteers, employees, agents, officers and directors of these organizations, shall not be liable for any injury, loss of life or other loss or damage occurring as a result of my programs participation in any such US Lacrosse and/or NJJLL recognized or sanctioned event.**

**2. Medical Attention: my program hereby gives consent to US Lacrosse and NJJLL and the host organization of any US Lacrosse and/or NJJLL recognized or sanctioned event to provide, through a medical staff of its choice, customary medical/athletic training attention, transportation and emergency medical services as warranted in the course of my participation in US Lacrosse and/or NJJLL recognized or sanctioned events. Notwithstanding the foregoing, my program understands and agrees that neither US Lacrosse or NJJLL nor the host organization has any obligation to provide any such medical/athletic training attention and both the lack of any such medical/athletic training attention and the provision thereof on a voluntary basis by US Lacrosse and/or NJJLL and/or the host organization is and shall be covered by the release set forth in Paragraph 1 above.**

**3. Readiness to Compete: My program will only participate in those US Lacrosse or NJJLL competitions or activities in which my program participants are believed physically and psychologically prepared to participate.**

**4. Code of Conduct: My program has read and agrees to all terms in the Code of Conduct on the second page of this form, especially with regard to my programs responsibilities as a Player, Coach, Official, Referee and/or Umpire.**

## CODE OF CONDUCT

### US LACROSSE AND THE POSITIVE COACHING ALLIANCE

US Lacrosse and the Positive Coaching Alliance have partnered to establish and promote positive coaching throughout the sport of lacrosse. US Lacrosse is committed to preserve the "Honor of the Game" for all who enjoy the sport of lacrosse. To help fulfill this commitment, US Lacrosse requires all players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators to sign and abide by a "Code of Conduct" that embodies basic common sense principles; demonstrates consideration of others; and projects a positive image to our young men and women.

Individuals and/or teams participating in US Lacrosse events that fail to abide by this code will be subject to ejection and disqualification from future US Lacrosse events. Thank you for your help in promoting these principles.

#### THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Players, coaches, spectators and parents are to conduct themselves in a manner that "Honors the Game" and demonstrates respect to other players, coaches, officials and spectators. In becoming a member of the lacrosse community an individual assumes certain obligations and responsibilities to the game of lacrosse and its participants. The essential elements in this "Code of Conduct" are HONESTY and INTEGRITY. Those who conduct themselves in a manner that reflects these elements will bring credit to the sport of lacrosse, themselves, their team and their organization. It is only through such conduct that our sport can earn and maintain a positive image and make its full contribution to youth sports in the United States and around the world. US Lacrosse supports the following behaviors for those participating or involved in any way with US Lacrosse in general:

- The essential elements of the "Code of Conduct" must be adhered to.
- Sportsmanship and teaching the concepts of fair play are essential to the game and must be taught and developed both at home and on the field during practices and games.
- The emphasis on winning should never be placed above the value of good sportsmanship, the concepts of fair play, or the skills of the game.
- Derogatory comments are unacceptable. Use positive reinforcement with players and adults alike. It should be remembered that criticism once made can never be retracted.
- The safety and welfare of the players are of primary importance.
- Coaches must always be aware of the tremendous influence they have on their players. They are to strive to be positive role models in dealing with young people, as well as with adults.
- Officials are expected to conduct themselves as professionals and in a manner that demonstrates courtesy and fairness to all parties, while exercising their authority on the field.
- Adults involved with the game must never permit anyone to openly or maliciously criticize, badger, harass, or threaten an official.
- Knowledge of the Rules of Lacrosse must be respected and adhered to by all who participate in the game of lacrosse, both in the letter and the spirit of the game. Attempts to manipulate rules in an effort to take unfair advantage of an opponent, or to teach deliberate unsportsmanlike conduct, is considered unacceptable conduct.

• **Eligibility requirements, such as age and previous level of participation, must be followed. They have been established to encourage and maximize participation, as well as promote safety.**

**About the NJJLL:**

The NJJLL is the officially recognized youth lacrosse league affiliated with US Lacrosse, and its local chapter, the NJ Lacrosse Foundation. The league is governed by its own executive committee and operates by an adopted set of rules and regulations.

**Mission:** It is the mission of the NJJLL to promote and develop excellence, sportsmanship, participation and fun in the game of youth lacrosse and, consistent with these goals, to grow the sport of lacrosse.

**Membership:** Any “Northern” NJ youth lacrosse program may apply for membership in the league. Acceptance is contingent on the following criteria:

The program is based in NJ.

The program accepts and abides by the rules and regulations of the NJJLL.

