

# FLAGS & WHISTLES

113 West University Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21210 • 410.235.6882 • www.uslacrosse.org/wdoc • December 2003



## Pregame

### Remarks from the National Umpiring Chair

by Perky Nellissen

November 21 & 22 brought balmy weather to Baltimore as the NUC sequestered themselves for an assiduous weekend of planning for the 2004 season. And are we planning a good one for you all!

- Laura Hebert has put together a convention chock full of new rules and interpretations, game management sessions, panel discussions and lot of other timely topics. There will be a time for super regions to meet and a time for all of us to kick back and catch up. Should be very informative and fun at the same time!
- Local board chairs are busily ordering supplies, getting their meeting and training dates set and hoping for a dry spring.
- Renewing your rating is getting easier than ever...just click and send! But remember, new officials must have their membership applications go through their local board chairs!
- The Coaches and Umpires Collegiate Committee has met and distributed 2004 & 05 game fees and policies and are collecting information for the next round of game fee negotiations. If you have any input to fees, please contact Jenny Miriam or Amy Umbach.
- A comprehensive evaluation form for both umpires and schools/coaches was developed and will be available for use this season.
- A new training DVD is being produced aimed at the entry level umpire. The format has promise of being updated every year, stay tuned for its release date.

- Umpiring clinics are being organized and plotted by Cheryl Silverman. They are available for any level of umpire or board in any stage of development. If you think your board could use some outside clinicians, please contact Cheryl.
- The web site is up and running, it should have everything at your fingertips, ready for a print stroke or mouse click. Check it out, make your way into cyberspace, its fun!

PS: The test will be posted in January too!! Use it as a learning tool!

- District events were approved for upgrading to the next level.
- A new pilot opportunity was formed for renewing your National rating...
- International rating procedures will be included in the manual.
- Uniform guidelines were established to get us consistent in our dress. Lots of new athletic looks are being considered!

Wanna find our more? Hit the convention and check out the updated manual.

A big thank you to the NUC for their dedication to USLacrosse and for advocating their areas...rest assured, all 2,395 of you are well represented. Whew, what a start of a gr8 season!

## 2003-2004 National Umpiring Committee

**Perky Nellissen, Chair**

**Laura Hebert**

**Rala Heinen**

**Dorothy Hirsch**

**Peter Hyde**

**Patti Klecha-Porter**

**Jenny Miriam**

**Sue Paige**

**Loretta Pawlowski**

**Laurette Payette**

**Jeff Secor**

**Cheryl Silverman**

**Fran Trumbo**

## At Large Positions Available

The Executive Committee of the Women's Division Officials' Council (NUC) has three vacancies for two year terms of Member-At-Large beginning 7/31/2004. Any national or international umpire is welcome to apply. The committee meets three times a year (middle of November, January at the National Rules Interpretation Clinic, and May before and during the National Tournament) plus a considerable amount of time should be given

between meetings for various tasks. Consult the front of the Umpires' Manual for a list of current members who you may contact with questions. Please send an application (located in the appendix of the Umpires Manual) to: Rala Heinen, 3405 Noble Ave., Richmond, VA 23222, rheinen@att.net by May 1, 2004. Please indicate whether or not you plan to attend the National Tournament.

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Flags and Whistles is e-mailed to the Women's Division Officials Council membership in December 5th, January 24th and June 15th. It may also be downloaded from the US Lacrosse web site at [www.uslacrosse.org/wdoc](http://www.uslacrosse.org/wdoc).

# NEW RULES for 2004

## **Eye Protection**

Recent decisions by the NCAA and the NFHS have caused some confusion about who "must" and who "may" wear eye protection during the 2004 season. It's easiest if players are divided into four groups as follows:

1. College players: the NCAA has mandated the wearing of eye protection during the 2004 NCAA championships but not during the regular season. Play during the season is governed by US Lacrosse rules. College players may wear eye protection during the regular season but are required to wear it during the NCAA playoffs.
2. High school players at NFHS affiliated schools: the NFHS has mandated the wearing of eye protection during the 2004 regular season. Players at NFHS affiliated schools must wear eye protection.
3. High school players at non-NFHS affiliated schools: players at these schools may choose to wear eye protection but it is not mandated during the 2004 season.
4. All other players: this category would include youth, intercollegiate associate programs, post collegiate club programs, etc. These players may choose to wear eye protection but it is not mandated during the 2004 season.

