

Connecticut Lacrosse Officials Association Youth Lacrosse

Mission

CLOA will assign CLOA patched officials who are youth rules tested, certified, and insured for those youth lacrosse programs located in towns for which CLOA is the high school assigning authority and which request this service.

Structure

The CLOA Executive Board will appoint a Youth Committee to coordinate and manage the youth assigning process in conjunction with the CLOA High School Assignor. The Youth Committee consists of a Youth Assignor, responsible for centralized assigning, and two additional members. The Youth Committee will identify Regional Coordinators who will act as liaisons between CLOA and their local regions.

Fees

Each town/ league will be charged an annual fee of \$65.00 plus \$65.00 per U-15 and U-13 team payable prior to the start of each season. CLOA certified officials will be paid \$65.00 per game assuming two (2) officials per game. The fee for a single official only shall be \$90.00. Officials shall be paid at the time of the game, if practicable, otherwise by direct deposit, Arbiter, or check.

Mechanics

Regionally assigned youth games will be scheduled to coordinate with local high school games. The Regional Coordinators will consult with towns/leagues to insure that youth games do not conflict with high school games. The Regional Coordinators will upload their regional youth schedule via the League Athletics Program to the CLOA Youth Arbiter account.

The CLOA Youth Assignor will assign officials based on availability and official's assignments will appear on the Arbiter along with their high school assignments. This will give more officials the opportunity to referee youth games and be assigned to multiple games (high school and youth games on the same day in the same town). CLOA Regional Coordinators will have access to the CLOA Youth Arbiter to determine what CLOA youth certified officials are in their regions on any given day.

Regional Coordinators must have the youth schedules no later than April 1. This will allow them to upload schedules in a timely manner. They will encourage towns/leagues to maintain their schedules; however, changes are inevitable, particularly at the youth level. Regional Coordinators and the Youth Assignor must inform each team/ league of the minimum of 7 days' notice for game changes (except for

weather related changes). Once a Regional Coordinator is notified, appropriate changes will be made through Arbiter.

- It is quite possible that a schedule change at either the high school level or the youth level may leave only one official at the game.
- Weather related changes are also inevitable. Should officials arrive at a field to find the game either delayed or canceled, they will not receive a game fee presuming:
 - The officials are local to the game,
 - The weather was foreseen but the officials were unable to communicate with the Regional Coordinator, or
 - The weather arrived suddenly.

Youth Committee Responsibilities

The Youth Committee shall be responsible for coordinating CLOA involvement in boys youth lacrosse. It shall:

- Inform the towns/Leagues of their assigned Regional Coordinator
- Collect the towns/leagues annual fees
- Verify with towns/leagues prior to the season the fee schedule, payment methods and necessary information to ensure officials' payments
- Facilitate downloading the League Athletics System into Arbiter
- Work with Regional Coordinators to verify timely receipt and scheduling of teams' schedules and officials' requirements
- Work with the CLOA High School Assignor to monitor Arbiter to verify coordination of regional youth officials' schedules with high school officials' schedules
- Address any and all assigning or officiating issues with the leagues/towns and the CLOA
- Facilitate training for CLOA officials and junior officials
- Report to the CLOA Executive Board at intervals set by the CLOA Executive Board

Over time the Youth Committee will likely need to add additional duties such as:

- Coordinate on field training of junior officials
- Oversee implementation of standard US Lacrosse rules and guidelines for all games, or, at the least, rationalize the different rules currently used by the different leagues

Youth Committee Compensation

The Youth Committee will be paid by CLOA out of funds obtained by the participating towns/ leagues. The stipend for the Youth Committee shall be at the discretion of the CLOA Executive Board. It will be determined at the end of the season and will be commensurate with the time dedicated to the tasks.

Regional Coordinator Responsibilities

Regional Coordinators shall be appointed by the Youth Committee. Regional Coordinators shall:

- Act as liaison between CLOA and towns/leagues
- Coordinate with town/ league to obtain team schedules and requirements for officials
- Coordinate regional schedules with League Athletics and Arbiter
- Monitor regional assignments to verify attendance by CLOA officials
- Inform the Youth Assignor of schedule changes in a timely manner
- Inform the Youth Committee of areas of concern to be addressed by the committee or the CLOA Board

Regional Coordinator Compensation

The regional coordinators will be compensated at the discretion of the CLOA Executive Board from the funds obtained from the towns/ leagues. The stipend will be determined at the end of the season and will be commensurate with the time dedicated to the tasks.

CLOA Members Responsibilities

For the CLOA to deliver quality officiating at the youth level, full participation and cooperation of CLOA certified officials is necessary.

- CLOA officials will be encouraged to officiate youth games, particularly members with 5 or fewer years of experience.
- CLOA officials will be strongly encouraged to accept youth games
 - CLOA officials need to serve the towns/ leagues that have contracted with CLOA first before serving other towns/ leagues. Ultimately, we expect most, if not all, youth towns/ leagues in the state will be served by CLOA or some other LOA. The transition from no LOA participation to full LOA participation will occasionally be awkward but we must bear with the bumps.
- All CLOA officials interested in youth officiating must attend the CLOA/ US Lacrosse clinic on youth rules and take and pass the US Lacrosse youth rules test. This is a requirement for officiating any youth lacrosse game.

Costs

Youth assigning will put an additional burden on members of the CLOA Executive Board. Individuals whose positions require additional duties to service this program will be compensated at the discretion of the CLOA Executive Board from the funds obtained from the towns/leagues.

CLOA Youth Committee:

John Hackett - Youth Assignor
Sheldon Crosby
Bruce Backus

CLOA Regional Coordinators:

Fred Capozziello/ Steve Nunn - Glastonbury, Haddam-Killingworth, Meriden, Middletown,
South Windsor, Stafford, Vernon

Mike Gianelli - East Lyme, Ledyard

Mike Gianelli/Paul Noniewicz - Montville, New London, Stonington, Waterford, Westerly

Mike Infantino - Avon, Farmington, Granby, Simsbury