

# **THOMPSON-OKANAGAN JUNIOR LACROSSE LEAGUE** **LEAGUE AGREEMENT - 2018**

*Revised by TOJLL Executive April 21, 2018*

*Ratified by BCLA Executive – April 23 2018*

## **Article I: Name**

The name of the organization shall be the Thompson-Okanagan Junior Lacrosse League.

## **Article II: Purpose**

The League Agreement of this Organization shall be subject to the terms and conditions imposed by the British Columbia Lacrosse Association and the Canadian Lacrosse Association.

## **Article III: Purpose**

The purpose of the Organization shall be to administer the Thompson-Okanagan Junior Lacrosse League.

## **Article IV: Objectives**

The objectives of the Organization shall be:

- a) To provide an opportunity for young people to play lacrosse at the junior age level.
- b) To improve the image of lacrosse in general and the Thompson-Okanagan Junior Lacrosse League in particular.
- c) To foster and promote good sportsmanship and fair play in team sport.

## **Article V: Membership**

Membership in the Organization shall consist of each team playing in the Thompson-Okanagan Junior Lacrosse League.

## **Article VI: League Annual Meeting**

The League Annual Meeting shall be held no later than November 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. The order of business will be the elections of officers and any changes to the League Agreement.

Voting at the Annual Meeting shall be as follows: Each member team is entitled to one vote. Should there be a tie vote on any issue, the Commissioner will cast a vote to break the tie.

## **Article VII: Amendments**

This document may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members at the League Annual Meeting. Such proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Commissioner 30 days prior to the League Annual Meeting and forwarded to each member club 15 days before such a meeting. This document may also be amended by a unanimous vote to open and then by two-thirds vote to amend at any properly called League Meeting.

## **LEAGUE OPERATION**

### **Section 1: Governing Body**

- a) The governing body of the organization shall consist of the executive officers and one representative from each club.
- b) The Commissioner shall vote only to break a tie.

### **Section 2: Executive Officers**

- a) **League Commissioner:** The League Commissioner shall be selected by a two-thirds vote of the member clubs and, if ratified by the B.C.L.A., shall serve for a two year term. To be elected on even years. The Commissioner **MUST** not be affiliated with any league team.
- b) **Secretary:** Shall be elected at the League Annual Meeting and serve for a one-year term.
- c) **Treasurer:** Shall be elected at the League Annual Meeting and serve for a one-year term.
- d) **Past Commissioner:** A retiring/resigning Commissioner shall remain as an Executive Officer for a one-year term. The Past Commissioner **MUST** not be affiliated with any league team.

### **Section 3: Duties of Executive Officers**

**Commissioner:** It shall be his/her duty to:

- a) Administer the League affairs according to policy directed by the governing body. He/She shall represent this organization on the Senior Directorate of the B.C.L.A. and carry the League vote.
- b) Call and chair all League meetings and cause to be circulated to all member clubs the minutes of such meetings. He/she shall give 7 days notice of each meeting.
- c) Be responsible for the financial affairs and records of the League and shall have records audited prior to the League Annual Meeting.
- d) Be responsible for ensuring that all players are properly registered before appearing in any game, either exhibition or League and that all teams are properly registered with the B.C.L.A. and C.L.A according to the Constitution and By-laws of those Associations.
- e) Bill, or cause to be billed, each member club for League expenses. He/she shall disburse such monies to the proper claimants in the name of the club and/or League.
- f) Annually prepare and distribute for signature, the League Agreement to the member clubs. Such agreement shall incorporate parts of the Operating Policy and other requirements as indicated by the B.C.L.A. executive, of the C.L.A. Constitution and Bylaws.
- g) Represent the League in all discussions with the B.C. Lacrosse Officials Association and be responsible for negotiating any fee structure or grievance between them, (B.C.L.O.A.), and this organization.
- h) Ensure that the B.C.L.O.A. officials are assigned to all League and sanctioned exhibition games.
- i) Appoint a scheduler, statistician and web master.

