

# FLAGS & WHISTLES

13 West University Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21210 • 410.235.6882 • www.uslacrosse.org/wdoc

## April 2007 Edition



### Remarks by The Umpiring Chair

by: **Perky Nellissen**

Depending on where you live, your season could be ending or just hitting mid stride. However, no matter what area of the country you live in, the end of May is the Mecca for women's lacrosse. The National Tournament, or NT as it is affectionately called, will be held again at Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA May 26 and 27. District/ National and International umpires are all encouraged to attend, as in the past. This year, however, we are expanding the umpiring pool to include motivated local officials who may want to move to the next level of officiating. The caliber of officials is very high at this tournament, so you would have opportunities to work with the best.



Combine this with watching the pinnacle of college women athletes compete at the final four in Philadelphia,

could make for a crazy lacrosse weekend. Gather your tickets for the NCAA tournament, watch the semi finals on Friday night, make a run for Lehigh about 1 hr away, spend the night and work on Sunday as well, then on the return trip, hit the finals at 7pm. Good thing Monday is a holiday after all this excitement!



Division I Semifinals  
Friday, May 25 - 6 p.m.  
Division I Championship  
Sunday, May 27 - 7 p.m.  
at Franklin Field  
Philadelphia, Pa.

What a wrap up to a great season!

Of course this tournament escorts in summer tournaments on the youth levels and fun club play. Lacrosse is never over, but just continues in different forms and intensity.

Summer and fall are also the time to hone your skills as an umpire. The Inaugural Vail Camp for emerging District umpires or those who want an intense camp experience is right around the corner. Fall ball dates are being solidified during the summer and can offer a valuable learning arena.

Enjoy the rest of your main season! See you cheering for the striped team like mad at the final four.

*Psst: click on the logos to be directed to more information.*

### 2007 WDOC

#### Executive Committee (NUC)

- [Perky Nellissen](#) '07 Chair
- [Jenny Miriam](#) '07 SR 1
- [Peter Hyde](#) '08 SR 2
- [Ericka Leslie](#) '07 SR 3
- [Rena Whitehouse](#) '08 SR 4
- [Laurette Payette](#) '07 SR 5
- [Lynn Beltran](#) '08 SR 6
- [Laura Hebert](#) '07 At Large
- [Patricia Klecha-Porter](#) '08 At Large
- [Bonnye Lang](#) '07 At Large
- [Jeff Secor](#) '08 At Large
- [Kate Sherwood](#) '08 At Large
- [Fran Trumbo](#) '07 At Large

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*Please use the underlined links throughout this newsletter.*

## UMPIRES FOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT



All District, National and International Umpires are invited to officiate at the

### **Women's Division National Tournament**

Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA

May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 2007

US Lacrosse WDOC requires all National and International rated umpires to give service. Umpiring at the National Tournament provides an opportunity for officials to fulfill their National service requirements.

District Umpires are encouraged to attend and would benefit from this experience.



!!! NEW !!! for 2007: experienced Local umpires familiar with the three-person system are also encouraged to officiate games. Local umpires interested must list past experience with the three-person system **OR** be recommended by their Local Board Chair. Other local umpires are invited to assist with table and timer responsibilities and will benefit from watching upper level umpiring.

Not only will you provide a function players have come to expect at NT, but you will also be immersed in a weekend full of high level lacrosse and will meet and possibly work with the best umpires in the country. This is an opportunity that can't be met anywhere else!

Contact your Local Board Chair to register or email National Tournament Umpire Assigner, Debbie Martin at [deborah-martin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deborah-martin@sbcglobal.net)

Deadline to Register is April 30.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

~ Debbie ~

# National Tournament

If you are planning to attend the National Tournament, please find below links to housing and tournament information.

<http://www.uslacrosse.org/events/wdnt/housing07.phtml>

<http://www.uslacrosse.org/events/wdnt/index07.phtml>

## Training Committee Update

There is a new member of the training committee: congratulations to Kate Sherwood on the birth of her son, Deven Reid, on April 5<sup>th</sup>. He weighed 7 lbs, 9 oz. Mamma and baby are both doing well.

The on-line rules test was a success! Many umpires took advantage of the on-line test and found it an easier way to complete that requirement. We are looking to the future and hope to have the apprentice test up and running for next season.

