

# TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL LACROSSE LEAGUE

## Rulebook

*Texas High School  
Lacrosse League*



# 2009

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*Fourth Edition*

*4.1*

[WWW.THSLLO.ORG](http://WWW.THSLLO.ORG)

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# THSLL General Rules

## Revision History

<b>Revision</b>	<b>Changes</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>
1.0	Initial version	8/5/04	M. Barry
1.1	Cleanup after the Aug. 7, 2004 Board Meeting	9/3/04	M. Barry
2.0	Update previous rule changes, delete language related to Girl's programs and add Appendix C, D & E for BoD Meeting July 2006...	7/1/06	D. Hamill
3.0	Rule Changes approved at the Annual Team Meeting - October 21, 2006 for implementation in the 2007 season.	10-21-06	D. Hamill, M. Crimmins
3.1	Housekeeping update of Appendix A:: Offside Rule waiver approved at the Annual Team Meeting in 2004 and inadvertently left off THSLL waiver documents until now	2-16-07	D. Hamill
3.2	Rule changes as approved by the majority of the quorum present (in person or by proxy) at the October 20, 2007 Annual Meeting.	10/20/07	Jay Widdig
3.2.1	Rule changes initiated from the floor at the 2007 Annual Meeting	11/13/07	D Hamill
4.1	Housekeeping update for 2009 season- changes in yellow	9/5/08	N.Powers
	Rule Changes approved at the annual state meeting - October 11, 2008 for implementation in the 2009 season.	10/20/08	S. McKay

# Introduction

This document determines the rules for the Texas High School Lacrosse League (THSLL) and is under strict control and ownership of the THSLL Executive Board (the “Board”).

## Overview

The Texas High School Lacrosse League (THSLL) is the governing body and membership association for boys’ lacrosse teams at the high school level in Texas. The high school level is defined as grades nine through twelve. The league executive board is comprised of volunteers throughout the state.

### THSLL Guiding Principles

1. Creating a structured environment in which student athletes, coaches, administrators, and parents benefit from an organization which facilitates the growth and rewards of playing lacrosse.
2. Promoting and protecting the health of participating student athletes by establishing uniform rules of play and cultivating the ideals of good sportsmanship, loyalty and fair play.
3. Working in harmony with the interscholastic governing bodies of member school programs.
4. Establishing and maintaining a process for continuous improvement of the league, by working with member schools.
5. Building school based boy’s lacrosse teams in Texas.

Teams consist of varsity and junior varsity. The league is divided into districts and divisions.

DI	DII	DIII
North	North	North
Central	Central	Central
South	South	South
	San Antonio	San Antonio

Division I is primarily teams that have the more established lacrosse programs and are required to play an inter-district game each season with each of the other districts. Division II is targeted at development of lacrosse team programs. Division II teams generally have bylaws, procedures, a designated head coach and president, reasonable relations with their host school and/or city (community) and at least JV and Varsity high school teams. Division III teams are generally new or relatively new teams still working towards critical mass of players, coaches, funding, fields, administrative support and school / city / community support.

The THSLL hosts state championships each year for Divisions I and II. The hosting venue for the championship weekend is rotated from district to district every season. Each district crowns its champion through its district playoffs. The DI district champions are combined with a wildcard team to play in the state championship final four; the DII district champions play in the state championship final four. The final four play a single elimination tournament during the championship weekend and crown a state champion. Division I and II All-Star players are selected by the coaches and awards are given for All State, All-District, and Honorable Mention.

## Definition of Terms

**Team** - A group of lacrosse players within a THSLL Program who pay team dues and abide by the rules of THSLL. A team must be one of the types listed in the Team Types section.

**Program** - This is the High School or High School Club organization that is the controlling entity of a single or group of teams that pay dues and abide by the rules of THSLL.

## Team Types

**DIII Team** (generally a New Team) –

- **Might** not play a full schedule
- Can schedule a game with any team that they feel they can match up with
- Can have seniors on the team but can not play the seniors against any JV teams
- Seniors can play in games against varsity or modified JV/Varsity teams
- Pays dues at the New Team rate.

**JV Team** - Pays JV Dues and plays a JV schedule.

**Varsity Team** - Pays Varsity dues and plays DI or DII Varsity schedule.

## Game Types

These game types are used for general purpose communications, scheduling, and website convention.

All THSLL League games will be one of the following types:

**JV** All league JV games. These do not include tournament games or games with non THSLL teams. Varsity teams in programs without a JV team may schedule and play a JV game with a JV team, provided that no seniors play. JV games are 4 periods of 10 minutes each.

**DIII** Games count toward season standings.

**DII District** Division II 'count' league games, within the THSLL District. Games count towards District playoff record.

**DI District** Division I count league games, within the THSLL District. Games count towards District playoff record.

**Non-District** Varsity games with any other THSLL team. Games count towards the overall team record. Games do NOT count towards the District playoff record. Does not include tournament games or games with non - THSLL teams. JV teams may schedule and play non-district varsity games with the clear understanding that seniors are allowed to play in non-district varsity games.

**Inter-District** Division I required games with THSLL teams from the other 2 Districts. These games are taken into consideration towards the voting process for the state playoff final four wildcard team selection.

**Out-of-State** An out of state game is when a THSLL team is hosting a team from outside Texas. These games are played by THSLL rules. The host team is responsible for informing the visiting team of the rules.

**District Playoffs** District level playoff and championship games.

**State Playoffs** State final four and championship games.

**Notes:**

- 1) Seniors are not allowed to play in JV games.
- 2) 8th graders are not allowed to play in any THSLL game. Already in section 8.5
- 3) Scrimmages, tournaments, and out of league games and should not be listed on the district website schedules.

## General League Rules

### 1.0 Member Teams

The league shall be comprised of member schools. Member schools shall include those organizations paying annual league dues to Texas High School Lacrosse League, Inc. All such member schools will be entitled to vote at any member team meeting.

### 2.0 New Member Teams

New member team applications shall be made through the Commissioner, and shall be voted on at the annual meeting or at a special meeting. The application shall consist of a letter to the Commissioner that details the new team's startup plan and intentions. New Teams must be prepared to be in compliance with THSLL rules immediately upon being voted into the league. Only member schools in the Division and District for which THSLL Board nomination is being submitted will vote to approve or deny membership to THSLL Board nominee.

### 3.0 Divisions and Districts

#### 3.1 Divisions

The league shall be divided into three Divisions governed by all General Rules outlined herein. Each District will determine which Member Teams participate in a Division.

#### 3.2 Sub-Divisions

Divisions may be further divided into Sub-Divisions based on the level of competitiveness of Member Teams. Each District will determine which Member Teams participate in a Sub-Division.

#### 3.3 Divisions

Divisions within the THSLL were created to accommodate developing JV and Varsity programs, to alleviate scheduling issues and to create a tier of competition appropriate for such programs. Each District shall determine the selection process for promoting a team from New Team to Division III to Division II then ultimately to Division I. When and if to add DIII shall be a District decision. Teams meeting the minimum suggested criteria should automatically qualify to move to Division I.

Minimum suggested criteria for election from DII to DI are as follows:

1. Head Varsity Coach
2. Regular Practice Schedule
3. Field availability for games and practices
4. Feeder System-viable middle school program
5. High Degree of success within DII
6. Established and Active Booster Club or Association

#### 3.4 Districts

Each Division shall be divided into **three** Districts **North District, Central District, and South District.**

#### 3.5 Authority

Each Division and District also has the authority to establish supplemental rules governing their Division and/or District.

### 4.0 Championships

Subject to Eligibility Rules (Section 8), DI teams with 100% of their program with players from a single school and DII teams with 50% or more of their program with players from a single school are eligible to participate in state championships. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved in writing by the THSLL board.

