

**WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LACROSSE OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION**

**ADDENDUM "A" TO THE WMLOA CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS:**

**Code of Conduct**

In addition to the Contest Officials' Code of Ethics instituted by the MIAA, members of this Association will comply with the following guidelines:

- A member shall be an advocate for the game of lacrosse, and all other leagues to which a member has direct or indirect involvement.
- Officials are expected to master both rules of the game and mechanics necessary to enforce the rules to the best of their ability, and are expected to exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.
- Officials are expected to uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interactions with student-athletes, coaches, school administrators, colleagues and the public.
- Officials are expected to display and execute superior communication skills, both verbal and non-verbal.
- A member shall attend three (3) meetings annually as described in the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association. All members are expected to participate at any and all meetings. Members are expected to act in a courteous and respectful manner and not disrupt the meeting in any way. Personal attacks against any member will not be tolerated. Members will be given an opportunity to speak when recognized. If asked to leave the meeting, the member must comply without delay or protest, and will not receive credit for participation at that meeting.
- A member is expected to manage his game assignments in a responsible manner, including timely review and response to any assigning authority.
- A member is expected to arrive at a High School/Prep School Varsity contest at least thirty (30) minutes prior to face off, and should be on the field at least twenty (20) minutes prior to faceoff. For High School/Prep School Junior Varsity and Youth contests, arrival is expected to be at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to face off, and should be on the field at least ten (10) minutes prior to faceoff. A member is expected to have available with him and call the phone numbers for the Assigning Commissioner, host school, and the referee assigned to that contest in the event that he cannot meet the arrival time described above.

- A member is expected to wear the officially sanctioned uniform prescribed by the National Federation and MIAA. Uniforms should be clean, free from stains, and in good condition. Graying or yellowing of uniforms should be replaced with new apparel. Shoes should be polished and be black in color.
- A member is expected to report any unusual incident regarding game administration of a contest to the Secretary/Treasurer within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence.
- A member is expected to report any unusual game event or rule interpretation to the Rules Interpreter for analysis and discussion prior to the next general meeting.
- A member shall pay annual dues as described in the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association.
- A member is expected to report any misconduct of other members to the President of the Executive Board within seventy-two (72) hours of the occurrence.
- A member is expected to notify the Executive Board, via the Secretary/Treasurer, if they have been arrested and/or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony within seventy-two (72) hours.
- A member shall not consume alcohol on the day of a game prior to their last game of the day.
- A member is expected to not consume illegal drugs at any time.
- A member is expected to not appear at a meeting or game under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- A member is expected to not participate in any criminal activity at any time.
- A member is expected to not speak to the press regarding any game, official, or Association business. Requests not of a personal nature shall be directed to the Executive Board.
- Officials are expected to be free of obligation to any interest other than the impartial and fair judging of sports competitions.
- Officials are expected to recognize that anything which may lead to a conflict of interest, either real or apparent, must be avoided. Gifts, favors, special treatment, privileges, employment or a personal relationship with a school or team which can compromise the perceived impartiality of officiating should be avoided.
- Officials are expected to prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.
- Officials are expected to work with each other and their governing bodies in a constructive and cooperative manner.

- Officials are expected to treat with respect players, coaches, parents, other officials, the assignor, athletic directors, school personnel, table personnel, any other member of the game crew, and any member of the public, even when it is not reciprocal. Dignity must be maintained. Swearing or the use of obscene gestures in public or on the field before, during, or after a contest is not permitted.