Umpires must now meet with each coach prior to the start of the game and the coach must verbally certify to the umpires that any eye protection worn meets the ASTM standards for women's lacrosse at the appropriate level of play (youth or adult). For purposes of the ASTM standard, the adult product must be worn by players at the high school level and above.

## **Minimum Space Requirement Behind Goal**

After much feedback from coaches, athletic directors and facility managers, a change has been made to the minimum space required behind goal. This minimum space will now be 10 yards measured from the goal line. This change will allow play to take place on a field that is 120 yards in total length (football field dimensions). Goals can be set 100 yards apart with 10 yards behind each. On fields where more space is available the space behind may be anything up to the 20 yard maximum. One reminder – we are speaking of total space not playing space. This total space would include playing space plus the 4m of open space before reaching any fence, obstacle, or change of surface.

## **Stick to Body Fouls**

A key point of emphasis during the upcoming season is going to be calling stick to the body fouls more quickly. We've added specific examples to Rule 18-A to highlight the type of fouls at issue. Over time, the tendency on the part of umpires has been to see the foul, get the arm out, see the foul again, and then possibly call it. The scenario now should be see this type of foul, call it and possibly card it. This topic will be covered extensively at the National Convention.

## **To All International Umpires:**

At the Convention in Philadelphia in January, we are having a Saturday afternoon session of all International umpires and those who have expressed an interest in pursuing their International rating. We will discuss US International policy and International opportunities for 2004.

Contact Patti Klecha-Porter at  
ppklechaporte@mail.wesleyan.edu

## **US Lacrosse National Convention Space, The Final Frontier**

The game of lacrosse is like the title of the bestseller Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus. Men and women involved in lacrosse belong to the same universe, US Lacrosse, but have separate and distinct games, like two different planets. Taking this analogy one step further, an official must understand the concept of space in order to officiate women's lacrosse; space around the head (the bubble), shooting space, free space to goal, space between the shooter and the goal (the tangent), space established by the defense and the offense, time and space in regards to a pick, 4 meters of space before an obstacle at the boundaries, etc. With that in mind, the US Lacrosse 2004 National Convention is the place to be if you don't want to be the "alien" on the field when it's game time.

This year, the 2004 National Convention is being held at the Philadelphia Marriott in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania January 9-11. All officials are encouraged to attend this educational opportunity. The women's game is changing and officials have to change with the game. The best way to be prepared for the change is to take part in continuing education and professional development. And the best place to receive this training is the National Convention. Through collaboration with fellow umpires, an official can gain support in their efforts. It is a great confidence builder to have someone with whom you can share and overcome your problems and challenges. Officials collaborating over the application of a particular rule and interpretation will gain valuable insight into the game of lacrosse. The official that registers and attends this convention is the umpire that is motivated to accept the challenge of upgrading the quality of officiating at every level. Are you that umpire?

Saturday and Sunday offer both the reality and philosophy of umpiring. The sessions are designed to appeal to all levels of officiating. Beginning with the rules interpretation by Pat Dillon and Kim Basner, officials will have the opportunity to hear first-hand what the new rules are and how they are to be interpreted. This automatically gives every official a leg up when it comes to the season; everyone is on the same page and there is no "testing the water" when the first game arrives. There's no "how is she going to call that? Should I tighten up? Loosen up?" Those questions will be answered for the entire body of attendees. Do you want to be the person that wasn't at the convention and has to hear this second-hand, right before the start of the season? Do you want to be the official who seems to be on another planet? Or do you want to be prepared ahead of time?

Once the rules have been established, it is time to wax philosophical. How does the concept of "space" relate to the rules? What about game management? Is safety the ONLY issue? The sessions following the rules interpretation have been designed to help answer these questions. Pat Dillon, Sandy Goldthorpe and Rala Heinen are prepared to take you through the intricacies of Shooting Space and Three Seconds. Jen O'Donnell and Patty Daley are ready to let you in on the secrets of umpiring the offense and the defense. Susie Ganzenmuller, Laurette Payette, and Laura Hebert are chomping at the bit to pick your brains about "SPACE" in general. Mara Wager, Fran Trumbo, and Cheryl Silverman are set to teach you all the tricks of the trade of game management. In addition, members of the Rules Committee, Sue Stahl (coach), Eileen Blackwood and Linda Thayer (Attorney and Official each) are ready to answer your questions about the role safety has played and is playing in the new rules. Add to that opportunities to learn more about International Umpiring, Youth Umpiring, Maintaining and Improving a Board, a Vendor Extravaganza and a Social, and the result is out of this world!