#### 4.1 District Championships

District champions for each division and district shall be determined by each of the district coordinators and the corresponding divisional and district coaches. **District tournament hosts shall follow District Tournament Standards, (See Appendix G)**

#### 4.2 State Championships

- Teams will be seeded so that teams from the same District will not have to play each other in the semifinal round.
- There will be no DIII state playoff or state championship.

##### 4.2.1 DI State Championships

- **The Division I State Championship Finalists shall be determined through a playoff format determined by each of the district coordinators and the corresponding divisional coaches.**

- The final four teams will be comprised of the champions of each District. For Division I, the fourth team will be chosen by a committee composed of one representative from each of the six (6) losing semifinalists in the District championships. In the case of a tie, the three (3) District Coordinators for each Division will pick the fourth team.

4.2.2 **DII Championship**

- The Division II Championship finalists shall be determined through a playoff format determined by each of the district coordinators and the corresponding divisional coaches.
- The final four teams will be comprised of the champions of each District.
- Teams will be seeded by the DII coordinators.
- Semifinal Games – Saturday: #1 vs. #4; #2 vs. #3. State Championship – Sunday

4.3 **State Championship Host District Venue**

The combined DI and DII championship weekend host location shall rotate among the three **DI** Districts. This rotation of host districts shall continue unless amended.

Year	DI Host District
2009/12 /15	Central
2010/13/16	North
2008/11/14	South

4.2 **State Championship Event Timing**

The Division I and Division II championship weekend shall be on or about the second weekend in May, as the Board shall determine. As this event is the highlight of the season it is imperative that the host districts begin planning for the championships as early as possible to ensure their success.

4.3 **Tie Breaker**

For District and State playoff purposes, the following tie breaker rules shall be followed. (See Appendix I)

5.0 **Member Meetings**

5.1 **Annual Meetings**

The District hosting the League Championships in the upcoming season shall host the annual meeting of all member schools. These annual meetings will be general meetings and open for the transaction of any league business.

5.2 **Special Meetings**

Special Meetings of the member teams may be held at such time and place, by electronic or other means as may be determined by the Commissioner. No business other than that specified in the notice of the meeting will be transacted at any such meeting.

5.3 **Notice**

Notice of the annual meeting or special meeting of member teams shall be mailed by the Secretary (or other officer designated by the Chairman) to each member team not less than fifteen (15) nor more than fifty (50) days prior to such meeting. Notice shall be sent to their last known address as it appears on the books or records of the league. Such notice shall state the purpose for which the meeting is called and the time and place where it is to be held.

5.4 **Quorum**

The presence of one half of the active, annual fee paying member schools, in person or by proxy, will constitute a quorum at all meetings of the member schools. The act of a majority of the member schools present at any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the member schools, except as otherwise specifically provided by these rules.

5.5 **Proxy Representation at Meetings**

A member schools may designate another member to vote on their behalf at any meeting. Proxy authorizations must be submitted in writing prior to the start of any meeting. The proxy authorization must be signed by an authorized representative of the member schools.

6.0 **Rule Making**

The rules of the league shall define league divisions and districts, and govern league play, league preseason events, league post season events, and any and all related activities of the league. These General Rules may be revised or amended at any meeting of the member teams in accordance with the requirements of Section 5. Each program gets a single vote towards the rule vote and a majority of the member schools voting must approve the rule.

## 7.0 Dues & Information

Each member team must submit annual dues payments to the Treasurer ~~prior to January 1 of the current season.~~ Failure to pay dues may result in forfeiture of league games. The dues amount shall be established at the annual meeting of the Member Schools.

### Required Information:

Teams are required to provide final valid team rosters, an emergency plan, proof of insurance, team contacts, season schedules, approved eligibility waivers, and coaches U.S. Lacrosse member numbers in accordance with the Timeline. Penalties will be assessed for non compliance (See Appendix J).

## 8.0 Eligibility

Players enrolled in grades 9 through 12 are eligible to play on a varsity team. Players enrolled in grades 9 through 11 are eligible to play on a junior varsity team. The team a student plays for will be determined in the following sequence:

**FIRST: School Attended:** A student who attends a school with a member program must play for that program.

**SECOND: Attendance Zone:** A student, who attends a school that does not have a program, or who is home-schooled, but who lives in the attendance zone of a school with a member program, must play for that program.

**THIRD: School District:** A student, who does not attend or live in the attendance zone of a school with a member program but lives in an independent school district or attends a school in an independent school district with a member program, must play for that program, if it is DII or DIII. If the district has more than one team, he must play for the closest DII or DIII district program.

**FOURTH Other:** A student who lives in or attends a school in an independent school district that does not have any member teams must play for closest THSLL Division II or III Team. "Closest" will be defined as the nearest travel distance using MapQuest, selecting Shortest Distance under routing options, from the student's school to the Division II or Division III team.

When a Division II Team matriculates to Division I, any student enrolled in their programs during the prior THSLL Regular Season (spring season) will be allowed to continue with the same program until they have exhausted their four year eligibility. Out-of-School In-coming freshman will have the choice to play for the member program or the closest DII / DIII school.

Any exceptions to these rules must be approved in writing by the THSLL Board. A member school or player may appeal the decision of the Board of Directors to the Commissioner, by sending a written request for a determination to the Commissioner within thirty days after being notified of the District Coordinator's decision. Such request shall include all information sent with the original waiver request, and any additional information or statement that the member team or the player wishes the Commissioner to consider. The ruling of the Commissioner shall be final in all eligibility matters.

### 8.1 District Eligibility Committee

The District Coordinators for a district may appoint an eligibility committee to make recommendations to the Coordinators regarding eligibility questions.

### 8.2 Home School

Students enrolled in a home school or correspondence school must first provide enough information about the academic program so that the District Coordinator can determine whether the student is undertaking an academic program reasonably comparable to that of a public, private or parochial school.

### 8.3 Time of Eligibility

The attendance of a student's first high school class determines the start of his THSLL eligibility, his THSLL primary program eligibility and his THSLL primary family residence. Students (players) have a total of four (4) seasons of eligibility during high school. The District Coordinator and Commissioner will determine if a player is eligible.

### 8.4 Switching Program Enrollment

A transfer is a student who moves to another THSLL lacrosse program after establishing Primary Eligibility (see Time of Eligibility).

Players who switch enrollment between programs of Member Teams while the official spring season is underway, must notify their district coordinator and must wait two (2) weeks after the change of enrollment before participating in team events such as practice and/or games.

**8.4.1 JV Transfers:** A transfer student is eligible for team events (practice), JV games and non-THSLL spring season league games when he complies with all other rule provisions.

- 8.42 Varsity Transfers: A Transfer student is eligible for THSLL Varsity events when the student’s family moves their primary residence to a new school district and he complies with all other rule provisions.
- 8.43 Non-Compliance: A Transfer that does not comply with all eligibility provisions will be deemed ineligible to play in THSLL league games. A Transfer that does not comply with other provisions required for switching program enrollment will be ineligible for one calendar year of THSLL Varsity events.
- 8.44 Hardship waivers regarding Varsity transferring enrollment will be considered for: financial hardship, divorce and inability to handle private school curriculum.
- 8.45 Cuts: A Cut player is a student in “good standing” that has been released from a Division I team. A Cut player will be allowed to play for the Closest Division II School provided that the player is accepted by the program.

### 8.5 Eighth Grade Players

Players enrolled in the eighth grade are not eligible to play in THSLL sanctioned events and league games. Players in the eighth grade, subject to the approval of the appropriate District Coordinator and Commissioner, may be a member of a THSLL JV or new team for practice purposes only and are subject to all of the same rules determining the appropriate Member Team for which to play as players enrolled in grades nine(9) through twelve(12).

### 8.6 Dual Division Programs

Programs with more than one Member Team may compete in both DI and DII Divisions during a single season provided that all rules governing Dual-Division Programs have been met. A newly formed team must apply for membership as required of all New Member Teams by the General League Rules.

