

BRITISH COLUMBIA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

1. CODE OF CONDUCT

1.01 All individuals affiliated with the BCLA shall:

- i) Attempt at all times to work toward the goals and objectives of the BCLA and the game of Lacrosse, and towards the betterment of its members.
- ii) Strive to heighten the image and dignity of the Association and the sport of Lacrosse as a whole, and to refrain from behavior which may discredit or embarrass the Association or the game.
- iii) Always be courteous and objective in dealings with other members.
- iv) Except when made through proper channels, refrain from unfavorable criticism of other members or representatives of the BCLA.
- v) Strive to achieve excellence in the sport while supporting the concepts of Fair Play and Drug-free sport.
- vi) Show respect for the cultural, social and political values of all participants in the sport.
- vii) As a guest in another province or foreign country, abide by the laws of the host jurisdiction and adhere to any social customs concerning conduct.

1.02 Conduct to Protect Children:

The safety, rights, and well-being of children is a priority of the BC Lacrosse Association (BCLA) and its membership. We nurture supportive relationships with children while balancing and encouraging appropriate boundaries. All staff, members and participants are expected to treat children with respect and dignity. They are to establish, respect and maintain appropriate boundaries with all children and families involved in activities and programs delivered by the BCLA and its members. All interactions and activities with children should be known to, and approved by, the member association and the parent/guardian of the child. For more information about Conduct to Protect Children - <https://www.protectchildren.ca/en/about-us/>.

1.03 An individual's conduct shall be in question when they:

- i) Breach any of the above Section 1.
- ii) Use their position within the BCLA for unauthorized personal and/or material gains.
- iii) Willfully circulate false, malicious statements, derogatory to any other member of the Association.
- iv) Willfully ignore or break the By-Laws, policies and/or rules and regulations of the BCLA.
- v) Counsel others to ignore or break the by-laws, policies, and/or rules and regulations of the BCLA.
- vi) Code of Conduct hearings will only be heard for offences not already covered by properly constituted penalties approved by the BCLA in all Directorates, Technical Support Groups and League Agreements.

1.04 General:

- i) The BCLA endorses the principles of natural justice and due process which allows any individual the right to a hearing and an appeal of any action which affects their rights.
- ii) The BCLA and its member governing bodies agree to honor and enforce disciplinary action taken by those governing bodies upon the completion of due process.

1.05 Discipline Procedures:

- i) Any report alleging a breach of Member obligation under this Code of Conduct shall be submitted in writing to the BCLA office within 15 days of the event/occurrence.
- ii) Upon receiving a report, the BCLA staff shall immediately notify the BCLA Executive who shall determine the merit of the complaint and determine if action is necessary.

- iii) If action is necessary, the President shall, with the Discipline Committee, appoint a date, time and place for which shall not be more than 30 days from the receipt of the report.
- iv) All interested parties will be notified of the proceedings and will have the opportunity to attend the hearing of the Discipline Committee at their own expense.
- v) The Discipline Committee may call witnesses and demand any pertinent information which it deems necessary to arrive at a decision.
- vi) The decision of the Discipline Committee will be announced by the Chair of the Discipline Committee within 7 days of the hearing and all interested parties will be provided with a copy of the written decision. Interested parties is defined as those parties who are directly involved in the proceedings.
- vii) Any individual whose rights are directly affected by a decision of the Discipline Committee may appeal that decision to the Appeals Committee.
- viii) The procedure and time lines for a presentation to the Appeals Committee shall be the same as those set out for the Disciplinary Committee.
- ix) Disciplinary action taken under this Code of Conduct section will be considered to be applicable to all disciplines of Lacrosse in BC
- x) The Discipline Committee may fine, suspend or request other remedial action based on a Discipline Hearing.

1.06

British Columbia Universal Code of Conduct (BC UCC):

The BC Lacrosse Association accepts all language contained in the British Columbia Universal Code of Conduct (BC UCC). A copy of the code is hosted on the viaSport BC website here: https://www.viasport.ca/sites/default/files/BC_UCC_2021.pdf.