#### **Section 4: Election of Officers**

- 1) Nominations for the positions of Commissioner, Secretary and Treasurer will be received in writing thirty (30) days prior to the annual general meeting.
- 2) Nominations may also be accepted from the floor at the annual general meeting.
- 3) Any nominee not present to accept the nomination must signify his acceptance in writing to the Commissioner prior to the meeting, to be eligible to run for office.
- 4) A simple majority by secret ballot will be required for a candidate to be elected.

**Secretary:** It shall be his/her duty to:

- a) Be responsible for assisting the Commissioner in keeping records of the organization.

**Treasurer:** It shall be his/her duty to:

- a) Be responsible for handling the financial affairs of the League as directed by the Commissioner.

**Past Commissioner:** It shall be his/her duty to:

- a) Perform any or all of the aforementioned duties as directed by the Commissioner.

#### **Section 5: Responsibilities of Members:**

It shall be the responsibility of each member club to:

- a) Designate in writing its delegates and alternates to the Commissioner no later than February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- b) Attend all League meetings. Failure to attend a League meeting called by the Commissioner, provided that Section 3(b) is adhered to, will justify a fine of \$25.00.
- c) File a list of officers, their addresses and phone numbers, with the Commissioner by February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- d) File game dates and alternate arena dates with the Commissioner by February 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.
- e) A digital copy of player registration forms must be sent to the Commissioner prior to such players participating in a League or exhibition game. The registration form must be filed in accordance with B.C.L.A. Operating Policy.
- f) Submit team rosters to the Commissioner at least 10 days prior to the League opening game. Such rosters must consist of at least 12 intermediate/junior age carded players as per the BCLA Senior Directorate Operating Policy.
- g) Completed Form 100B's along with appropriate payment must be submitted to the Commissioner by April 15th of the playing year. The League secretary will pass the forms and payment on to the B.C.L.A. offices after making copies for T.O.J.L.L. records.
- h) Submit a completed Team Application Renewal Form and all team and insurance fees directly to the League Commissioner by Jan 1st of each new playing year. Each club will be responsible for picking up registration cards and will pay for them as they are used.
- i) Registration fees for individual clubs are payable to the league treasurer and will be paid by him/her to the B.C.L.A. in their entirety.

- j) The **HOME** team is responsible for keeping valid statistics for a game. They must ensure to have sufficient personal to properly keep time, score, penalties and shots. Failure to comply may result in a fine of \$25.00.
- k) The **HOME** team is responsible for sending a digital copy of the score sheet to the Commissioner and the Web Master by noon of the next day of a game. Failure to comply may result in a fine of \$250.00.
- l) The **HOME** team is responsible for mailing the score sheet to the Commissioner and the Statistician within 48 hours of a game. Failure to comply may result in a fine of \$50.00.
- m) The **HOME** team is to provide one dozen clean white balls for each game. Failure to comply may result in a fine of \$10.00.
- n) A minimum of seven days notice must be given by a team unable to fulfill a League or play-off commitment. Failure to do so will result in a team fine and all relative expenses resulting from the “NO SHOW” being paid to the hosting team, except in unusual circumstances as determined by the Commissioner or their designate.
- o) A team wishing to relocate in order to play in another arena must give reasons in writing to the League. A two-thirds vote in favour of the move is required before such a move will be permitted, except for a single game occurrence.
- p) Referees fees must be paid at the start of each game. Should only one referee show up for a game, it must not be played.
- q) All member clubs shall comply with other directives issued by the Commissioner, consistent with this policy.

## **Section 6: Dues**

The League administrative fee per member club, team bond and TOJLL advance will be set at the Annual General Meeting each year and must be paid on or before February 1st.