- Prior to playing league games, or as otherwise required by the District Coordinator, the roster for each Member Team must be submitted to the District Coordinator. All players must be placed on one of the Division Member Teams. Once declared, players may not be moved down between Division teams. The District Coordinator will make these rosters available to any Coach or designated Member Team Representative.
- Players from a Junior Varsity team may move to either a DI or a DII team within the Program. Players from a DII Varsity team may move to a DI team within the Program. However, if a player is on the active roster for a Member Team in a league game, he will thereafter be declared a member of that team and may not then be moved down to the other Division team.
- Personnel associated with the Member Teams are responsible for promptly notifying the District Coordinator of any additions/changes to the team rosters as they occur and prior to player activation on a team within the program
- Dual Division Programs must have (and maintain at all times) DI, DII and JV rosters with 21 unique individuals on each roster.

### 9.0 Coaches

All member teams must have a designated fulltime coach.

All THSLL coaches are required to be active members of U.S. Lacrosse, and comply with the THSLL Code of Conduct. (See Appendix F)

### 10.0 Insurance

All member teams must have liability insurance. Members may not play games without proper insurance. Each member program / team must provide proof of acceptable insurance to their District Coordinator prior to participation in any league activity.

### 11.0 Improper Behavior

Abusive, profane, or violent behavior or language by coaches, players, or fans at any league function may result in such team member, coach, player or fan being suspended or expelled. This includes behavior not in conformance with the Purposes of the Texas High School Lacrosse League as stipulated in the Bylaws. No alcoholic beverages or any intoxicating substances or intoxicated individuals are allowed at any league functions. Punishments shall be decided by the THSLL Board of Directors or its designee, and may include sanctions, penalties, suspensions or expulsions of individuals, teams or programs from the league THSLL, or any combination of any of the foregoing.

### 12.0 Scouting

Coaches of Member Teams may attend games between fellow Member Teams. Acceptable actions include scouting a future opponent by taking written or tape recorded notes. No person with an affiliation of a Member Team is allowed to videotape a game in which said Member Team is not participating. This includes coaches, players, parents and/or outside commercial firms. Coaches may trade videotapes of their own games with one another for the purpose of scouting future opponents.

### 13.0 Medical Emergency Plan

Each member team will have and be prepared to implement a medical emergency plan as described in Appendix E.

### 14.0 Referees

During the regular season, as defined by Appendix J, all games shall be officiated as assigned through the established league scheduling process and as described in agreements with approved league officials. Except for District and Division Championship games so designated by the Board, payment of official's fees shall be the sole responsibility of each Member team. Failure to pay official's fees may result in forfeiture of league games. Rainout Procedures- Game Day cancellations should be made by a phone call to assignor and coaches. In the event games are cancelled less than two (2) hours prior to game time, teams are responsible for paying officials for such scheduled games. If two (2) games are scheduled, the officials will be paid the higher of the fee. Officials will also be paid for suspended games.

### 15.0 Rules of Play

Games will be played in accordance with all NCAA lacrosse rules, with waivers approved at the annual meeting of member teams.

### 16.0 Mandatory Games

In addition to the regular season district games, some Division I teams are required to play at least one (1) Inter-District game with each District per season. The outcome of these games will be used in determining the fourth (wildcard) team for the Division I Championship Tournament. Any given District will travel to one District and host the other District. Districts will rotate the travel every year. The team pairings will be decided at the fall or summer Executive Board meeting. Seeding for Inter-District will be based on ranking at the end of the regular season.

**16.1 Games Played:** At the beginning of every season, each district division (i.e. North DII) along with their coordinator; decides the number of and format for their required season games. These games must be designated as their appropriate district games types (ex DII District) at the time they are scheduled. These will be considered the "count" games towards the district standings. Each team is required to play the same number of District (count) games.

**16.2 Allowable Games:** During the regular season, as defined by Appendix J, Member Schools will schedule all games within Texas according to the game types described elsewhere in this document. They will be scheduled through the approved league scheduling process and in conjunction with agreements between the league and approved officials. Opponents may only be other Member Schools or guest teams otherwise considered sanctioned by the league's representative through the approved scheduling process. All allowable games count in a member school's overall record.

Scrimmages of all forms are not 'allowed games' and may not be reported as such to any entity. Any scrimmage played during the regular season will be considered a situational practice and does not result in a final score regardless of the presence of officials.

### 17.0 Player Honors

Each District awards All-State and All-District Honors within Divisions I and II. Each group includes thirteen (13) players, comprised of: three (3) attackmen, four (4) midfielders, one (1) face-off, one (1) longstick, three (3) defensemen, and one (1) goaltender. It is the responsibility of the Divisional District Coordinator to inform the appropriate person in the Host District of the Championships (DI or DII) and the Commissioner immediately of the honored players indicating: name, position, team, grade, mailing address, and telephone number.

#### 17.1 THSLL Awards

##### 17.1.1 Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach of the Year

These awards honor those coaches who exemplify the ideals of the game within the THSLL. The award is intended to recognize the individuals overall coaching performance and contribution, not just coaching wins — although they may be considered. Each District will name one (1) each of Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach of the Year. For eligibility requirements, nominating and selection process see Appendix K

##### 17.1.2 Man of the Year

This award honors that individual whose dedication, commitment, and support of lacrosse and its ideals extend beyond his/her specific member team. Each District will name one (1). For eligibility requirements, nominating and selection process see Appendix K

##### 17.1.3 Commissioner's Award

This award honors that THSLL player who exemplifies the ideals of sportsmanship, competition and character both on and off the field. Any senior player in the THSLL is eligible. For all player eligibility requirements, nominating and selection process see Appendix K.

## 17.2 US Lacrosse Awards

### 17.2.1 All-Americans

Each year, US Lacrosse informs the THSLL of the number of High School All-Americans it may award. For all player eligibility requirements, nominating and selection process see Appendix L.

### 17.2.2 Academic All-Americans

Each year, US Lacrosse informs the THSLL of the number of High School All-Americans it may award. This award is for academic excellence. For all player eligibility requirements, nominating and selection process see Appendix L.

### 17.2.3 Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach of the Year

These awards honor those coaches who exemplify the ideals of the game. The award is intended to recognize the individuals overall coaching performance and contribution, not just coaching wins — although they may be considered. The list of nominees comes from the THSLL District Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach of the Year awardees. For eligibility requirements, nominating and selection process, (See Appendix L)

### 17.2.4 Man of the Year

Nominees can be active coaches, but overall contribution to lacrosse beyond his/her program is the primary criteria for selection; Nominations should include a biographical sketch, including years of lacrosse involvement and his/her contributions to the game. Nominees may be male or female. The list of nominees comes from the THSLL District Man of The Year awardees

## 18.0 Enforcement

The Commissioner shall have authority to assess any penalties for violation of these rules. Such penalties may be assessed against a member school, member team, an individual player or both, and may include but shall not be limited to expulsion, suspension, probation and/or forfeiture of games, and may also include the performance of remedial actions such as letters of apology or attendance at training events in lieu of such action by the Commissioner. A member school, member team or player may appeal the penalty to the Board by written submission, to be considered by the Board at its next regular meeting or at any special meeting called for that purpose by the Commissioner. Upon any such appeal, the Board may modify or overturn the penalty or remedy instituted by the Commissioner by a majority vote of all Board members.

## 19.0 THSLL - Team Site Administrator Role

- Each team shall have at least one person designated as a Site Administrator (for both home and away games).
- The home team Site Administrator shall be the governing Administrator. This position cannot be a sideline coach.
- The function of this role is to address any crowd control, security and medical issues.
- The Site Administrator should be familiar with and know how to implement any emergency plan or procedures that may be required or set by their school or lacrosse program.
- This person is also the contact for any last minute or emergency issues concerning the game itself.
- This person should carry a mobile phone at the field so that they can make or receive any emergency contacts.
- The Home Team Site Administrator should greet the referees as they arrive to the field as discuss any issues.
- The Home Team Site Administrator is also responsible for referee payment by voucher or check before the game.
- The Home Site Administrator or designated security is responsible for escorting officials off the field at the end of the game.

