

CWLOA Update

October 2016 Newsletter
www.cwloa.com



CWLOA

Colorado Women's Lacrosse Officials Association

Upcoming Training: Please get these dates on your calendar!!

Happy Fall fellow Officials!
Your CWLOA Board has been busy planning the upcoming training for the 2017 lacrosse season, and we want to get the dates out to you now so you can put them in your calendar and plan on attending!

The Training has been divided up based on rating and experience. Group 1 includes all NEW, APPRENTICE and L1 officials. Group 2 includes L2 and above officials. The next column includes training dates for each group. Please note the appropriate dates for your level.

Where this training will be held is yet to be determined, but we will let you know as soon as we have the locations.

Group 1: For New, Apprentice and L1 officials
Comprehensive Training (Must attend one of these)
January 10 (Tuesday), Loveland, place TBD
January 11 (Wednesday), Denver area, place TBD
January 12 (Thursday), Colorado Springs, place TBD

Group 2: For L2 and above
(Must attend 2 or do the make up on December 6th)
Colorado Springs: (Tuesday's) November 1, 15, 29, place TBD
Denver: (Thursday's) November 3, 17, December 1, place TBD
Make-up Day (Denver): December 6, place TBD

For Officials who are doing college games, there is a play day October 1st at Regis University, October 8th, at University of Colorado, Boulder, and a play day at Colorado College on the 9th.

For Officials who are doing high school games, the high school play day is scheduled for March 4th.

The Rules Interpretation meeting (**Required for all**) will be held on January 28th from 9 am to 12 pm. A NCAA rules interpretation will follow (for those doing college games) from 1 pm to 4 pm.

If you have questions, please contact cwloaboard@gmail.com

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It's time to register for the 2017 season

Believe it or not!

Yes it's time to register with US Lacrosse and CWLOA if you plan to officiate this spring!

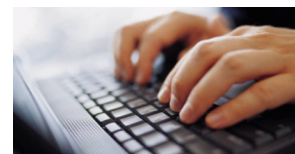
To avoid paying a late fee

your dues to CWLOA are due by December 1st.

The form to be used is attached to the same email this newsletter came in, or you can find it on our website: cwloa.com

This year we are reducing the fees by \$5 to offset the increase of \$5 that you have to pay to US Lacrosse for membership. You must be registered with both

US Lacrosse and CWLOA if you want to officiate.



Growth and Development Scholarship Opportunities

In an effort to increase the growth and development of officials the CWLOA, on a yearly basis, sets aside a total sum of \$2,000 to be divided up to officials (no more than \$200 per person per year) for growth and development opportunities, i.e. attending any USL or COA organized clinic in state or out of state

or attendance of the convention. This is not paid out until the summer after the season regardless of the timeframe of the clinic or convention. In addition to this yearly opportunity, a scholarship has become available to send officials to the 2017

convention in Baltimore in January. Up to \$200 an official, is available through this scholarship for anyone interested in attending the convention. If interested please email the treasurer - Allison Bailey at albailey7@gmail.com with a sentence or 2 as to why you

are interested in attending. With the addition of this scholarship, an official has an opportunity to receive **up to \$400** for convention attendance this January. This opportunity has never been offered before and is highly encouraged for any official regardless of level or experience.

US Lacrosse LEAD Program



US Lacrosse has established the LEAD (Local Enrichment And Development) Clinic Program for officials across the country. Originally established to focus on two-person mechanics for those officials seeking additional professional growth and development opportunities, US Lacrosse has now expanded the program to three different levels.

LEAD clinics utilize regional lacrosse tournaments along with summer and

fall lacrosse camps as sites for concentrated lacrosse officiating development.

The philosophy behind the LEAD program is to make these clinics accessible to all lacrosse officials from around the country. This balanced representation enables officials from developing and established areas to polish their officiating skills under the instruction of a qualified US Lacrosse clinician.

There are several opportunities to take advantage of these learning programs offered by US Lacrosse coming up in October, November

and December. These clinics combine classroom training with a heavy emphasis on repeated on-field observations for immediate, actionable feedback from the clinicians.

To find out where these are being offered this fall, go to the US Lacrosse website, and if one appeals to you, you can register.

Go to:
[uslacrosse.arbitersports.com /](http://uslacrosse.arbitersports.com/)
Resources / Women's
Officials Programs and
Clinics to register and get
details.

You Make the Call

US Lacrosse has its instructional web video series, "You Make the Call" for men's and women's game officials.

Now in its sixth year, the US Lacrosse Officials Education Program (OEP) has a 10-week series of video clips that demonstrate fouls and other situations in a game that an official may face. We strongly encourage you to watch the educational series to help you prepare for the fall and winter tournaments and to prepare for the upcoming season.

You can find these videos in laxmagazine.com and on YouTube.

We are always looking for easy ways to stay up with the game we are officiating and these videos are a great way to do that, and on your own time.

Also for a review as we head into the 2017 season, it would be a good idea for all to review the [US Lacrosse Ropes video on Shooting Space](#) (on YouTube, search Ropes shooting space)



Your fellow Colorado Officials

Do you sometimes wonder who all the officials are in Colorado? Here's a little insight into who we are.

We have 17 officials who have officiated more than 10 years! Many of them are part of our Mentor program – there is a lot we can learn from these officials, as they have much experience, and insights they can share to help each of us become better officials. 3 of these are National, 9 of these are District rated.

We have 17 officials who have officiated lacrosse from 3 to 9 years. Again lots of experience and knowledge to share, but also on the curve of learning the game.

There are 25 'new' officials, with potential of 20 more (maybe more!) new officials coming on board for the 2017 season. We have a challenge each of us needs to embrace to becoming better, taking opportunities to improve.