## DISTRICT UMPIRE RATING PROCESS

Local and District umpires should keep in mind the proper procedures when standing for their District rating. If the rating will be Out-of-Region, there is a different application and procedure. Please review the Umpire's Manual. Applications can be found in the Umpires Manual as well as on the US Lacrosse web site [www.uslacrosse.org/wdoc](http://www.uslacrosse.org/wdoc).

### **District In-Region Process:**

1. Applicant fills out the application (include phone number)
2. Give application and a copy of umpiring schedule to the Local Chair
3. Local Chair will confirm applicant is a member in good standing
4. Local Chair will give completed application & schedule to the Region Chair prior to the rating session. (Note: if the Region Chair is not organizing the rating session, the Region Chair should confirm with the event's Rating Chair that the candidate has or has not been approved.)

### **District Out-of-Region Process:**

1. Applicant fills out the application (include phone number)
2. Give application and a copy of umpiring schedule to the Local Chair
3. Local Chair will confirm applicant is a member in good standing
4. Local Chair will send application and schedule to the National Umpiring Chair for approval prior to the rating session.
5. National Umpiring Chair will confirm approval with applicant's Region Chair and the event Rating Chair.

## DISTRICT RATING OPPORTUNITIES

US Lacrosse District Tournaments are approved sites for District ratings. In addition the NUC has approved other sites. These events have met the level of play required for District ratings and have gone through the National Umpiring Committee for approval. If your region would like to get approval for an event to host District ratings please contact your Super Region Chair to start the process. Many events have already been approved for this purpose.

## Umpiring Opportunity in Colorado

### **2004 VAIL LACROSSE SHOOTOUT**

The upcoming season brings a new level of umpiring to the Vail Valley. In 2004, the tournament is a potential site for renewing National Candidates.

This will be determined in January. Stay tuned for the details! Each year the tournament returns a consistent level of play and of the right quality to challenge umpires. The high school tournament is expanding to 24 teams!

This will be a great opportunity to rate District umpires and develop up and coming locals.

Each umpire will receive \$40 per game and will be assigned to 2 or 3 games per day. High School games are tentatively scheduled for June 26-29 while the Elite games are tentatively slated for July 1-4. Come join us for either tournament or both! Contact Jeff Secor at [jmsecor@earthlink.net](mailto:jmsecor@earthlink.net) or 719-528-1090.

## UMPIRE DEVELOPMENTAL CLINICS

US Lacrosse and the National Umpire Committee are proud to announce the expansion their umpire development curriculum to include three(3) levels of umpire development.

**New Region Umpire Development Clinics:** for brand new areas of developing lacrosse programs.

**Developing Area Umpire Development Clinics:** for areas that already have umpires but need assistance in strengthen basic umpiring skills.

**Established Board Umpire Development Clinic:** for those umpiring boards already established and desiring additional refinement(i.e.umpiring strategies,mechanics and positioning).

Any one area or board interested in hosting a umpire development clinic should contact:

Cheryl Silverman [csilver1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:csilver1@nycap.rr.com) 518-877-5857

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

### March 3, 2004 Philadelphia Super Clinic

at Wm. Penn Charter School, 7-10 p.m. for information contact Mari-Ann Wilson at [mqw2@earthlink.net](mailto:mqw2@earthlink.net)

**March 6, 2004, U of M playday**, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1-7pm, local renewals only, contact Elaine Torvinen at [ETORVINEN@aol.com](mailto:ETORVINEN@aol.com)

**March 20, 2004, Playday** at Birmingham Seaholm High School, Michigan, 1-7p.m Local and apprentice ratings only. Contact Elaine Torvinen at [ETORVINEN@aol.com](mailto:ETORVINEN@aol.com)

**June 19, District Rating playday at USTC**, Downingtown, Pa. contact Mari-Ann Wilson at [mqw2@earthlink.net](mailto:mqw2@earthlink.net)

**July 9-12, 2004 Baldwinsville Tournament**, Syracuse, New York, umpires wanted and District Rating session, contact Sheila Donahue at [smd@twcny.rr.cap.com](mailto:smd@twcny.rr.cap.com)

**August 12-15, 2004, Lake Placid Tournament**, Lake Placid New York, umpiring opportunity, contact Rick Nelson at [3csunref@nycap.rr.com](mailto:3csunref@nycap.rr.com)