## 20.0 THSLL Recognized Tournaments

THSLL recognizes tournaments that meet certain minimum requirements, only those tournaments recognized by the THSLL will be listed on the league website. (See Appendix M)

## Appendix A

### 2009 THSLL BOYS RULE WAIVERS

(Most recently approved changes highlighted)

The currently valid NCAA Lacrosse Rulebook will be used unless a specific modification is listed on this sheet. Parentheses indicate the section of the NCAA Rulebook, which pertains to the modification.

**PLAYING FIELD (1-2)** ~ Home teams will make all possible efforts to provide a field which meets NCAA specifications as outlined in the section entitled “The Field”, (Rule 1-2 through 1-15). Local conditions may require modifications by dimension but not elimination of required field markings. Prior to the start of any contest, the home team Site Administrator, who is not a team coach, shall be identified, in person, to the Officials as part of field preparations. The delayed start of a game due to the field not being ready for play, at the contracted starting time or failure of the home team Site Administrator to introduce himself/herself to the Officials, will subject the home team to a technical foul (6-6q) with the in-home serving 30 seconds and the ball awarded to the visitor to start the game. ~~A game will not start unless spectators are on the opposite side of the field from the team benches and table. If the home team does not move the spectators or team benches to comply with this rule in a reasonable time (as determined by the officials), the home team forfeits the game.~~ The team benches and table are to be on the opposite side of the field from the spectators. If the home team does not move the spectators or team benches to comply with this rule in a reasonable time (as determined by the officials), the home team receives a non-releasable 3 minute penalty at the start of the game.

**GOALS & NETS (1-3 & 1-5)** ~ The goals & nets at game sites shall be legal as they are. The NCAA rules as to the color, size and type of pipe shall not apply; however, the home team should make every effort to comply with the NCAA rules & specifications

**LIMIT LINES, SPECTATOR & MEDIA RESTRICTIONS (1-14)** ~ Limit lines are not required, however, spectators and media are not allowed behind the end lines or immediately behind the bench or table areas.

**PERSONAL EQUIPMENT (1-21)** ~ Gloves may vary in color. Baseball shoes (metal / hard plastic cleats) are not permitted.

**PROHIBITED EQUIPMENT (1-21)** ~~Players may not wear protective shoulder pads or football helmet (Ed. note: This reference is to football pads and helmet)~~

**BALL RETRIEVERS (1-16)** ~~These shall not be mandatory but every effort should be made to provide them. All retrievers shall, while the ball is in play, remain up field of the goal line (extended) and shall not remain at the ends of the field below goal line (extended). If they are not provided, then an adequate supply of balls must be maintained at each end line throughout the game. Failure to provide an adequate supply of balls which delays the restart shall result in a delay of game penalty (6-6 f 7)~~

**LENGTH OF GAME (3-1)** ~ The regulation playing time of a game shall be 48 minutes, divided into 4 periods of 12 minutes each. ~~JV games are 4 periods of 10 minutes each.~~

**CROSSE CONSTRUCTION (1-18, Note 2)** ~ A hollow crosse handle may not be filled with any substance such as sand, bb's, etc...

**GAME BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS** ~ If there is necessary stoppage of the game by officials for improper behavior on the field or in the stands, Officials will ask on site administrator or head coach (defacto on site administrator) to control or eject offending fan from premises. If fan is not controlled or does not leave the premises, the game will be stopped and the offending team will lose the game. If player (s) is ejected, the player must leave the site of the game (stadium or field). The player may not remain on the sideline or sit in the stands. It is up to the head Coach to comply or his team will forfeit the game. The team of the ejected player is responsible for supervising that player when needed.

~~If an unsportsmanlike conduct foul occurs in the last game of the season, at the end of the game so that the player incurring the foul does not serve penalty time, the penalty will carry over to the team's next league game in the following season. If the player has graduated, the in-home shall serve the penalty.~~

~~If a player or coach receives 2 unsportsmanlike penalties in a game, the player or coach is automatically ejected from the current game and suspended from the next league game.~~

**OFFSIDES** ~ Any offside's violation will result in the ball being awarded to the offended team in their offensive half of the field. Thus Team A is clearing the ball and passes midfield, when A1 goes offside's. It may take the official a moment or two to conduct a count of Team A players and while doing so the ball advances up the field. Once offside's is confirmed, the whistle blows and the ball is brought back up to midfield and awarded to Team B on their offensive half of the field.

This will also apply when Team A has possession of the ball in their attack zone when one of their defenders crosses the midfield line (possibly to substitute) resulting in an offside's situation. The ball will be brought to midfield and awarded to Team B. The ball will be brought up whether or not Team A had possession. This conforms to NFHS rules.

<p>The THSLL Rules Waivers are approved at the Annual Meeting of the Member Schools. For information about the rules, contact the THSLL Commissioner. Interpretations or application can be obtained through SWLOA Chief Referee. Experimental Rules under consideration are not considered to be part of the NCAA Rules.</p>
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## Appendix B

### TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL LACROSSE LEAGUE Proxy Vote Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
(District)

TO: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary, THSLL

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby give \_\_\_\_\_

the authority to vote as my proxy at the THSLL meeting on \_\_\_\_\_

in \_\_\_\_\_, TX on all matters that require a vote.

Absent Head Coach/Club President:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee to vote as proxy:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Appendix C**

### **THSLL Policy**

#### **Team Sideline Policy**

The field and all limit lines should be marked in accordance with the NCAA rulebook. All spectators shall be on the opposite side of the field from the team benches. The team box should contain a maximum of 4 coaches, 1 equipment manager, team trainers, and only players in uniform. The scorers table should contain a total of 5 people. This includes 3 from the home team and 2 from the visitors. The home team has the official scorekeeper, a game timer and a penalty timer at the score table. The visiting team has a scorekeeper and assistant at the score table. The home team site administrator has full access to the facility and should have constant communication with the scorers table. It is the responsibility of the home team and home team site administrator to manage this policy. It is at the discretion of the officials to assess any penalties resulting from this policy.

#### **Background Check Policy**

All THSLL Team Programs are responsible for their coaches. The BOD strongly recommends that each program does a background check on all coaches.

Information Links:

<http://www1.backgroundchecks.com/>

<http://stxsoccer.org/programs/kidsafe/>

## Appendix D

### THSLL Championship Tournament Standards

(to be provided by tournament host)

#### General Provisions:

- 5% of Gross Revenues returned to THSLL
- 24 Complimentary passes for THSLL Board and visiting **voting** or presenting coaches.
- Tournament Liability Insurance policy (THSLL as named Additional Insured
  - THSLL will forward required limits.)
- Medical Emergency plan in place (file with THSLL)
- Signed agreement from host agreeing to meet these Tournament Standards.

#### Playing Facilities:

- Dressing room facilities for teams and Officials (separate, controlled access).
- Water and ice at the team benches.
- Field marked to NCAA standards.
- Score table setup to NCAA standard with shade tent
- Communications link between score table and scoreboard operator
- PA system and announcer available for presentation of the awards on the field, directly after each championship game
- THSLL BOD gate and field passes
- Practice/warm-up facilities with goals
- Lights
- Ample parking
- Ample seating
- Controlled access
- Shade tents for teams (if requested)
- Limited Field Access: (Only approved team sideline personnel in compliance with THSLL rules and policies. No more than one team photographer designated by each Club/A.D. and identified to the host, in advance. Otherwise host approved credentialed photographers.)

