

**Central Ohio Girls Youth Lacrosse Association  
(COGYLA)  
By-Laws**

**Article I Name**

The name of this association shall be the **Central Ohio Girls Youth Lacrosse Association**.

**Article II Purposes**

The purposes of this association shall be:

- a) to encourage the growth of girls youth lacrosse in Ohio;
- b) to encourage sportsmanship and goodwill among member teams; and
- c) to foster education of girls youth lacrosse coaches in Central Ohio based on US Lacrosse Guidelines and Best Practices.

**Article III Membership**

Section 1: Membership shall be open to all coaches, assistant coaches, and commissioners and team representatives of COGYLA school or recreational teams.

Section 2: To be eligible for membership, a team must:

- a) be a member in good standing of the COGYLA
- b) be comprised of players in grades K-6

Section 3: A team is a *member in good standing* if it has:

- a) had a representative attend the annual COGYLA general meeting (winter);
- b) had a representative attend the annual COGYLA rules interpretation meeting (winter); and
- c) paid any association dues for the year as of the annual COGYLA rules interpretation meeting (winter).

Section 4: Any individual in Central Ohio supporting the purposes of the COGYLA is eligible for an individual membership. Individual members will not have voting rights with regard to COGYLA policies and procedures, but may serve on COGYLA Committees.

**Article IV Dues**

Section 1: The amount of dues shall be recommended each year by the Executive Board and voted upon at the annual general meeting (winter).

Section 2: Dues may be used to cover expenses related to:

- a) Coaches' educational programs;
- b) COGYLA sponsored events;
- c) mailing and administrative expenses; and,
- d) travel expenses for COGYLA business

## **Article V Executive Board**

- Section 1: The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past-president.
- Section 2: All individual coaches, assistant coaches, team commissioners, and team administrators are eligible for office.
- Section 3: Terms of office shall be:
- a) two years for the President and the Secretary. These officers shall be elected in odd years.
  - b) two years for the Vice-President and the Treasurer. These officers shall be elected in even years.
  - c) one year for Past-President upon leaving the office of President.
- Section 4: Elections for officers shall be:
- a) at the annual fall general meeting for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- Section 5: In the event an officer is unable to fulfill their duties, the President shall appoint, and the Executive Board shall approve, an association member to fill the office until the next general meeting at which an election will be held to fill any unexpired term.
- Section 6: No more than two individuals from any one team or league may serve on the Executive Board at a time.

## **Article VI Duties of the Officers**

- Section 1: The President shall:
- a. preside at the Association's annual meeting and meetings of the Executive Board;
    - b) serve as the liaison between club/recreational teams and the Association;
    - c) serve as the representative of the Association for all COGYLA related business; and
    - d) serve as a liaison to the Central Ohio Chapter of US Lacrosse.
- Section 2: The Vice-President shall:
- a) assist the President; and,
  - b) assume the duties of the President in the President's absence.
- Section 3: The Secretary shall:
- a) keep minutes at all meetings;
  - b) keep a current membership directory; and
  - c) facilitate all COGYLA correspondence.
- Section 4: The Treasurer shall:
- a. have charge of the Association's business and financial affairs;

- b. maintain appropriate financial records;
- c. present a budget statement at the annual general meeting (winter); and,
- d. ensure any annual billings are sent to member teams by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Section 5: The Past-President shall serve as mentor to the President.

### **Article VII Standing Committees**

Section 1: The standing committees of the COGYLA and their purposes shall be:

- a. **Rules:** to make recommendations of rules of play in accordance with US Lacrosse Guidelines and Best Practices for COGYLA member teams;
- b. **Tournament/Playdays:** to publish/coordinate a list of tournaments/playdays for interested COGYLA teams;
- c. **Coaches Education:** to seek out and coordinate opportunities for coaches education and training; and
- d. **Officials:** coordinate training of youth officials for COGYLA games.

Section 2: The chairs for the standing committees shall be:

- a. elected at the winter general meeting or appointed by the President; and
  - b) appointed by the president if the above-named persons are unable to fulfill their obligations.

### **Article VIII Meetings**

Section 1: An Executive Board meeting will be held prior to the annual winter general meeting for the purpose of establishing the agenda for the general meeting. Fourteen days notice must be given.

Section 2: The President may call other Executive Board meetings as needed. Seven days notice must be given.

Section 3: The annual winter general meeting for the membership of the COGYLA shall be held on a date to be determined by the Executive Board. Twenty-one days notice must be given.

Section 4: The Executive Board may call other general meetings as needed. Twenty-one day's notice must be given.

### **Article IX Rules**

Section 1: All official correspondence of any COGYLA business (i.e. play dates, committee reports, etc.) must be sent to the administrator or commissioner of each member team when applicable.

Section 2: The Official Rules for Girls Lacrosse as approved by the National Governing Body shall serve as the official rule book for this Association.

Section 3: The policies, rules, and regulations of the National Governing Body shall bind the COGYLA and its members for Girls Lacrosse.

Section 4: Exceptions to US Lacrosse policies, rules, and regulations will only be those voted upon and adopted by the COGYLA.

## **Article X Amendments**

Section 1: Amendments to the COGYLA By-Laws as recommended by the Executive Board may be made:

- a) at a general meeting by a two-thirds majority of those present including absentee ballots provided that a quorum has been established (50% of members are present or represented by an absentee, ballot.) Proposed amendments shall be sent in writing to all members at least 14 days prior to the general meeting. The secretary must receive absentee ballots at least three days prior to the meeting.
- b) by mail or digital ballot by a two-thirds majority of those responding provided that at least 50% of the members respond. Proposed amendments shall be sent in writing to all members at least 14 days prior to the return date.

Section 2: Items in the COGYLA Operating Policy may be approved by:

- a) a general meeting by a simple majority of members present provided that a quorum has been established (50% of members are present);  
or
- b) mail or digital ballot by a simple majority of members responding provided that at least 50% of the members respond. Proposed items shall be sent in writing to all members at least 14 days prior to the return date.

## **Article XI Procedures**

*Roberts Rules of Order-Newly Revised* shall be the authority governing all matters of procedure not covered by these by-laws.

## **Article XII Appeals**

Section 1: All appeals shall be presented to the President in writing. Copies of all appeals shall be sent by the President to all members of the COGYLA Executive Board. The Executive Board shall render a decision on an appeal as soon as practicable, but in no event later than two weeks after the President's initial receipt of the written appeal.

Section 2: Fees, including legal fees incurred by COGYLA members that take or threaten action against COGYLA, and/or its officers, will be the sole responsibility of the member or members that initiate the action. COGYLA will not reimburse these fees regardless of the outcome of the action.

Section 3: COGYLA will protect and indemnify elected officers for actions or suits brought against the officers involving the execution of their assigned duties.