Abides by the NJJLL territorial regulations generally defined by municipal borders. (Exceptions are spelled out in our rules of play section).

Is a sponsored town recreation program.

Is a private youth lacrosse club that abides by our territorial regulations.

Is sponsored by the PAL or another recognized community based agency.

***School based teams are not eligible for membership in the NJJLL.***

**Membership dues:** The dues are set annually by the executive committee. It is currently \$500.00 per program. Checks are made payable to NJJLL and should accompany the enclosed application form.

**As an affiliate of the NJ Lacrosse Foundation, US Lacrosse mandates that all players are members of US Lacrosse. This is a requirement of NJJLL membership. You must take care of this with US Lacrosse.**

**Membership Status:**

**Full League status:** As the name implies, programs in this status are entitled to all league privileges and activities.

**Affiliate league status:** Primarily reserved for teams in the first year that want to free-lance a schedule without conference scheduling obligations. This category eliminates their players from any all-star consideration although their varsity team may participate in the end of year league’s **Juhlin Jamboree**. Also, Affiliate league members may not schedule games until the all conference schedules are completed.

**League Officers and Governance:** The NJJLL is governed by an elected 9 member Executive Committee. The Officers consist of a President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and US Lacrosse Liaison. The Executive Committee also includes consists of the coordinators from each of the Conferences and Two at-large members. Divisions may conduct their own meetings led by the Executive Committee members from each Division. Each Division follows the league rules and guidelines regarding rules of play and conduct of program. Divisions may not admit new teams directly, they must be first approved by the entire Executive Committee that will assign the team to the appropriate Division and Conference.

**Standing committees:** Standing committees of the NJJLL are:

**Coaching committee:** is the liaison with Positive Coach’s alliance, coach’s clinics and training as well as ethnics and rule violations.

**Festival Team Committee:** Committee oversees the Festival Team, the League All-Stars for the NJ Lacrosse Foundation’s Jamboree and the selection/try-out process for the US Lacrosse Festival Team.

**NJJLL Jamboree Committee:** Works with the host program to organize the annual League Varsity Jamboree.

**Executive Board:** Made up of the League Officers chosen from among the representatives from the various Divisions and includes a representative as liaison to US Lacrosse.

**ORGANIZATION:**

This league arrangement has 3 broad Divisions and 10 Conferences.

Divisions Include: **American, National, and Southern** as shown below:

**New Jersey Junior Lacrosse League**  
Division Alignments & Conferences

Northeast Conference (Bergen, Essex & Passaic Counties)			Northwest Conference (Morris, Hunterdon, Warren and Sussex Counties)			
Montclair	(B) Livingston	(A) Ridgewood	E Hanover Whippany	(A) Mt Lakes	(B) Sparta	(A)Hunterdon
Clifton	Ringwood	Waldwick	Long Hill	(A) Montville	(A) Vernon	(A) Chester
Nutley	(C) W. Orange	(B) Fairlawn	Watchung Hills	(B) Boonton	(B) Jefferson	(B) Del Val
Verona	Washington Twp	(B) Hohokus	N. Warren	(A) Roxbury	(B) Wayne	(B)Bethlehem
Caldwell	(A) Maplewood	(A) Highlands	Madison	(A) Randolph	(C) Byram	(B) Mt. Olive
Millburn	River Dell	(A) GlenRock	Chatham	(A)Morristown	(B)Blairstown	
Glen Ridge	Northern Valley	(B) Pascack	Florham Park	(A) Kinnelon	Andover Green (Newton)	
West Essex	Saddle Brook	(C)Tenafly	Franklin Lakes	(B) RockDen		
		(B) Wyckoff		(C)Pequannock		
		(C) Mahwah				

## Central Conference(Union, Middlesex & Somerset Counties)

(A)Bridgewater	Springfield		
(B)Old Bridge	Hillsborough		
(B)E Brunswick	Clark		
(B)N Brunswick	Berkley Heights		
(B)Branchburg	Somerset Hills		
(A)Summit	South Brunswick		
(B)Westfield			
Cranford			
(A)Long Valley			
(A) Tewksbury	.		
Scotch Plains			

NOTE: Some programs traditionally field two varsity teams in the league.

**Team Conference Assignment:** For the purpose of league play, the NJJLL is divided into three conferences. **Upon acceptance to the league, a program will be assigned to a conference based primarily on geographic (County) location.** A program may appeal their assignment to the executive committee for consideration. The conferences are not based upon level of play or maturity of program.