**Weather Provisions:** All-weather field or a THSLL Board-approved contingency plan

#### Other Facilities:

- Meeting area for the Board of Directors meeting**
- Secure hotel accommodations for teams and officials
- Public restrooms and concessions
- Adequate tournament staff (with identification)
- Signage (if required for way-finding)
- Security and traffic control (if required)
- Host representatives to meet and greet teams

#### Game format

- DI and DII combined
- Four (4) Semis on Saturday (coordinate time with SATs to accommodate traveling teams)
- Two (2) Finals on Sunday

#### Informational:

- Post the tournament info and wrap-up on [texaslacrossechamps.org](http://texaslacrossechamps.org) (work with League Secretary. Provide information through host District Coordinators to other districts in a timely manner.
  - Local hotels and restaurants
  - Site map
  - Local issues (if any)
  - Event time table
  - Field Access Policy

**Program** (heritage publication) Information deadlines must be coordinated with THSLL calendar

- Magazine format / gloss bond
- League history and feature story (as appropriate)
- League stats and awards (past)
- District wrap-ups (text provided by District Coordinators)
- District Playoff bracket results of District Championships (text provided by District Coordinators)
- Team Pictures with roster (numbers) and coach statement (provided by teams/coordinators)
- Post-season awards – All-District and All-State (provided by teams/coordinators)
- Off-season recap (recruiting, post season play, league changes etc.)

**Awards:**

- Awards will be ordered and paid for by THSLL
- The awards will be presented by THSLL Commissioner or his proxy at the championships.
- Criteria for awards are based on THSLL/SWLOA and US Lacrosse policy.)

Either Division:

- Patterson Award (Traveling trophy awarded by SWLOA)
- Coach of the year (USL Certificate to Follow)
- Assistant of the year (USL Certificate to Follow)
- Man of the year (USL Certificate to Follow)
- All American (USL Certificate to Follow)

Each Division:

- Championship Runner-up
- Champions
- MVP:
  - Offensive
  - Defensive
  - Overall

## Appendix E

### Medical Emergency Plan

#### All THSLL Games:

1. The home team will develop and have available a medical emergency plan for each game.
2. The home team will provide immediate, on the spot first aid by an adequately trained individual (hereinafter referred to as “Trainer”).
3. The medical emergency plan must include procedures for:
  - a. A telephone or other communication device to contact a doctor, ambulance or emergency clinic.
  - b. A designated emergency vehicle. If an ambulance is not available, another suitable vehicle should be available for quick utilization.
  - c. Notification of parents of injured player.
  - d. Proper arrangements at a hospital or clinic to insure complete care of the player.
4. The medical emergency plan will be the responsibility of the home team site administrator and may be requested by a game official at any time. The site administrator will brief the visiting team on any unusual specifics of the emergency plan prior to the beginning of each game.
5. The Trainer will be considered a neutral participant and will provide medical care to players on both teams.
6. The Trainer can be a paid or volunteer.
7. Pre-game readiness (taping, etc) of players is the responsibility of each team’s coach and support staff.
8. Visiting teams may waive assistance by home team trainer if they have their own adequately trained individual, but must notify the site administrator and home team Trainer that they do not want assistance. This notification will waive responsibility for emergency medical care by the Trainer provided by the home team, other than normal cooperation and assistance.
9. Lightning Policy: See the attached UIL Policy. The THSLL adopts this policy in full and places the responsibility of implementation upon the Site Administrator for the home team.

#### Tournaments:

The tournament organizers shall be the party responsible for the implementation of this Medical Safety Policy thereby relieving the home team of this responsibility. In tournament play, one Trainer may cover up to two adjacent simultaneous games.

#### Resource Materials:

When developing the Medical Emergency Plan, the THSLL strongly recommends that each team review the US Lacrosse website section titled “Sports Science & Safety”, currently found at: <http://www.lacrosse.org/safety/index.phtml> OR [http://thsll.org/repository/files/emergency\\_plan.pdf](http://thsll.org/repository/files/emergency_plan.pdf)

## Appendix F

### THSLL Coaches Code of Conduct

#### Objective

All THSLL coaches are in a position in which they are able to leave lasting impressions on their players and it is in the best interest of the THSLL and all of our stakeholders that there be a uniform code of conduct that all of our coaches will be expected to uphold while they are in any THSLL related event.

#### The Role of a Coach

- Coaches are entrusted with a great responsibility every time a contest begins. Our professional and moral responsibility is to provide THSLL participants quality coaching and a sense of safety and fair play at every THSLL contest.
- Sensible, organized competition under proper control provides benefits for THSLL participants. Anything other than that only dramatizes coaches and distracts from the focus and purpose of high school athletics.
- All THSLL coaches must keep in mind at all times that they are representing themselves their teams and their Association/School. A coach's words and actions come under close scrutiny from students, parents, faculty and the community, and will reflect positively or negatively on the program.

#### Structure

There are two documents that outline the expectations of lacrosse coaches. These include:

- 1) NCAA rulebook 2008 or as further modified by the NCAA;
- 2) THSLL Rules.

#### NCAA Rulebook

*Rule 2-4/Game Personnel/Coaches*

One of a team's coaches shall be designated the head coach. The head coach shall be responsible for making all decisions for that team not delegated specifically to the team's game captain. Additionally it shall be the head coach's responsibility to see that players and substitutes are equipped properly to play.

The head coach shall act in a courteous manner and also shall endeavor in every way to achieve the same from players and substitutes. The head coach also shall be in control of and responsible for all actions of all non-playing members of his squad, and any and all persons officially connected with his institution.

Coaches shall assist the officials in keeping the game under control. It shall be their duty, upon the request of an official, to control effectively actions of spectators not in conformity with standards of proper conduct.

Only the head coach will communicate with the officials. Officials shall address questions from head coaches during half time. A representative from each team may be present while these questions are discussed. Officials should never entertain any questions until a representative of the other team is given the opportunity to be present.

#### THSLL Rules:

*Please refer to section 11.0 Improper Behavior*

#### THSLL Coaching Expectations

- Coaches are expected to win or lose with dignity and humility.
- Coaches must refrain from the use of profanity and insist their players do likewise.
- Coaches must be positive role models in terms of sportsmanship and fair play and set a positive example regarding the use of drugs, tobacco and alcohol.
- Coaches must be fair and unprejudiced with players, considering their individual differences, needs, interests, temperaments and aptitudes.
- Coaches are expected to maintain self-control at all times, accepting adverse decisions calmly and treat the officials professionally.
- Coaches are responsible for the conduct and care of the team from the beginning to the end of the game or away trip. This includes the job of making sure that bench areas and dressing rooms are left in good condition.

**Reportable & Punishable Events**

- Any discourteous behavior, use of obscene gesture, or profanity directed towards officials.
- Any discourteous behavior, use of obscene gesture, or profanity directed at the opposing team, coach, or spectators.
- Any coach who is ejected from a contest.
- A coach who receives one or more behavior related unsportsmanlike conduct penalties during one game.
- Coaches are responsible not only for their own actions, but ultimately those of their players. Game officials are expected to inform coaches of their players' actions and the coach must take corrective action. If there are repeated incidences over the course of a game or a series of games, the coach is subject to punishment for not taking corrective action.
- Other types of reportable incidents include, but are not limited to: verbal abuse or other unsportsmanlike behavior by coaches, team/school administrators or fans, fans that are removed from facilities for abuse of officials, fights between teams that result in the termination of the contest and physical contact of officials by coaches, team/school administrators or fans.
- Reportable incidents do not only occur during the contest, but possibly before or after.

**Reporting Procedures**

Every THSLL unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, incident, or ejection report shall be in writing and sent to the District Coordinator by the local SWLOA Assignor/Head Official after the particular game. The District Coordinator will forward the report to the appropriate members of the THSLL Board of Directors or its designee, and the respective offending program President/Athletic Director.

To report the incident, give brief but concise information. Date, time, place and people involved must be included. Events leading up to the incident as well as the actual incident and any follow-up are also essential. This report should be detailed enough to give someone who wasn't present a clear picture of the incident.