We are busy planning for the Vail District Camp in June. The clinicians have been selected, and all 18 spots for campers have been filled with umpires from around the country. It will be four full days of teaching, learning and working together. Umpires at both the local and district levels will have an opportunity to grow their game and learn from some of the best umpires in the country. All clinicians are current NUC/Training Committee members and come with years of experience and expertise to share. The Training Committee is very excited to make this event a great success and create a model for future camps.

Of course, we are ALWAYS open for ideas and suggestions. If there is something you think the training committee should be working on, let us know and we will certainly look into it for you. Training Committee members are Kate Sherwood (Chair), [Trina Mangano](#) (Temporary Acting Chair), Karen Kandola, and Jim Guffey

## WDIA National Championship—Denver

The US Lacrosse Intercollegiate Associates National Championship showcases the nation's best Women's Division Intercollegiate Associates (WDIA) lacrosse teams at the same venue. It is the only National College Championship is endorsed and managed by US Lacrosse, the National Governing Body of Lacrosse. This premier event will attract and spotlight some of the best and brightest IA lacrosse talent.

The US Lacrosse Women's Division Intercollegiate Associates are comprised of approximately 170 women's college programs around the country. The teams are not varsity programs at the colleges, but follow similar guidelines as varsity programs and compete at a level much more organized than traditional college club programs.

The following umpires have been selected to work this tournament:

Amy Arcuri	Lisa Ellsworth	Claudia O'Grady
Lynn Beltran	Lissa Fickert	Robin Patterson
Don Boyd	Jessica Hardy	Hilary Patterson
Mary Brainard	Tammy Heffron	Cheryl Quinn-MacNeill
Dennis Bremser	Devon Holcomb	Jeff Secor
Jennifer Dorff	Trina Mangano	Kim Wallace
Jennifer Eames	Scot Mehl	



# International Umpiring

## **2007 IFWLA World U-19 Championships (Aug. 4-11, 2007 – Peterborough, ONT Canada)**

The following international umpires will be participating in this summer's 2007 IFWLA World U-19 Championships:

- Rala Heinen – Umpire
- Mara Wager – Umpire
- Susie Ganzenmuller – Head Technical Delegate (IFWLA VP Rules and Umpiring)
- Nancy Coffman – Technical Delegate

Congratulations to everyone on their appointments.



## **Champions Challenge (January 28, 2007 - Orlando, Florida)**

The following international umpires participated in the US Lacrosse Champions Challenge held at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, on January 28, 2007: Lisa Clark, Nancy Coffman, Sandy Goldthorpe, Rala Heinen, Jodi Michna, and Jen O'Donnell. Participating teams were the United States Elite and Development teams, Northwestern University, and the University of Massachusetts.

## **New Umpire Clinic (Spring 2007— Amsterdam, The Netherlands)**

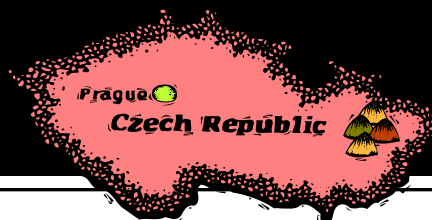
Lauren Charwat, a member of the United States pool of international umpires, recently held a clinic in Amsterdam, the Netherlands for new lacrosse umpires. Approximately 28 individuals from the Netherlands, Germany, France, Sweden, and England attended this clinic which trained new lacrosse umpires.

## **Next Meeting of the International Umpires Committee**

The next meeting of the International Umpires Committee is scheduled to occur at the 2007 Women's Division National Tournament, May 25-27, 2007, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.



## Summer Opportunity in Prague, the Czech Republic !!



### **Prague Cup** Prague, the Czech Republic, July 8 - 15, 2007

Interested in gaining some international experience? Jackie Hufnell, a US International Umpire, is in charge of umpires for this summer's Prague Cup tournament, to be held in Prague, the Czech Republic. An international rating is not required.

Umpires are responsible for their own transportation to Prague. Once there, the tournament will provide:

- a) transportation to and from the airport;
- b) hotel; and
- c) all meals.

Umpires will need to arrive July 8. There will be an umpiring clinic on July 9 and 10. The tournament runs from July 11 - 14. Umpires will depart July 15. The level of play is adult women and international rules are used. If you are interested, please contact Jackie Hufnell at: [JM HuffS@aol.com](mailto:JM HuffS@aol.com).

