

# MYLA Girls Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes | March 1st, 2023

## Attendance:

*Present:* Brian Plunkett, Blake Warlich, Tom Black, and Rachael Bohns

*Not in attendance:* Ryan Hanavan, Valerie Long

Rachael spoke with both Ryan and Valerie offline to get their stance on rules and program numbers so we can confirm those items.

## Agenda:

### 1. Confirm program numbers and schedule

- a. Recent changes include:
  - i. Billings will have one 3/4th grade team
  - ii. Missoula will not have a 5/6th grade team, just one 7/8th team for small-sided games.
- b. Below is the breakdown of teams and their participation in MYLA events this season.

Club Name	Girls Youth									
	Number of Teams				MYLA Attendance					
	K-2	3/4	5/6	7/8	4/8/2023	4/15/2023	4/29-30/2023	5/6/2023	5/13/2023	5/20/2023
Helena Lacrosse Club		0	0	0						?
Great Falls Lacrosse		0	0	0						
Missoula Lacrosse Club		0	0	1	X	X	X	X	?	?
Northwest Sharp Shooters		1	2	2		X	X		X	
Headwaters Youth Lacrosse	1	1	2	2	X	X	X	X		
Billings Scorpion Lacrosse		1	1	1	X	X	X	X		X
<b>TOTAL MYLA TEAMS</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>						

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## 2. Finalize rules

- a. The group discussed the following changes because they deviate from the [2023 Girls Youth Lacrosse Rules Comparison](#). They can be found in the [Girls Rules](#) tab of the 2023 MYLA Youth Season spreadsheet.
  - i. Field lines (will paint):
    1. An 8M arc to enforce shooting space,
    2. Midfield line to act as a restraining line,
    3. Straight line of 12M fan for players to stand behind at start of draw
    4. An "X" to mark where the draw occurs
    5. Side lines, end lines and table area to indicate sub box.
    6. To note, there is no semi-circle for the 12M fan nor a center circle.
    7. Referred to the [Small-Sided Unified Field Diagram](#) to understand dimensions and paint lines.
  - ii. Field size
    1. Girls 5/6th and 7/8th games will be played on a small-sided field.
    2. Discussed if its okay to have just 60 yards in length. Yes because it still meets the criteria. It means that players will lose some yards behind the goal (if painted correctly, goal-to-goal has to be 40 yards).
    3. Referred to the [Small-Sided Unified Field Diagram](#) to understand dimensions and paint lines.
  - iii. Players
    1. Agreed to keep a minimum and maximum so that coaches have the flexibility to accommodate participation for a particular game based on how many players show up. Missoula will have lower numbers but other clubs will have larger rosters and may want to play up to 8v8. At end of day, we're relying on coaches to make the call together with player experience and safety at the heart.
  - iv. Officials
    1. The numbers are the preferred approach. Chose to not use the word 'required' so that MLOA isn't violating a policy when their hands are tied.
  - v. Length of game
    1. Because more goals are scored in small-sided games and we're going to use the draw (vs give ball to goalie of team scored upon at side of goal circle), time can be eaten up while the draw is taken. Therefore we bumped the 7/8th up to 25 minute halves.
    2. ***We are going to monitor this closely*** to see if we need to adjust because teams with low/no subs may get too tired in this format for this amount of time. Player safety must be prioritized.
  - vi. Team timeout

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1. Agreed that we encourage coaches to work together so that each team takes their timeout to give players a break during each half.
2. Will observe and circle back if 5/6th and 7/8th both need an additional timeout per game. Again, player safety.
- vii. Start of game and half
  1. Everyone agreed that 5/6th and 7/8th will take the draw at the start of game and half.
  2. 3 players at top of 8M arc, remaining players stand behind goal line until possession is attained.
  3. No changes for 3/4th as they don't take the draw at this level.
- viii. Start after goal
  1. Everyone agreed that 5/6th and 7/8th will take the draw at the start of game and half.
  2. 3 players at top of 8M arc, remaining players stand behind goal line until possession is attained.
  3. No changes for 3/4th as they don't take the draw at this level.
- ix. Offsides
  1. Everyone agreed that we should enforce offsides to support player development to full-sized game play.
  2. Numbers are provided, but flexibility is given to coaches who must agree to the number of players that need to stay back, and confirm with the referee. This is to accommodate when coaches change the number of field players based on that game's player participation.
- x. Other
  1. Shooting space will be enforced to support player development to full-sized game play.

## Outcomes:

- Rachael is drafting the schedule and will have it out for everyone's review before the end of the weekend.
- Both the schedule and the rules must be finalized by Friday, March 10th.
- Rachael is still looking for opportunities to play full-sided games during the season and is working with the high school scheduler to make that happen.

## Action Items:

- Rachael to confirm Missoula's participation for 5/13 and 5/20
- Rachael to host rule changes on MYLA site for clubs' access

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- Rachael to create a poster with a QR code that links to the rule changes. Intention is for the host town to print and tape it to the game table for referee and coach reference.
- Rachael to write up an email that clubs can share with their girls coaching staff so they are aware of what the club expects of them on game days.