**League Actions**

Unsportsmanlike conduct penalties:

1. Receives 1 in one game: will be reported to the Coordinator and be subject to a potential reprimand from THSLL after a report is made to the THSLL Board of Directors or its designee.
2. Receives 2 in one game: The coach and Association President/Athletic Director will meet with the Coordinator. The Coordinator will discuss the circumstances with the game officials. The Coach may miss the next scheduled THSLL game (this is defined as a game that was on the THSLL schedule **at the time the incident occurred** and cannot be subsequently scheduled afterwards).
3. A coach who is ejected from a game may be suspended pending an expedient review by the district coordinator. The coach may file an appeal with the THSLL Board of Directors.

For lack of control of his team, a coach will first receive a reprimand. Upon a second notification, a coach may receive a game suspension. Lack of control can include, but is not limited to, a fight(s), a bench-clearing brawl, or repeated occurrences of excessive penalties. The explanation of such events by the following will be considered by the THSLL Board of Directors or its designee:

1. The game officials;
2. The coach; and
3. His Association President/Athletic Director.

The above in no way limits the ability of the THSLL Board of Directors to act in what it perceives to be the best interests of the league and under any other provisions of these rules.

**Other Responsibilities***NCAA Rulebook Rule 2-5/Game Personnel/Home Coach's Responsibility*

It shall be the responsibility of the home coach to see that the playing field is in proper condition for play; that a time-keeper and scorer are on hand with all equipment required by these rules to carry out their respective functions; that balls and ball retrievers (or balls on the end line) are provided; and that the assigning authority has received timely, accurate and adequate information so that officials will be on hand for the game.

When a contest is played at a neutral site, one team must be designated as the home team. This shall be done in writing, before the day of the game. The designated team and its coach assume all the responsibilities of the home team as outlined in the rules.

## Appendix G

### THSLL District Championship Tournament Standards

(to be provided by tournament host)

#### General Provisions:

- 3% of Gross Revenues returned to THSLL
- Tournament Liability Insurance policy
- Medical Emergency plan in place (file with THSLL)
- Signed agreement from host agreeing to meet these Tournament Standards.

#### Playing Facilities:

- Dressing room facilities for teams
- Water and ice at the team benches.
- Field marked to NCAA standards.
- Score table setup to NCAA standard with shade tent
- Communications link between score table and scoreboard operator
- PA system and announcer available for presentation of the awards on the field, directly after championship game
- Lights
- Ample parking
- Ample seating
- Controlled access
- Limited Field Access: (Only approved team sideline personnel in compliance with THSLL rules and policies)

Weather Provisions: All-weather field or a THSLL Board-approved contingency plan

#### Other Facilities:

- Public restrooms and concessions
- Adequate tournament staff (with identification)
- Signage (if required for way-finding)
- Security and traffic control (if required)
- Host representatives to meet and greet teams

#### Awards:

- Awards will be ordered and paid for by the host
- Awards will be presented by THSLL Commissioner or his proxy at the Championships.
  - Each Division:
    - Championship Runner-up
    - Champion
  - MVP:
    - Offensive
    - Defensive
    - Overall

## Appendix H

### THSLL – 12 Team D1 Playoff Structure – Beginning 2010

**Basics**

1. There will be no change to the current D2 State Championship structure.
2. Expanded state playoff structure only involves D1 member schools.
3. Expand the D1 State Playoffs to 12 teams.
4. District champions would be determined simply by the best record at the conclusion of regular season play (tiebreaker if necessary).
5. There will be no longer be a requirement for Inter District games.
6. Due to time constraints there will be no district playoffs.

**Selection Process**

1. District champions will control top 3 seeds.
2. Teams 4-12 will be seeded based upon the standings at the end of regular season play and a predetermined serpentine pairing formula as noted below. Of the 12 teams competing, there will be 4 teams from each district.

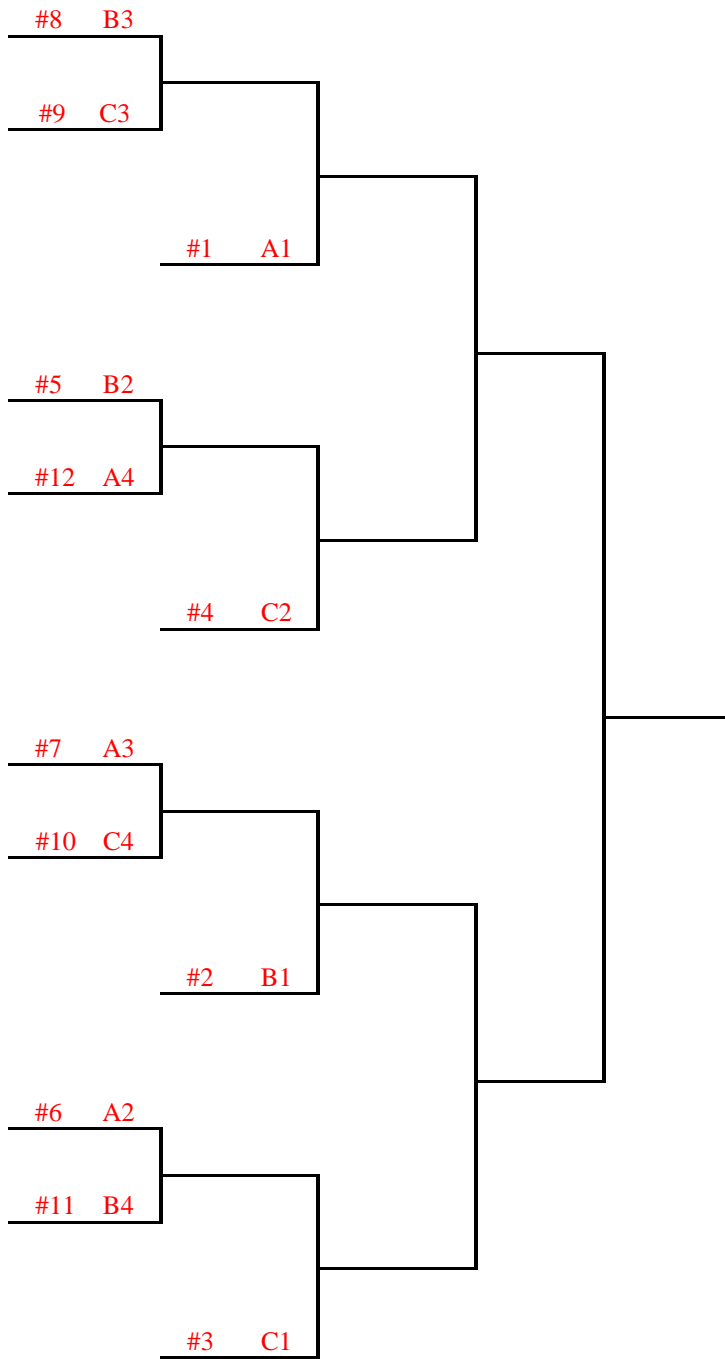
**Format**

1. Teams 1-4 will get 1<sup>st</sup> round byes.
2. Two Super Regional Tournaments with Saturday & Sunday format
3. A predetermined format establishing game locations (North, South or Central Districts) will be established and rotate annually for the Super Regional games much the same as the State Championship Tournament is rotated between districts.
4. State Championship the following weekend with Semifinals on Saturday and Finals on Sunday.