## WANTED: *Cards, Kilts & Stripes*

**Lauren Charwat**, a US International Umpire who currently resides in Lithuania, is seeking donations of any black and white stripe uniform shirts, black kilts, or field hockey warning cards (International lacrosse uses the green triangle, red circle, yellow square-type cards) which umpires may have and no longer use. The donations are for new lacrosse umpires in countries beginning lacrosse programs in Europe.

We will be collecting any such donations at the National Tournament and will see that all donations get to Lauren for distribution overseas. If you have a donation, please bring it with you to the National Tournament (or give it to someone attending the National Tournament). Uniform donations can be given at the tournament to Sandy Goldthorpe, Chair, International Umpires Committee, or any member of the committee in attendance.





## AMBIVILANCE?

-P.Nellissen

Another game, lets see 13 in a row? My passion for this game is wearing a little thin, but I know temporarily so. Day in and day out, I am seeing the entire spectrum of talent in players and partners; and I just want a day off to get my <fill in the blank> hair cut, teeth cleaned, dog groomed or just to DO NOTHING. Do you feel this way too?

Six weeks into a season that absolutely will not warm up can be the waning point. I find that my judgments are off, "Did I really just call 3 sec on the attack"; "Wait, red/white/red/ closest player...what is it?"; "Stop the clock, no it's HS, run the clock"; my legs feel like they are running through mud; "Could you PLEASE drop the ball so I can catch up."; my uniform smells like the players gloves at the draw; "Under Armour for the 7th day in a row might need some Febreze, at least"; my boyfriend is threatening a boycott:"You'll be gone for dinner or all day Saturday, or Sunday...again?"; and finally I welcome a cancellation even though it means less money at the end of the month.

In all my unmentionable years of umpiring, this syndrome happens almost every season. Some years it's worse than others. Some years I feel like I am spinning like an apprentice. Other years I can keep it in check except from my closest friends...funny though, those parents seem to catch on pretty quickly.

My advice is to recognize that we may all go through a slump. Admit it; realize it's "that time of the season". Focus harder on the mundane, listen to your words and tone in setting up plays, get back to the basics and concentrate, don't let rote umpiring take over. Maybe you can find a breath of fresh air: Feel the game change as you define the boundaries consistently. Find the joy of a youth player as she successfully completes a skill. See a player work really hard and beat a double team. Going back to the reason you umpire helps in this slump period. But also remember that the best medicine is the acknowledgment is you will bounce out of this in a week and possibly right in time for whatever level post-season you will achieve. And, at that time, your partners will be more skilled; you can relax a bit and just enjoy the athleticism and the season-long honed skills of the athletes. It will be fun again, just like the first weeks when you couldn't find enough games to work! You will hardly remember what you called the drudgery of mid-season. And if all of that is not working for you...at least warmer days will be with us. (Unless you live in the Northeast!)



→ DON'T FORGET!

If you are on the *M O V E*, have changed addresses, EMAIL ADDRESSES, phone numbers etc, include your local, region, super region, National ratings chair (if applicable) and USLacrosse Membership in announcements of this to your other friends. We are desperately trying to keep our databases updated. So, to not miss important lacrosse information, **keep your lacrosse contacts updated.**

UPDATE

# Summer Lacrosse Opportunities

Summer is just around the corner and that means summer lacrosse!!



1. Beach Lax Festival; Northside Park Ocean City, Maryland June 8-11

High school and below tournament. Games run 7am-10pm on 5 fields. Some housing provided.

2. National Draw; Cherokee High School; Marlton, New Jersey June 22-24

High school and below tournament. Games run approx. 8-8 daily. 12-14 fields. Some subsidized housing available. **District Rating Tournament.**

3. All Star Express; Love Point Park; Stevensville, Maryland July 12-15

High school and below tournament. Games run approx 8-8 daily. 12-14 fields. Some subsidized housing available. **District Rating Tournament.**

4. Galaxy Championship Tournament; University of Massachusetts; Amherst, MA July 21-22

Galaxy Club teams. High school and below. Times and # of fields to be announced.

**All tournaments are scheduled in a block format. Umpires work a block of time (i.e. 8am-1pm with one or two ½ hour breaks) leaving the rest of the day for you to do as you please. We will schedule any umpire around any time constraints or request (to watch a particular player, to coach, etc.) they may have. Please contact Bonnye and Ali Lang at [tanblang@toad.net](mailto:tanblang@toad.net) for further information.**



## Disney U15 Youth Festival

Friday, June 22 to Sunday, June 24;  
Disney World, Orlando, FL

We are looking for umpires for the U15 tournament to be held at Disney Wide World of Sports; Orlando, FL.