*All past due team fees/fines must be paid in full by a player prior to a trade (see Section 7k) to another team being approved by the league.*

## **Section 7: Procedure for encompassing new teams in a boundary where one already exists**

In the event of an area within a set residency boundary expanding to more than one club, the following ground rules shall apply:

- a) The new club shall meet the criteria of the League Operating Policy.
- b) They shall be entitled to draft graduating midget players and remaining unprotected players until they register up to the same number as the existing team has returning players. The existing club must submit their lists by February 1<sup>st</sup> of the playing year.
- c) The remaining unprotected players shall be put into a pool for these two teams to draft. The existing club will have first selection. The draft will cease at 25 players per team.
- d) In the event that two new clubs are formed, a draft out of the graduating midget players and unprotected players between the two new clubs shall commence up to the number of players that the existing club has returning that year. First pick will be determined by the flip of a coin.
- e) The remaining players shall be put into a pool for the three teams to draft. The existing club will have first selection, the new team that selected second will have the second pick and the new team who drafted first will have the third pick of up to 25 players per team. The draft will continue in both incidents until all available players are drafted up to 25 players per team.

- f) If an area has two existing clubs and a third club is created – the new club will draft the average number of returning players of the two existing clubs. The remaining unprotected players will be drafted, the last place existing team will draft first, the second existing team will draft second and the new club will draft last.
- g) If an area has two teams and one club withdraws from the league, the remaining players shall be eligible to play for the remaining club under the residency rule. If there is no club in the residency boundary, the players can be drafted by the remaining non residence teams in the league.
- h) Any new player to the area after the selection process has been completed, shall go to the club with the next existing pick if the clubs are not at full roster.
- i) If a new player to the area is available before the selection process, he shall be put into the pool of players that are graduating.
- j) In the event that there are enough players to warrant a fourth team, a Junior A League will be considered with tryouts of all eligible players (new and existing).
- k) If there are no new clubs joining, the team that ends in last place will draft first from the list of graduating midgets and unprotected players up to 25 players. Teams may trade players for draft positions.
- l) Teams may participate in trades up to the final signing date of July 15<sup>th</sup> if the player was released prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> as per the BCLA Senior Directorate Operating Policy.

### **Section 8: Player Roster**

- a) Each club must declare a list of players subject to the B.C.L.A. Operating Policy and all dates involving player transactions must meet the conditions imposed by said policy.
- b) Clubs may use players from a lower league provided all requirements of the B.C.L.A. Operating policy are met.
- c) Midget aged players may be called up on a per game basis should the Junior team not be able to field a complete game roster of 18 or less Junior eligible runners. A team may pull as many Midgets as required to complete the entire game roster. Midget players must be indicated by an “M” on the score sheet.
- d) A Midget goalie may be called up on a per game basis if the junior team has one (1) or less available goalie(s). There are no restrictions on his/her playing status.
- e) No club may be permitted to register or play more than two (2) imports (out of province players) during any one season. An imported player, who makes his permanent residence in British Columbia until the second season, shall not be considered an import in the second year of residence.

### **Section 9: Discipline**

- a) The Commissioner and the remainder of the Board of Governors shall be responsible for settling disputes between member clubs.
- b) The Commissioner or the remainder of the Board of Governors shall bring to the attention of the individual club management any actions not considered acceptable to the League or the public and may cause said club, executive member, or player to post a performance bond. Suspensions may also be assessed.
- c) When a club feels a protest is in order, the procedure is as follows:

1. The Commissioner or his Designate is to be notified in person or by telephone within 24 hours following the incident.
2. The Commissioner or his Assistant is to be advised in writing, signed by the club manager of the protesting team, not more than 48 hours (post-marked) following the incident.

### **Section 10: Membership**

- a) Application for membership in the Thompson-Okanagan Junior Lacrosse League by any group wishing to enter a team shall be in writing to the Commissioner prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>. All member clubs will be notified by the Commissioner.
- b) Applications shall indicate financial stability, access to players and adequate arena facilities and arrangements. An entry bond of \$150.00 shall accompany the application. If the application is not approved, the fee shall be returned.
- c) Representatives of any group applying for membership shall be called to a regular or special meeting (at the direction of the governing body) to appear and support the application.
- d) Approval of the application requires a two-thirds majority vote of the governing body.