Predetermined Matchups:

<u>District</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
A	South	Central	North	Central	South
B	Central	North	Central	South	North
C	North	South	South	North	Central

<u>Seed</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
1	A1	South	Central	North	Central	South
2	B1	Central	North	Central	South	North
3	C1	North	South	South	North	Central
4	C2	North	Central	South	North	Central
5	B2	Central	North	Central	South	North
6	A2	South	Central	North	Central	South
7	A3	South	Central	North	Central	South
8	B3	Central	North	Central	South	North
9	C3	North	South	South	North	Central
10	C4	North	South	South	North	Central
11	B4	Central	North	Central	South	North
12	A4	South	Central	North	Central	South



Semifinal Games – Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at North Region Site

State Championship – Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at North Region Site

## Appendix I

### Tiebreaker policy for play-offs

The Tie Breaker is as follows:

Should teams have identical records, the selection shall be based on the following comparison. When a team is eliminated start over with #1. Continue to apply rules until all teams are seeded:

- 1) Head to head; for example, Team A and Team B both have a 5 win, 1 loss record. Team A lost to a lower placed team, but defeated Team B. Team A would 'win' the head-to-head comparison.
- 2) Three way tie; the selection will also be based on a head-to-head comparison. If all of the teams have one win over the other teams in the tie (Team A has defeated Team B, Team B has defeated Team C, and Team C has defeated Team A) then the selection shall be based on the difference in scores between those three games. The winner will receive a plus for each goal above the goals by the other team, and the loser will receive a minus for each goal below the goals for the other team.  
EX: If Team A defeated Team B by the score of 8 to 5, Team A would receive a plus 3 and Team B would receive a minus 3. The difference in goals for the remaining two games (B Vs C and C Vs A) would be likewise calculated, and the team with the largest plus value would be selected.
- 3) If (2) breaks the three way tie, but two teams remained tied based on goal differential, then go to head to head;
- 4) Should (2) not break the three way tie, then use Goals Allowed by each team in the 3 games played between them.
- 5) Should (4) not break the three way tie, then use the UIL coin flip. All 3 head coaches meet, bringing their own coin. They flip and odd side out loses. Then break the remaining two with head to head.

## Appendix J

### 2008/2009 Timetable

- Program Contacts on both THSLL October 31, 2008
- SWLOA invoices sent to Coordinators: November 1, 2008.
- THSLL invoices issued to Coordinators: November 1, 2008.
- Game schedules submitted to Coordinator including mandatory DI inter district games: November 30, 2008 (failure to schedule required inter-district games by Nov. 30 will result in Coordinator's scheduling the game)
- SWLOA assigning dues to SWLOA Treasurer (currently Mark Payne) deadline: December 1, 2008.
- THSLL dues to THSLL Treasurer (currently Bill Montez) deadline: December 1, 2008.
- Schedules manually input by Administrator and Review ends on THSLL.org: December 15, 2008.
- Scheduling reviewed on THSLL site completed and uploaded to SWLOA: December 21, 2008.
- Last day to submit eligibility waivers for players or team- January 15, 2009.
- Team Info due: Valid/Up to Date Rosters, Emergency Plan, Proof of Insurance and Approved Eligibility Waivers: January 31, 2009.
- Beginning of Regular Season games may not be played before February 1, 2009.
- End of Regular Season games must be completed by Thursday, April 23. Rain dates included. (Taks testing April 27-May 1)
- All-State/District Selection, District Wrap-up, League Recap, Team Photo and Rosters: April 27, 2009.
- AA/AAA nominations and support information by April 27, 2009
- District Champion determined: May 3, 2009.
- Team Info due: District Championship results and Wild card selection complete: May 3, 2009.
- Championships: May 9-10, 2009, Austin or San Antonio, location TBA
- District Post Season Meeting by May 30, 2009- recap/coaches input for voting issues
- Executive Comm. Meeting: July 11-12, 2009- rules/voting issues
- District Meeting Sept., 2009- give requirements for season
- State Meeting Oct. 2009- voting issues

### THSLL Required Information Penalty Matrix

Required Information	On Time	Penalty
Contacts	October 31	Invoices for SWLOA & THSLL may be sent to the wrong person (1)
Game Schedules	November 30	Games may not be entered into THSLL if not received by 11/30
SWLOA Dues	December 1	\$25 per week per team (V or JV) until December 31, if still not paid games will not be assigned
THSLL Dues	December 1	\$25 per week per team (V or JV) until January 31, if still not paid the team is disqualified (2)
Review Game Schedules	December 15	Member schools may not have an opportunity to review game schedules prior to submission to SWLOA
Submit Waiver	January 15	Waiver will not be considered (i.e. waiver will be automatically denied)
Initial Roster	January 31	\$100 per team (V or JV)
Valid / Up-To-Date Roster	Earlier of 1st District Game or Feb.28	Any district game played without a Valid / Up-To-Date Roster will be Forfeited
Emergency Plan	January 31	\$100 per program; no league game may be played without an Emergency Plan (3)
Proof of Insurance	January 31	\$100 per program; no league game may be played without a Valid Proof of Insurance (3)
Coaches US Lacrosse #	January 31	Reported to the THSLL Board

**Notes:**

Regular Season cannot start before Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>

(1) Member schools are still responsible for all information Distributed to contacts, whether updated or not

(2) All games will be cancelled and the team will be suspended from the League for the season

(3) Any game inadvertently played will be forfeited

## Appendix K

### Procedures & Requirements for THSLL Awards

#### Coach of the Year & Assistant Coach of the Year

These awards honor those coaches who exemplify the ideals of the game within the THSLL. The award is intended to recognize the individuals overall coaching performance and contribution, not just coaching wins — although they may be considered.

#### Man of the Year

The Man of the Year award honors that individual whose dedication, commitment, and support of lacrosse and its ideals extends beyond his/her specific member team.

#### Commissioner's Award

This award honors that THSLL player who exemplifies the ideals of sportsmanship, competition and character both on and off the field. Any senior player in the THSLL is eligible.

#### Eligibility Guidelines:

##### Coach of the Year & Assistant Coach of the Year

1. This award is only available to Varsity Head Coaches and Varsity Assistant Coaches;
2. The winner must be a member in good standing with US Lacrosse;
3. Nominees must demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship on and off the field at all times;
4. Nominees must demonstrate excellent rapport with officials, other coaches and his own players at all times;
5. Nominees did the most with what he had;
6. Co-Varsity coaches from an Area will not be recognized.

##### Man of the Year

1. Nominees can be active coaches, but overall contribution to lacrosse beyond his/her program is the primary criteria for selection;
2. Nominations should include a biographical sketch, including years of lacrosse involvement and his/her contributions to the game.

#### Voting Process

1. Nominations for each of the District level awards are submitted to the League Administrator before the District End of Season meetings;
2. League Administrator submits to each District Coordinator the nominations for their District;
3. Nominations are presented to the District Coordinators for each Division at their respective end of season meetings;
4. The District Coordinators meet and select the awardees;
5. Any tie-breaker necessary within a district would be broken by the Texas Area Chair.
6. The awardees from each District for Coach of the Year, Assistant Coach of the Year and Man of the Year are then considered as nominees for the US Lacrosse Awards;
7. The Commissioner's Award is voted on at the US Lacrosse Awards meeting.

#### Awards announcement

1. The THSLL League Administrator will immediately notify the THSLL Board and Texas Area Chair of the awardees and publish their names to the league website;
2. Honorees will be announced at the THSLL Championship Awards ceremony;
3. The THSLL list of US Lacrosse awards will be sent to US Lacrosse by the Area Chair.

#### Key 2009 Dates

1. Weekend of April 25 - Division I and II end of season District Meetings
2. Sunday, April 26 - Nominations for THSLL awards sent to Texas Area Chair
3. Thursday, April 30 – THSLL Awards Selection Meeting - awardees announced
4. Weekend of May 2 – District Championships
5. Weekend of May 9 – THSLL Championships

## Appendix L

### Procedures & Requirements for US Lacrosse Awards in the THSLL

#### All-American

Currently US Lacrosse awards eight (8) players in the THSLL the honor of All-American.

#### Player eligibility guidelines

1. Players under consideration are strongly encouraged to be members of US Lacrosse.
2. Players selected must be a District's All-State team before he is eligible for All-American.
3. Players from all THSLL Div. I and II teams are eligible for consideration for All-American awards.
4. Post high school graduates who continue to compete for a high school program are NOT eligible to be considered for All-American.
5. Players may not be both All-American and Academic All-American.

