

Clinton Lacrosse Association (CLA)

Bylaws – Updated 12/2025

Article I. Introduction

Section 1.1 Name

The name of this organization shall be the Clinton Lacrosse Association (“CLA” or the “Association”). The Association shall operate as a non-profit, volunteer-based youth sports organization.

Section 1.2 Mission

To provide the youth of Clinton, Connecticut the opportunity to learn and play lacrosse at a level commensurate with each individual’s ability, while enjoying the benefits of being part of a team.

Section 1.3 Vision

To provide lacrosse opportunities for boys and girls at all skill levels from Kindergarten through eighth grade that adequately prepare participants for the high school lacrosse program.

Section 1.4 Intent

CLA shall provide all Clinton youth with the opportunity to play organized lacrosse in such a manner as to: (1) promote character development, good sportsmanship, and good citizenship; (2) develop lacrosse skills, athletic ability, and team play; (3) maintain a high standard of player safety; and (4) ensure open registration regardless of sex, race, creed, color, religion, or orientation.

Article II. Participation

Section 2.1 No Statutory Members

Pursuant to the Connecticut Revised Nonstock Corporation Act, the Association shall have no members with voting rights. The management and affairs of the Association shall be vested solely in the Board of Directors.

Section 2.2 Classes of Participation (Non-Voting)

The Association may designate "Program Members" or "Participants" for operational purposes, who shall have no voting rights regarding corporate governance:

- **Player Participants:** Registered players and their parents or legal guardians.
- **Community Participants:** Members of the Clinton community who support the mission but do not have a child actively playing. These individuals require Board approval for participation

Section 2.3 Eligibility

All players and board members must maintain active membership in USA Lacrosse for insurance coverage. Players must be residents of Clinton or otherwise approved by the Board.

Section 2.4 Non-Discrimination

CLA does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, or disability.

Article III. Finances

Section 3.1 Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.

Section 3.2 Budget

The Treasurer, with input from the Board, shall prepare an annual budget for Board approval no later than the first meeting of the fiscal year. The proposed budget shall be submitted to the Board at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which it is adopted. The budget shall be limited for any given year to expected income for that year. Approval of, or changes to, the budget shall be voted on by the Board. A two-thirds majority of the total votes present shall be required.

Section 3.3 Financial Reporting

The Treasurer shall provide an itemized financial statement at each regular meeting and a comprehensive report within 60 days of fiscal year end.

Section 3.4 Registration Fees & Scholarships

Registration fees shall be set annually by the Board. The Board may provide financial assistance or scholarships based on demonstrated need and resources available for this purpose in a manner consistent with these bylaws.

Article IV. Meetings

Section 4.1 Regular Meetings

The Board shall meet monthly, or as scheduled by the President.

Section 4.2 Annual Meeting

The June meeting shall serve as the Annual Meeting of the Board, during which officers are installed and records are transferred.

Section 4.3 Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President or by any two Board members with at least seven days' notice, except in emergencies.

Section 4.4 Quorum

A quorum shall consist of the President (or Vice President) plus at least two additional officers, with decisions made by majority vote of those present.

Article V. Board of Directors & Officers

Section 5.1 Composition

The Board shall consist of the following positions: President, Vice President (or Boys/Girls Program Managers), Treasurer and Secretary, and Directors- At-Large.

Section 5.2 Duties

Members of the Board shall be defined as follows:

President – Presides at meetings, general oversight, appoints committees, official representative.

Vice President(s)/Program Managers – Oversees boys' and girls' programs; acts in President's absence.

Secretary – Maintains records, minutes, and correspondence.

Treasurer – Manages finances, collects fees, prepares reports.

Directors-At-Large – Support Board operations and committees.

Section 5.3 Term of Office

Officers and Directors shall serve two-year terms. Successor Directors and Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the Directors then in office at the Annual Meeting.

Section 5.4 Board Seat Requirements

Board members must be at least eighteen years old and agree to serve if elected. Individuals may be nominated for one position only. To be eligible for a position on the Board, an individual must be at least 18 years old, have an interest in promoting the sport of lacrosse in the town of Clinton by being a volunteer of, or having a son or daughter playing for Clinton Lacrosse Association.

Section 5.5 Removal & Vacancies

Any officer may be removed for cause by a two-thirds vote of the Board. Vacancies may be filled by presidential appointment with Board approval.

Section 5.6 No Personal Liability of Board Members

By assuming leadership roles in the Association, no Board member shall be personally liable for acts or omissions of the Association.

Article VI. Committees

Committees

Standing committees (e.g., Fundraising, Tournaments, Publicity, Player/Coach Development) shall be established by the President as needed and approved by the Board. Committee chairs shall be appointed annually and may be removed by Board vote.

Article VII. Seasonal Operations

Section 7.1 Seasonal Year

The primary lacrosse season shall run from January through July, with off-season programs permitted.

Section 7.2 Player Assignment & Participation

Team placement shall be based on age, grade, and skill. Equal playing time is encouraged, though coaches retain discretion.

Section 7.3 Safety & Equipment

All players must comply with USA Lacrosse equipment standards. No coach may allow participation without required safety gear.

Article VIII. Coaches & Volunteers

Section 8.1 Appointment

Coaches and volunteers are appointed annually by the Board.

Section 8.2 Requirements

Background checks are required for all individuals with player contact. Head coaches must be at least 21; assistants at least 18.

Section 8.3 Responsibilities

Enforce CLA policies and Code of Conduct. Ensure player safety and sportsmanship. Report incidents or concerns to the Board.

Section 8.4 Coaches' Code of Conduct

Coaches shall: Model good sportsmanship and respect; Abstain from tobacco, alcohol, or illegal substances at practices/games; Prioritize academics, teamwork, and player well-being.

Article IX. Discipline & Dispute Resolution

Discipline

Non-Severe Issues – May be addressed by head coach or President through warnings or reduced playing time.

Severe Issues – Fighting, violence, safety violations, or misconduct may result in suspension or removal, subject to Board review.

Appeals – Appeals of disciplinary actions may be made to the Board, whose decision is final.

Article X. Conflict of Interest

Conflict of Interest

The Board shall maintain a Conflict of Interest Policy, reviewed annually, to ensure ethical decision-making and transparency.

Article XI. Dissolution

Dissolution

In the event of dissolution, all assets shall be transferred to another non-profit youth sports organization with a similar mission. No individual shall receive personal benefit.

Article XII. Amendments

Amendments

Amendments to these Bylaws must be submitted in writing to the President at least two weeks prior to a Board meeting. Approval requires a two-thirds vote of the Board.