

**Western Maryland Youth Lacrosse Conference**  
**WMYLC**  
**2008 Boys Youth Lacrosse Points of Emphasis**

1. **Coach, Player, and Spectator Sportsmanship**
2. **Taunting is now an IMMEDIATE EJECTION infraction.** Formerly 1 to 3 minute non-releasable unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. Now is 3-minute non- releasable unsportsmanlike conduct penalty AND ejection. Very serious.
3. Must have a goalkeeper, properly equipped for every game. If teams are short of players we there **WILL** be a game, **NO FORFEITS**. Team coaches will agree with the officials to either share players or reduce players on the field. **Sharing players is the BEST method as more kids will get playing time.** Suggested layout of players if playing with less than 10 players on the field:
  - If 9 v 9, Teams would have 1 goalie, 3 defense, 3 attack, and 2 midfielders)
  - If 8 v 8, Teams would have 1 goalie, 2 defense, 2 attack, and 3 midfielders)
  - If 7 v 7, Teams would have 1 goalie, 2 defense, 2 attack, and 2 midfielders)
  - If 6 v 6, Teams would have 1 goalie, 1 defense, 1 attack, and 3 midfielders).
4. Mouthpieces must be highly visible color THIS YEAR. No clear or white. 1 Minute non-releasable foul for illegal equipment.
5. For general out-of-bounds, whistle is blown when the ball (or a player in possession of the ball) touches ground either touching a boundary line or touching ground outside a boundary line. Ball goes to the team opposite team that last touched the ball before going out of bounds.
6. If a shot and the shot goes out of bounds, whistle is blown when the ball passes over the plane of a boundary line (before it touches ground). Possession awarded to the team whose (in bounds) player is closest to where the ball crossed over the plane of the boundary line at the time when the ball crossed over the boundary line. The stick is NOT used as a determining factor, only the BODY of the player (hands and head count).
7. Ball stops are NOT required starting this year (formerly considered a broken stick). However, two ball stops is a 3-minute non-releasable foul for illegal equipment. Coaches should check ALL sticks before each game.
8. NO SUNGLASSES, MIRRORRED, OR TINTED EYE PROTECTION.
9. Once a team is given a stall warning, the warning continues in effect until either a goal is scored OR the defensive team gains possession. This means a stall warning can carry over through team timeouts, end of periods (1-3), penalty situations, and official's timeouts.
10. Stop "back checks" this year. Coaches get the players to not do it. Player with the ball beats the defender, the defender throws the "desperation" or "malicious" or "uncontrolled" check from an out of position location behind the player with the ball and either hits the player's head, shoulders, arms, back, legs, ankles, or feet with the stick.
11. Gloves MUST have intact palms and fingers. Gloves without palms are NOT legal in the WMYLC.
12. Officials: 2 equipment checks per team per game. Measure stick (length, width, head length), test pocket depth, test ball release from the pocket, helmet, mouth guard, shoulder pads, arm pads, gloves.
13. Coaches, please make sure players have adequate padding and equipment. WMYLC does not recommend use of small "elbow" pads as arm pads for defenders, small shoulder pads without "epaulets". Rib pads are recommended. Shoulder pads MAY NOT be altered. If the pads have Velcro sections for the connection of epaulets and extensions, the extensions must be present. If the pads show signs of epaulet attachment strips being cut off, the pads are illegal.
14. Coaches should stress the following with their players in 2008:
  - Eliminating "back checks". Teach player to check ONLY when in the proper position, and under control.
  - No horns for substitutions on end line out of bounds and loose ball fouls.
  - Teach going for the scoop on ground balls, NOT whacking empty sticks. Officials watch for wild swings at empty sticks on ground balls. Call slashes on the wild swings.
  - Poke checks making contact with the body (bayonet stabs) are slashes. Teach making contact with the stick or gloved hands on poke checks.
  - NO comments to officials about calls by players or coaches.
  - Pull Out-of-Control players before they do damage.