

Wanted: Girls & Boys Lacrosse Officials

Due to the fast growth of the game in Iowa, youth clubs and leagues are looking for new officials to officiate the game of lacrosse.

Background: There are over 600 youth in the state participating in the sport, and the number increases each year due to the popularity of the sport. Lacrosse is one of the fastest growing sports in America.

Currently there are lacrosse clubs in the central Iowa, Dubuque, Quad Cities, and Iowa City areas. Both boys & girls participate and their ages range from U10 through High School. There are also several collegiate programs in the state. New youth programs are beginning to spring up in other parts of Iowa. Our Association's goal is to eventually have the sport sanctioned by the state athletic associations.

Opportunity: There are immediate opportunities for new officials for both the Boys' and Girls' games at all age levels. No officiating experience is necessary, and we will help train you. Games are played March through May mainly on weekends with some weeknight games. There are also opportunities to work league play in the Omaha area where Iowa teams also compete. One could work at least 10-12 games per season. Youth and middle school games last roughly an hour, and high school games 1.5-2 hours.

Credentials Required: Lacrosse officials are required to be members of USA Lacrosse which is \$55/year. A background check is also part of that membership. USA Lacrosse provides officials training free of charge. USA Lacrosse also has a liability and excess accident insurance program that covers registered officials.

Training: Both Boys' and Girls' game training sessions will be held at specific times before the spring season starts. These sessions are conducted by USA Lacrosse and involve both virtual classroom as well as on-field training and evaluation. At the completion of this training, you are a Level 1 certified lacrosse official and are able to officiate youth through high school level games. For more details, contact those shown below.

Compensation: This past season Iowa clubs paid officials' fees of \$45/game at the youth level (grades 3-8) and up to \$65/game at the high school level. There was travel reimbursement for out of town games in the form of mileage allowance or increased fees. The extent of game scheduling is flexible depending on your availability, but officials are able to work multiple games each weekend if desired. **Payment is made at the completion of games** with no waiting to be paid.

To get involved or for more information, contact the Iowa Lacrosse Association at iowalaxassoc@gmail.com.