**SCHEDULING** : Full league status teams must schedule all of the teams in your conference. There is a limit of 14 games per varsity and JV team that the league mandates. We recommend no more than 12 games for the Majors and Minors and 10 games or less for the clinic teams. ( A scheduling guide will be issued on scheduling nights).

**New Programs and start-up programs (only):** A new program that does not want to compete with a full conference schedule may apply for **affiliate league status**. Affiliate status means you will not be assigned to a conference and may free-lance a schedule **after all the conference schedules are complete**. We recommend that programs do not choose this status if they have been an in-town program for at least a year. We recommend that these programs join the league with full league status. The annual fee remains the same for affiliated teams. ***Affiliated teams may have their varsity squad attend the League Jamboree, but players from affiliated teams are not eligible for All-Star programs***

**Player eligibility and team composition:**

**Player eligibility:** *See the section: NJJLL Rules and regulations*

(A player may not be 15 before January 1 of the season):

**In the NJJLL, teams carry the following designations:**

**Varsity: 8<sup>th</sup>- 7<sup>th</sup> grade**

**JV: 7<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Majors: 6<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Minors: 5<sup>th</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Clinic: 4<sup>th</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade**

In the NJJLL, a player **may play up a level for his grade, but never down a level.**

(Example, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader may play on the varsity team, but an 8<sup>th</sup> grader may not play JV). We also recommend that teams be not made up of more than two grades. (for example, a varsity team should not be made up of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders) **In fact, we recommend that a player not play up two levels.**

**Some team composition options:**

It is fairly common in our league for teams to have mixed grades as described above. Many programs field varsity teams with 7<sup>th</sup> graders on them etc. We recommend, if possible, to keep your teams at specific grade levels. Many programs field one or two teams at each grade level.

Our experience has also shown that the optimum team size is 22-25 players as our league requires that each player dressed for the game must play at least a quarter. It's difficult to get players adequate playing time if you carry more than 22-25. Some teams who carry more than 25 resort to rotational "dress lists". If a rotation is used, players should be rotated as close to equal playing time as possible. If they are dressed for the game, they MUST play the required quarter.

We also **recommend** that if you have a talented player playing above his grade level that he shouldn't play in back to back games. For example, a talented 7<sup>th</sup> grader playing the varsity game should not play the JV game that immediately follows that game. We recommend this for safety reasons as well as to give more players the opportunity to play. Of course, your best judgment, in the spirit of our league's mission, should apply here especially if his playing time in the first game is limited or numbers require him to play.

**NEW: Rosters**

Each program must submit a copy of their roster for each team prior to the regularly scheduled meeting in March. No team will be allowed to compete until the roster is completed. It will be a requirement that the roster is checked prior to each game by both coaches in a line-up format. A player not on the updated roster will not be allowed to play. Rosters may be updated at any time after the March meeting and prior to April 10<sup>th</sup>. Roster additions after April 10<sup>th</sup> must be approved by the league.

**Rosters must include the Players Name, Street Address and Town, DOB, current grade in school, and US Lacrosse membership number.**

**All Teams from 4<sup>th</sup> grade up (Clinic, Minors, Majors, JV, and Varsity) In the case of multiple teams at any level, they should be combined on one roster for that level. (This allows for some flexibility)**

### **Special Events and All Star Teams:**

The NJJLL has the following special events:

**End-of-season “Juhlin Jamboree”:** All paid programs fielding a varsity squad are invited to our Jamboree. The Jamboree is known as the Juhlin Jamboree named for Thor Juhlin, the founder of the Morristown Program who passed away in 1998. All teams travel to a host site and play approximately 6 abbreviated games in a festival format of fun and sportsmanship. No records are kept and no winner is determined.

**NJ Lacrosse Foundation All-Star Jamboree:** Usually held the week-end following the Juhlin Jamboree at Rutgers, Montclair State or another site. Six All-Star teams are selected from our various league alignments and compete in three show-case games. This event also includes youth girls all-stars and high school divisional all-stars. Only 8<sup>th</sup> grade players are eligible to be selected to this all-star program.

**US Lacrosse National Festival All-Star Team (Team NJ)** The NJJLL sponsors two teams for this event. One team is U-15 and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys only are eligible and a U-13 Team that 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible for. Try-outs are held for two days and the teams are selected. The try-outs are not open to anyone, but are governed by nomination as explained in the All-Star section of these guidelines. *(Information on ALL-STARs will be provided at a later date)*

There are also programs in our League that sponsor various tournaments. These are independent activities that are not league sponsored; however, participation is encouraged by our league.

***Note: Winter and Summer programs and camps that abound are not affiliated with the NJJLL. We do not endorse one camp or league over another nor do we endorse so-called elite teams.***