### **Section 11: League Playing Rules**

- a) Players or team management personnel leaving the player's bench or the penalty box to participate in an altercation on or near the playing area shall be assessed a minimum of three (3) games suspension and a fine of up to \$50.00.
- b) Intent to injure penalties shall be assessed a minimum of three (3) games suspension and a fine of up to \$50.00.
- c) For obscene gestures or verbal abuse there shall be a game suspension. A fine may also be levied at the discretion of the Commissioner.
- d) All teams are responsible for any damage etc. to their dressing rooms. It is expected that the rooms be kept clean and tidy.
- e) Any team failing to play scheduled games, League play-off or exhibition, shall result in \$250.00 fine per game missed, and reasonable costs to the home team. Fines must be paid before said team may resume play.
- f) If a game is delayed more than 30 minutes beyond the scheduled starting time, the Referee may call the game in the absence of the Commissioner. The offending team shall be fined a minimum of \$250.00, may be suspended and may be required to appear before the TOJLL Governors.
- g) Home teams are responsible for the condition of goal nets. Unsatisfactory nets may result in a fine of \$25.00.
- h) C.L.A. rules shall apply to both League and Provincial play-offs.
- i) Fighting Rule: called as per CLA Rule 45 - Fighting (A major penalty shall be assessed to any player/goalkeeper who fights.)

Additional penalties will be applied in the following circumstances:

If a player receives a fighting major in the last 10 minutes of a game, they will be assessed an automatic game misconduct, plus a one game suspension.

If a player receives a second fighting major in a game, Rule 77 - Major Penalties will apply, which means the player will receive an automatic game misconduct.

All fighting penalties are subject to review at the discretion of the commissioner and governors of the teams involved.

## **Section 12: Championships**

a) Teams involved in Championship playoffs must be given forty-eight (48) hours between the completion of one series of playoff games and the commencement of the next series of playoff games.

b) The league will pay the entry fee for the league representative to attend the Provincial Championships.

c) In the year that the Provincials are held on Vancouver Island, a \$500.00 travel grant will be given to the team attending to cover ferry costs; cost to be divided evenly between all member teams of the T.O.J.L.L.

*d) When the Provincial Championships rotate to the Thompson/Okanagan we will use the most up-to-date JUNIOR 'B' PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP DIRECTIVE as a guideline to run the Championship. The Directive will be considered an addendum to this League Agreement.*

e) To qualify for league and provincial play-offs, a player must be signed to a current form and must have been listed and participated in three regular season league games with the team he/she will play on. This includes pick-ups from a lower division. The only exception would be a player who was placed on an injury list and could prove the injury to be valid.

## **Section 13: Boundaries**

a) A midget player graduating from a minor lacrosse association must sign with and/or be drafted by a junior team within the same school district boundaries. Said player remains the property of the team by whom he was drafted and/or signed to until such time as the player is properly released or graduates from the junior league. A released player would still be subject to the B.C.L.A. residency rule.

b) Where there are two or more teams within the set boundaries a draft shall be held.

c) The team with the lowest points from the previous season shall have first pick in the draft.

## **Section 14: Team Player Protection**

a) Players leaving the T.O.J.L.L. to play in another league:

i) Will, upon their return to the T.O.J.L.L., remain the property of the team by whom they were originally drafted,

ii) Or to whom they were previously signed,

iii) Or to whom they belong by virtue of the T.O.J.L.L. residency rule, until such time as they are properly released, or graduate from the junior league.

## **Section 15: Media**

a) A team representative will be made available to the media after a 15-minute cool-down period from the end of the game. Any team in violation of this availability is to be investigated by the TOJLL Board of Governors.