

# BRITISH COLUMBIA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

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## GENERAL OPERATING POLICY

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### 1. CODE OF CONDUCT

#### 1.1 All individuals affiliated with the BCLA shall:

- i) Attempt at all times to work toward the goals and objectives of the BCLA and the game of Lacrosse, and towards the betterment of its members.
- ii) Strive to heighten the image and dignity of the Association and the sport of Lacrosse as a whole, and to refrain from behavior which may discredit or embarrass the Association or the game.
- iii) Always be courteous and objective in dealings with other members.
- iv) Except when made through proper channels, refrain from unfavorable criticism of other members or representatives of the BCLA.
- v) Strive to achieve excellence in the sport while supporting the concepts of Fair Play and Drug-free sport.
- vi) Show respect for the cultural, social and political values of all participants in the sport.
- vii) As a guest in another province or foreign country, abide by the laws of the host jurisdiction and adhere to any social customs concerning conduct.

#### 1.2 An individual's conduct shall be in question when they:

- i) Breach any of the above Section 1.
- ii) Use their position within the BCLA for unauthorized personal and/or material gains.
- iii) Willfully circulate false, malicious statements, derogatory to any other member of the Association.
- iv) Willfully ignore or break the By-Laws, policies and/or rules and regulations of the BCLA.
- v) Counsel others to ignore or break the by-laws, policies, and/or rules and regulations of the BCLA.

#### 1.3 General:

- i) The BCLA endorses the principles of natural justice and due process which allows any individual the right to a hearing and an appeal of any action which affects their rights.
- ii) The BCLA and its member governing bodies agree to honor and enforce disciplinary action taken by those governing bodies upon the completion of due process.

#### 1.4 Discipline Procedures:

- i)** Any report alleging a breach of Member obligation under this Code of Conduct shall be submitted in writing to the BCLA office within 15 days of the event/occurrence.
- ii)** Upon receiving a report, the BCLA staff shall immediately notify the BCLA Executive who shall determine the merit of the complaint and determine if action is necessary.
- iii)** If action is necessary, the President shall, with the Discipline Committee, appoint a date, time and place for which shall not be more than 30 days from the receipt of the report.
- iv)** All interested parties will be notified of the proceedings and will have the opportunity to attend the hearing of the Discipline Committee at their own expense.
- v)** The Discipline Committee may call witnesses and demand any pertinent information which it deems necessary to arrive at a decision.
- vi)** The decision of the Discipline Committee will be announced by the Chair of the Discipline Committee within 7 days of the hearing and all interested parties will be provided with a copy of the written decision. Interested parties is defined as those parties who are directly involved in the proceedings.
- vii)** Any individual whose rights are directly affected by a decision of the Discipline Committee may appeal that decision to the Appeals Committee.
- viii)** The procedure and time lines for a presentation to the Appeals Committee shall be the same as those set out for the Disciplinary Committee.
- ix)** Disciplinary action taken under this Code of Conduct section will be considered to be applicable to all disciplines of Lacrosse in B.C.