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

**April 1, 2004, Umpires and TD's application deadline.** Candidates applying for 2005 World Cup must submit application and resume to: Patricia Klecha-Porter, 24 Valley Heights Drive, Middlefield, CT 06455 or email [pklechaporte@mail.wesleyan.edu](mailto:pklechaporte@mail.wesleyan.edu)

**May 2004, Ranking of US umpires** for 2005 World Cup at National Tournament.

**November 1, 2004, US umpires and TD nominations** due to Susie Ganzenmuller.

**June 23-July 4, 2005, World Cup 2005** at The United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

**July 12-18 2004, Prague Cup Czech Republic**, this includes the Senior Men's and Women's Prague Cup 2004. This will be the 7th consecutive year of competition in Prague for women and the 5th year of competition for the men. The profile of the Prague Cup continues to rise attracting a good level of competition from various countries.

**July 13-18, Boys' and Girls' Prague Cup Teens Tournament**, this is an exciting new tournament opens up the possibilities for Junior Boys and Girls Lacrosse teams from around the world.

**July 24- August 31, 2004, European Championships** in Prague, Czech Republic. IFWLA Conference following the Tournament.

## New & Renewal National Candidates

All renewal candidates must send completed application forms (see Appendix in the Umpire's Manual) to their Region Chair for completion. Region Chairs are to send forms to Perky Nellissen, P.O. Box 546, Round Lake, NY 12151.

All new candidates must send completed application forms (see Appendix in Umpire's Manual) to Fran Trumbo, 5700 Mineral Hill Road, Eldersburg, MD 21784

All candidates must also have Written Assessment Checklists from every game sent to their ratings chairperson by all umpiring partners throughout the season. These forms are found in your Umpire's Manual.

## NUC Publication Committee

This committee develops articles for "Lacrosse Magazine" and "Flags and Whistles" as well as updates our council's information on the web site and is involved in any media produced for our council. If you have information to contribute or questions/ideas please contact Perky Nellissen, committee chair, at [gr8call@nycap.rr.com](mailto:gr8call@nycap.rr.com); Jeff Secor at [jmsecor@earthlink.net](mailto:jmsecor@earthlink.net) Dorothy Hisch or Evelyn Doyle at [evmdoyle@hotmail.com](mailto:evmdoyle@hotmail.com).

## National & International Umpires due to give service at National Tournament in 2004:

Donna Arcudi  
Lissa Fickert  
Linda Thayer  
Rena Whitehouse

## Attention Manual Changes

2004 Manual changes will be available on the website in January. Please consult the USLacrosse website at <http://www.USLacrosse.org/wdoc>.

## **USLacrosse Women's Summit:**

On November 8th, all constituencies of the women's game of lacrosse gathered in Towson, Maryland, to discuss the state of our game. Three key elements were discussed: the stick, the protective headgear, and the physicality of the game. It was apparent that these were common concerns within the coaching, umpiring, youth, and leadership organizations of our game. Avenues to keep our membership better informed regarding projects that are to be implemented and decisions that are being made will be developed.

Currently the suggestions and ideas of this summit are being compiled with specific action plans being devised to move forward with guidance on these three main issues. All constituencies of the women's game will be involved to ensure the direction our game will be guided by a united representation.

Further information will be forthcoming in "Lacrosse Magazine" as well as other USLacrosse council and leadership informational communications.

My overall personal impression after the summit is this. Sportsmanship has long been taken for granted in our game. It is an unwritten "rule". In recent years with the increased athleticism and a game that has changed from man-to-man full field play, to a game of picks, zones, and offensive plays, we have encountered a change in attitude toward sportsmanship. Our women are rightfully being recognized in the scholarship offerings and the end of season coveted championships that drive the "business" of athletics within the collegiate economic structure. The determination to win has always been in the game and is an exciting element. But playing the game "within the rules" is being challenged. An athlete's respect for their opponent is often not displayed. A coach reprimanding dangerous and harmful use of the stick should be happening more frequently. Fans are unaware of what is rude and unacceptable behavior toward umpires and the opponent. It was evident during the summit that there is a con

Respectfully submitted. Priscilla Anderson, WDOC, Past chair.

## **NUC Rules Testing and Interpretation Committee**

This committee address umpire testing, rules, and interpretations for our membership. If you have concerns/questions/ideas contact Laura Herbert (committee chair) at lbhref@aol.com, Kim Basner "National Rules Interpreter" at kbasner@go2USTC.com, or Laurette Payette at lpayette@hb.edu

## **Attention Local Chairs!**

Please post your Rules Interpretation Meeting (time, date, place, and contact person) on the USLacrosse web site by sending the information to Perky Nellissen at gr8call@nycap.rr.com. We are encouraging every local board to open their rules interpretation meetings to the college coaches within your area, the NUC would like you to plan on doing so for this coming pre-season. The Coaches and Umpires Collegiate Lacrosse Committee has determined a need for these joint pre-season sessions for interpretation and rules dialogue. If you have any questions please contact your Super Region chairperson.

