



**To: BCLA Members**

**Re: BC Lacrosse Association (BCLA) "Return to Lacrosse Phase 1 Guidelines"**

The BCLA Return to Lacrosse Committee has worked tirelessly to develop guidelines so that we can safely deliver lacrosse programming while keeping within the BC Health Authority, viaSport BC and other government regulatory agency guidelines. The Province of BC has asked each Provincial Sport Organization to develop its own Return to Sport guidelines and the BCLA Return to Lacrosse Phase 1 Guidelines are aligned with [viaSport BC's Return to Sport Guidelines](#). The BCLA Board has reviewed and approved the [BCLA Return to Lacrosse Phase 1 Guidelines](#).

Finding a solution for the lack of liability insurance had been an issue, and we are pleased with the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture announcement on June 10<sup>th</sup> that a Ministerial Order has been issued, extending liability protection to not-for-profit amateur sport organizations for damages resulting from exposure to COVID-19. This liability protection applies as long as sport organizations and their members are complying with orders from the provincial health officer and following the BCLA's Return to Lacrosse Guidelines. This protects the directors, officers, staff and volunteers of not-for-profit sport organizations recognized under the BC Societies Act. We have been informed that this Order is in effect immediately and until the state of emergency is lifted. To review the Province of BC's announcement, please [click here](#).

Therefore, in order to return to lacrosse activity, BCLA Association/Club members must read, understand and agree to abide by the BC Lacrosse Association's "Return to Lacrosse Guidelines" as circulated and posted on the [BCLA Website Direct Link](#). If you have questions or concerns, please e-mail Jeff Gombar, BCLA Executive Director – [jeff@bclacrosse.com](mailto:jeff@bclacrosse.com). Please see the [BCLA Member Declaration of Compliance](#).

#### **Next Steps:**

Those BCLA-Member Associations/Clubs that want to proceed with lacrosse activities in accordance with the BCLA Return to Lacrosse Phase 1 Guidelines must take the following mandatory steps. These measures must be in place prior to any individual's participation in a BCLA-member lacrosse activity:

1. BCLA Association/Club members must read, understand and agree to abide by the BC Lacrosse Association Return to Lacrosse Phase 1 Guidelines as circulated and posted on the [BCLA Website Direct Link](#).
2. Before returning to activity, the Association/Club President or Senior Officer must submit the completed [BCLA Member Declaration of Compliance](#) to Debbie Heard - [deb@bclacrosse.com](mailto:deb@bclacrosse.com).
3. While there are suggested drills and skills within the BCLA's Return to Lacrosse Phase 1 Guidelines, you must establish the training program(s) and offer the safest possible environment for all participants that choose to participate. Once the training program(s) has/have been established, the local BCLA-Member Association/Club must pass a board motion supporting the lacrosse activity that your organization is choosing to offer under the terms of the Return to Lacrosse Phase 1 Guidelines.

4. All participating Leagues/Associations/Clubs must be in good standing with the BC Lacrosse Association. This includes being current with payments of all BCLA invoices to date.
5. All athletes must be currently registered (Box Lacrosse – 2020 season; Field Lacrosse – 2020-2021 season).
6. All participants (athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers) must sign the revised (at June 10/20) BCLA Waiver (UNDER the Age of Majority or OVER the Age of Majority Waiver) before participating in any lacrosse activity.

The BCLA will continue to update the BCLA Membership through e-mails, on-line Community of Practice postings and on the [BCLA Website Direct Link](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jeff Gombar, BCLA Executive Director – [jeff@bclacrosse.com](mailto:jeff@bclacrosse.com) or (604) 421-9755 Ext. 3.

Yours in Lacrosse,  
Gerry Van Beek  
BCLA President