Mentor Program – An option to help improve your officiating

Mentoring Link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/18tgedyk4gCgUwbSIXOCks73hcKzd-gwY3tBB63hoQSk/viewform>
(copy/paste into your browser)

This will be our second year of offering our Mentor Program!

Many first year officials and even those who have experience signed up to this program to help improve their officiating skills. There are benefits to both the mentee and the mentor in terms of improving their officiating.

"My mentor has helped me find exact field locations on campuses, communicated nonverbally with signals on the field, guided me to better game management procedures that aren't written in the training manuals, and has become a good friend."

As a mentor, I have touched based with my mentee, who has become an official after playing and who has a daughter that plays in high

school. She saw a way to give back to the sport and fill the shortage we have. I have been able to share some training materials and some of my own challenges with her. In fact, we face similar challenges (use of flag and game assignment issues) and can relate to each other's stories.

Why have a mentor program?

Women's lacrosse is a game rich with traditions and with annual rule changes geared towards improving player safety and flow of the game.

To develop new umpires quickly and get answers to their questions, it's helpful if they have someone to consult.

By establishing a working relationship with a veteran official, new umpires can accelerate their progress, get feedback when it's most useful, and gain proficiency in lacrosse.

It is also a great way for

veteran umpires to give back to the sport and pass on their knowledge.

What is a mentor program?

Our mentoring program will match a less experienced official [Mentee] with a more experienced official [Mentor]. The mentee and mentor will discuss what happened in their games, may watch a game together, and possibly umpire a game together, and if time permits, a mentor may observe a mentee officiating a game.

What do you have to lose?

Nothing!

What do you have to gain? A friend to share lacrosse stories, enjoy a laugh or too, and appreciate the community spirit of lacrosse.

How do I join the mentor program?

Register using the link provided above the article.

Once completed you will receive a presentation explaining how the mentor program works, which should answer most of your questions.

Start signing up now. Ideally, we would like to have the mentor/mentees paired by the beginning of the season. The partnerships will be for this year only.

If you were a part of the mentor program last year and

would like to continue with your same mentor/mentee please let us know.

Once you are linked by email with your mentor-mentee partner, contact them and introduce yourself.

Follow up with each other after your games, ask/answer questions, provide advice, share after-game analysis.

Our Mentor Program chair is Michelle Gazarik. Please contact her with any questions.

c: 757-817-0599
e: mvgazarik@gmail.com.

Recruiting

Know someone who is sports oriented? Have a friend who is looking for opportunities to 'work' outdoors, and earn some spending money?

Are you a teacher? Do you know any physical education teachers who might be interested in earning more money when the school day ends?

How about any former players who are now in college and might be looking to stay in the game, and earn some money?

Make it part of your conversation to bring up girls lacrosse officiating and ask your friends or acquaintances if they might be interested in being a part of this sport. We will be posting a flier on our website as something you could email them if there is interest. Stay tuned.





Email: cwloaboard@gmail.com

Web site: CWLOA.com

Facebook: CWLOA
(Please join us!)

**Promoting the ideals of
sportsmanship, personal
responsibility and team
work in the sport of lacrosse**

CWLOA is a nonprofit organization focused on recruiting training and rating new officials, developing and supporting higher-rated officials and promoting a safe and positive environment for women's lacrosse throughout Colorado.

The association seeks to provide safe, fair, and impartial officiating for women's lacrosse games while promoting the ideals of sportsmanship, personal responsibility, and team work in the sport of lacrosse.

CWLOA board president – Cyndy Schlaepfer-Youker cwloaboard@gmail.com

Have an idea for an article or a question you want answered?

Submit to: cwloaboard@gmail.com

Want to become more involved? These are the areas we need ideas and help with:
Recruiting / Training / Rating / Mentoring / Web site – updating/design / Recognition

Please send an email to cwloaboard@gmail.com and include your name, email, phone number. Let us know how you would like to be involved, and list special skills you would be able to provide, if any.

Spotlight – Don Bryant – L3 official and CWLOA Vice President

When did you first become involved with lacrosse, and officiating?

Lacrosse - Eleven years ago, when Shannon my 7th grade daughter, at the time, asked if I would coach their team. I really knew nothing about lacrosse at that time so I joined US Lacrosse and started taking online classes and going to coaches training to learn as much as I could.

Officiating – Ten years ago when I found out how bad we needed officials. So I started officiating youth games and the next year started officiating high school games.

What administrative roles in a lacrosse-related organization have you done?

I became the league administrator and President for Ranger Girls Lacrosse in 2008 and retired from the program in 2014. I was the JV coach for Palmer Ridge High School in 2009 and 2010. And the Varsity coach for 2011, 2013, and 2014. I am currently the Vice President of CWLOA.

Do you have a favorite lacrosse memory?

Winning the Jamboree with a Varsity, JV, 8th, 7th, and 6th grade team all in different years.

What made you take the step to become a lacrosse official?

I wanted to help out when I saw the need for officials. I liked officiating youth games and enjoyed the challenge of High School games even more.

What is one goal you personally want to achieve this year (the coming season)?

I would really like to start officiating college level games this year.

What hobbies do you have outside of lacrosse?

Hiking and backpacking. Spending quality time with my family. Officiating other sports including football, softball, basketball, and kickball, and vacations on warm sunny beaches.

From last newsletter spotlight (Tim Mullins) If you could have personally witnessed anything, what historical event would you have wanted to see in person?

The miracles that Jesus performed.

Finally, ask a question for our next spotlight official.

What is the most unusual thing you have ever seen officiating a lacrosse game?