## **National & International Umpires due to Renew in 2004:**

Priscilla Anderson	Mara Wager
Kim Basner	Debbie Martin
Barb Carreiro	Janice McGrath *
Peggy Cellucci	Jodi Michna
Roger Cooper	Jenny Miriam
Sheila Donahue	Sue Paige *
Cindy Fabian	Bridget Rothera
John Federline	Renee Scheide
Bonnie Foley	Saskia vanWoudenberg
Lucy Goodridge	Carol Venet *
Sally Hartman *	Lisa Volland
Laura Hebert *	Connie Walton *
Dorothy Hirsch	Lynn Beltran *
Sharon Kane	Roberta Grauer *
Sue Kennedy	Janis LeBaron *
Lea Kusner	Cathy McWilliams *
Bonnye Lang	Kerry Sacco *
Tim Lang	Katherine Sherwood *
Debbie Quinn *	Mary Lou Thimas *

*\*donates on field at National Tournament*

# PRESEASON PLAY DAYS & UMPIRING CLINICS

## CHARLES STREET SPRING LACROSSE CHALLENGE

Loyola College • Baltimore, Maryland • Sunday, February 22, 2004, 8:00 - 4:00

A Day of Division I College Play.

**Questions?** Contact Fran Trumbo at 410-795-4961 or email – dhtrumbo@juno.com

A Day of Division I College Play. **It is strongly, recommended that any umpire wishing to stand for a National rating in 2004 attend.** You must pre-register using the form on this issue of Flags and Whistles.

**Clinic:** Saturday, February 21, 2004 **Classroom Session** Liberty Christian School 6:00PM – 8:00PM  
Sunday, February 22, 2004 **Field Work - Loyola College** 8:00AM - 4:00PM

For: National candidates and experienced District umpires (minimum 3 years). Only those umpires who have pre-registered and prepaid by February 1, 2004 will be allowed to participate. **Those umpires who will be standing for their National rating at the 2004 National Tournament will be given space preference for the clinic.** Clinicians for this session will be Fran Trumbo and Patty Daley with field assistance from members of the National Umpiring Committee. The number of participants will be limited to 9, and the cost for the clinic will be \$65.

**Tune Up:** For experienced collegiate umpires who wish to prepare for the upcoming season.

NOTE: Only those umpires who are preregistered by February 1, 2004 will be able to officiate.

<b>Registration Form</b> <b>Charles St. Spring Lacrosse Challenge</b> Deadline February 1, 2004
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ (H)
Phone _____ (W)
Email _____
Please specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Clinic
Are you a National Candidate? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Please enclose a \$65 registration fee payable to US Lacrosse with this form.
<input type="checkbox"/> Tune-up (no fee) <input type="checkbox"/> Please send hotel information.
Specify roommate(s) if desired:
Return completed form and check by February 1, 2004 to: Fran Trumbo 5700 Mineral Hill Rd. Eldersburg, MD 21784

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# PRESEASON PLAY DAYS & UMPIRING CLINICS

## CHESAPEAKE BAY LACROSSE CHALLENGE

Goucher College • Baltimore, Maryland • Sunday, February 22, 2004, 9:00 - 3:00

A Day of Division III College Play

### Field Work:

Sunday, February 23, 2004 - 9:00 - 3:00 at Goucher College (2 fields)

**Questions?** Contact Fran Trumbo at 410-795-4961 or email – dhtrumbo@juno.com

**Tune Up:** For experienced local, district, and national collegiate umpires who wish to prepare for the upcoming season.

NOTE: Only those umpires who are preregistered by February 1, 2004, will be able to officiate.

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**Registration Form**  
**Chesapeake Bay Lacrosse Challenge**  
Deadline February 1, 2004

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (H)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (W)

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify:

List rating

Tune Up (no fee)

I will help evaluate and give feedback as needed.

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Return completed form and check by February 1, 2004 to:

Fran Trumbo  
5700 Mineral Hill Rd.  
Eldersburg, MD 21784

**US Lacrosse**  
113 West University Parkway  
Baltimore, MD 21210-3300