#### Selection process

1. Nominations from each District will be completed at the end of season District meetings when the All-State teams have been selected(no change);
2. There is no limit on the number of players a district can nominate;
3. The standard set over the years has been that our AA nominees are our very best players;
4. Issue to be resolved is how each district will review all nominations across Divisions.

#### Selection Committee

1. An All-American Selection Committee is created consisting of 10 voting coaches, 2 from each Div. I District, and 1 from each Div. II District
2. Each Division's pool of coaches within each District will select its coaches to be on the Selection Committee;
3. It is recommended that coaches that serve on the Committee be very experienced, possibly having coached summer all star teams from Texas, and schedule inter-district and inter-divisional games;
4. Members of the Selection Committee will be voted to serve terms by their peer District coaches in each Division I or II;
5. Terms are two years long;
6. A member may not serve more than two consecutive terms but may serve more than once;
7. Terms run from the October 1<sup>st</sup> and expire on September 30<sup>th</sup>;
8. Terms are to be staggered, and initial terms determined by lot;
9. The Texas Area Chair for US Lacrosse will serve two year terms, with a limit of two consecutive terms, but may serve more than once. The Chair will be selected by the THSLL Board.

#### Voting process

1. Voting will be done during a conference call consisting of the 11 participants, ideally on the Thursday prior to the District Championships(Super Regional round if new 12 team playoff format approved);
2. Coaches with nominated players will present the nomination to the Committee during the conference call;
3. Coaches with nominated players may be on the Selection Committee.
4. The voting coaches count for one vote each
5. The US Lacrosse Area Chair only votes in the case a tie needs to be broken;

#### Awards announcement

1. The US Lacrosse Area Chair will immediately publish the honorees to the THSLL Board and the Championship host member program for purposes of including their names in the Championship program if possible;
2. Honorees will be announced at the THSLL Championship Awards ceremony and awarded their All-American certificates. A second certificate will be sent to the Head Coach, Athletic Director, or Club President in order to display at the high school;
3. The THSLL list of All-Americans will be sent to US Lacrosse by the Area Chair.

## “Non-Field of Play” Awards

### Academic All-American

US Lacrosse awards four (4) players in the THSLL the honor of All-American. Each District is awarded one (1) Academic All-American (Central, North, San Antonio and South).

### Coach of the Year & Assistant Coach of the Year

These awards honor those coaches who exemplify the ideals of the game within the THSLL. The award is intended to recognize the individuals overall coaching performance and contribution, not just coaching wins — although they may be considered.

### Man of the Year

The Man of the Year award honors that individual whose dedication, commitment, and support of lacrosse and its ideals extends beyond his/her specific member team.

### Eligibility Guidelines

#### Academic All-American

1. Players may come from any THSLL Member Varsity team;
2. Nominations for selection should be made in writing prior to each District’s End of Season meeting;
3. Players selected for All-American may not be considered for Academic All-American;
4. Nominated players must be seniors;
5. A school transcript and resume must accompany the nomination;
6. Any player that has received a diploma from a secondary school will not be eligible for Academic All-American status during post-graduate study.

#### Coach of the Year & Assistant Coach of the Year

1. This award is only available to Varsity Head Coaches and Varsity Assistant Coaches;
2. The winner must be a member in good standing with US Lacrosse;
3. Nominees must demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship on and off the field at all times;
4. Nominees must demonstrate excellent rapport with officials, other coaches and his own players at all times;
5. Nominees did the most with what he had;
6. Co-Varsity coaches from an Area will not be recognized.

#### Man of the Year

1. Nominees can be active coaches or women, but overall contribution to lacrosse beyond his/her program is the primary criteria for selection;
2. Nominations should include a biographical sketch, including years of lacrosse involvement and his/her contributions to the game.

#### Voting process

1. The Selection Committee will be comprised of the 10 District Coordinators and the Commissioner;
2. Voting will be done during a conference call consisting of the 11 participants, ideally on the Thursday prior to the District Championships;

#### Awards announcement

1. The US Lacrosse Texas Area Chair will immediately publish the honorees to the THSLL Board and the Championship host member program for purposes of including their names in the Championship program if possible;
2. Honorees will be announced at the THSLL Championship Awards ceremony and awarded their All-American certificates;
3. The THSLL list of US Lacrosse awards will be sent to US Lacrosse by the Area Chair.

#### Key 2009 Dates

1. Weekend of April 25 - Division I and II end of season District Meetings
2. Sunday, April 26 - Nominations for THSLL awards sent to Texas Area Chair
3. Thursday, April 30 – THSLL Awards Selection Meeting - awardees announced
4. Weekend of May 2 – District Championships
5. Weekend of May 9 – THSLL Championships

## Appendix M

### THSLL Recognized Tournament Rules

THSLL member schools have more choices than ever regarding lacrosse tournaments. Putting on a lacrosse tournament can be a large fundraiser for many organizations. THSLL encourages member schools to attend lacrosse tournaments. They provide a fun avenue for member schools to compete against other member schools that they might not ever meet in a regular season. Most lacrosse tournaments use a running clock and a member school can play 3 or even 4 quick games in a single weekend. THSLL will recognize a tournament that abides by the following rules and meets certain minimum requirements.

Benefits of Hosting Member School (e.g. Clear Lake, combined Plano schools) or Organization (e.g. A&M, A&M)

1. The tournament will be marketed by THSLL: it will be placed on the THSLL website as a THSLL “recognized” tournament and THSLL will email particulars of the tournament to all member schools
2. Participating member schools will know that the tournament (since recognized) meets certain minimum standards. (Example, if a member school is considering participating in two tournaments during the same weekend, we hope the member school will give careful consideration to whether one or both are THSLL recognized.)

Requirements of Hosting Member School or Organization to have their tournament Recognized by THSLL

1. Tournament Host will provide 3% of Gross Tournament Revenues to THSLL
2. Medical Emergency plan in place (file with THSLL)
  - a. Commits to some level of on-site medical personnel for full duration of tournament
  - b. Includes lightning policy / meter
  - c. On-site Automatic External Defibrillator and someone that knows how to use it
3. Tournament Liability Insurance policy of \$1 million (THSLL as named Additional Insured)
4. Requires some type of liability and medical waiver from each participating team and player
  - a. Should include emergency contact information for teams and individual players
5. Head tent manned by Tournament Official(s) at all times of the tournament
6. Water and ice at the team benches
7. Field marked to NCAA standards
8. Minimum 2 officials for all games (Varsity and JV)
9. Score table setup to NCAA standard
10. Communications link between score table and head tent
11. Practice / warm-up area (with goal preferred)
12. Ample parking
13. Seating is desired (if not – sufficient room for fans to bring folding chairs)
14. Shade tent / area for officials to gather
15. Contingency plan for inclement weather
16. Access to public restrooms (or Porto-Potties)
17. Assist in securing hotel accommodations for teams and officials
18. Adequate tournament staff (with identification)
19. Signage (if required for way-finding)
20. Host representatives to meet and greet teams
21. Security
22. Traffic control (if needed)
23. Other than rules around penalties (1.5 times running, quarter / half game times, and rules around seeding / ranking / tournament championship) the games will be governed in accordance with THSLL rules (i.e. NCAA rules with THSLL waivers)
24. Distribution of tournament rules at time of registration
25. Minimum two 20 minute running halves
26. Minimum 3 games per team
27. Preference is to separate DI, DII and JV
28. At a minimum separate Varsity and JV
29. Registration at least 60 days prior to event
30. Distribution of “game brackets” at least 1 week prior to event
31. Publish your cancellation policy for a team at the time of registration
32. Publish your cancellation policy for weather at the time of registration

33. Nice to have
  - a. Site Map
  - b. Lists / locations of restaurants / places of interest

Issues to consider when setting up your tournament:

1. What is the date of your tournament? Have you checked the regional calendar for competing events?
2. Do you have event insurance as it relates to refunds in event cancellation?
3. Contact local emergency services to flag date and location (directions) of/to the event.