Details: US Lacrosse U15 festival games—Teams from around the country will come to play. It is festival play NOT tournament play. Games will be 25-minute running time halves using “A” level youth rules. No scores will be kept. It is fun, relaxed and family atmosphere.

### Umpire Package Includes:

Game fees: \$30.00 per game/2-4 per day

Housing: Disney hotel w/a roommate

Meals: Catered breakfast and lunch on field Sat/Sun; opening night ceremony Friday in the Braves stadium with dinner provided; water provided on field

Please contact Trina Mangano, [tmand3gs@yahoo.com](mailto:tmand3gs@yahoo.com) with your interest, availability and questions.



## U 13 Youth Festival

June 15-17, 2007

Amherst MA

Details: US Lacrosse U15 festival games. Teams from around the country.

### Umpire Package Includes:

Game fees: \$30.00 per game

Room & Board: Provided

If you are interested in officiating at this fun festival of youth lacrosse, please contact Jane Vigeant:

[CSS02035@yahoo.com](mailto:CSS02035@yahoo.com)

**NEW for NT 2007:** Experienced Local umpires invited to be ON-FIELD at National Tournament.

National Tournament will be held at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA: May 26—27.

Local umpires—consider umpiring (if you are familiar with the 3-person system) or help out by working at the table. The 2007 National Tournament runs the same weekend and is within easy driving distance of the NCAA Division I Championship weekend games. Come to Pennsylvania to see the Championship games, and then come on over to the National Tournament to help out and be a part of the Women’s National Tournament Tradition!



See Page 2 article for more information, or

Contact Debbie Martin, NT Assigner @ [deborah-martin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deborah-martin@sbcglobal.net)

### New Feature for Flags & Whistles:

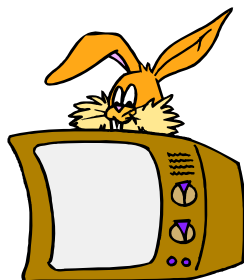
We would like to introduce a new Flags & Whistles interactive feature, “Questions & Suggestions”. Each issue of Flags & Whistles will have a question about some aspect of the intangibles of umpiring. Please send your solution to the question to [Karen Kandola](#), and the best submissions will be used in the next edition of the newsletter.

### April Question for August Publication:

**When you have “a moment” on the field when things went wrong or when you know you’ve made a bad call; what do you do to get back on track to be effective during the rest of the game?**

### CSTV Women’s Lacrosse Televised Game Schedule

Check for game times in your local TV listings or at [CSTV.com](http://CSTV.com)



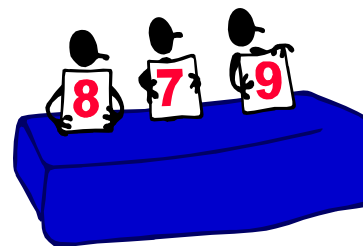
- April 29: Big East Women’s Championship
- May 6: American Lacrosse Conference Championship
- May 6: Atlantic 10 Women’s Championship
- May 1: NCAA DII Women’s Championship
- May 16: US Lacrosse Women’s Division Intercollegiate Associates National Championship
- May 20: NCAA DIII Women’s Championship
- May 27: NCAA DI Women’s Championship

## Attention: ALL District Candidates (new & renewal)

In an effort to standardize district ratings across the country, the NUC is asking for a review of your rating experience. **Please** answer the questions below and mail (snail or e) the information to:

Jenny Miriam; [heyref4@juno.com](mailto:heyref4@juno.com) OR: 35 Clark Street, Florence MA, 01062

The questions are brief, please take the time to provide your input.



### District Playday Evaluation

~ Date and Location of your rating event: \_\_\_\_\_

~ **Were your games in the 2 or 3 person system?** \_\_\_\_\_

~ Were you given feedback after each rating period? \_\_\_\_\_

~ **If yes, was it minimal or comprehensive?** \_\_\_\_\_

~ Were you given feedback at the end of the session? \_\_\_\_\_

~ **If yes, was it minimal or comprehensive?** \_\_\_\_\_

~ On how many rating sessions were you observed? \_\_\_\_\_

~ **By how many raters?** \_\_\_\_\_

~ How and when were you told the outcome of your rating? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

~ **Did you receive any financial compensation for the day?** \_\_\_\_\_

~If yes, how was it classified (i.e. what where you told it was for)? \_\_\_\_\_

~ **Did you feel that the level of play was a good test?** \_\_\_\_\_

~ Any other comments or concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

## APPROVED DISTRICT RATING EVENTS & CLINICS

<b>Super Region I Chair:</b> <a href="#">Jenny Miriam</a>	
October 7	Springfield College; <a href="mailto:Heyref4@juno.com">Heyref4@juno.com</a>
Additional Fall Ball Dates—TBD	Contact Jenny Miriam: <a href="mailto:Heyref4@juno.com">Heyref4@juno.com</a>
<b>Super Region II Chair:</b> <a href="#">Peter Hyde</a>	
June 8 & 9	NYSPHSAA Championship; Contact Cheryl Silverman: <a href="mailto:csilver1@nycap.rr.com">csilver1@nycap.rr.com</a> (Renewal & Invitation Only)
July 6 to 8	Baldwinsville, NY. Contact Sheila Donahue: <a href="mailto:sdonahu7@twcny.r.com">sdonahu7@twcny.r.com</a>
August 10 to 12	Lake Placid, NY; Contact Rick Nelson: <a href="mailto:RWNelson@nycap.rr.com">RWNelson@nycap.rr.com</a>
July 25 to 29	Empire State Games; Contact Cheryl Silverman: <a href="mailto:csilver1@nycap.rr.com">csilver1@nycap.rr.com</a> (Renewal & Invitation Only)
<b>Super Region III Chair:</b> <a href="#">Ericka Leslie</a>	
June	PIAA Championship, Public or Private School, Contact: <a href="#">Sally Laporte</a> (PA Umpires Only)
June 22 to 24	National Draw; Cherokee HS; Marlton, NJ; Contact: Bonnye Lang: <a href="mailto:tandblang@toad.net">tandblang@toad.net</a> AND Paul Gilmore, Ratings Coordinator: <a href="mailto:paultgilmore@hotmail.com">paultgilmore@hotmail.com</a>
June 15-17	All American Girl Showcase; USTC; Downingtown, PA; Contact: Mary Sue Christopher: <a href="mailto:marysue19@comcast.net">marysue19@comcast.net</a> AND Peggy Celluci and Bridget Rothera, Ratings Coordinators @ <a href="mailto:Rothera7@aol.com">Rothera7@aol.com</a>
July 6 & 7	Upper Atlantic Tournament; USTC; Downingtown, PA; Contact Mary Sue Christopher., Assigner: <a href="mailto:mary-sue19@comcast.net">mary-sue19@comcast.net</a> AND Ratings Coordinator, TBA
October 6-7	Fall Classic; USTC; Downingtown, PA, contact TBD United Sports Training Center; Contact: Loretta Pawlowski: <a href="mailto:fepldp112@verizon.net">fepldp112@verizon.net</a>
October	Dickinson Fall Classic, Dickinson College; Carlisle, PA; Contact: <a href="#">Fran Trumbo</a>
<b>Super Region IV Chair:</b> <a href="#">Rena Whitehouse</a>	
July 12-15	All Star Express; Stevensville, MD, Contact: <a href="#">Bonnye Lang</a>
Late September	Limestone College Fallfest; Gaffney, SC; Contact: <a href="#">Rena Whitehouse</a>
Mid-October	George Mason University Fall Playday; Fairfax, VA; Contact: <a href="#">Patti Cleary</a>
<b>Super Region V Chair:</b> <a href="#">Laurette Payette</a>	
May	Minnesota May Play Day (if suitable playing time)
May 19 & 20	Midwest Schoolgirl; Erie, PA; Contact: <a href="#">Elaine Torvinen</a> or <a href="#">Laurette Payette</a>
May	WDIA Championship; CO; <a href="#">Lissa Fickert</a> (District Renewals Only)
<b>Super Region VI Chair:</b> <a href="#">Lynn Beltran</a>	
June 27—July 4	Vail Shootout & Camp; Vail, CO; Contact <a href="#">Jeff Secor</a>

Questions regarding approved District events should be directed to [Jenny Miriam](#)  
*Important forms:* [IN Region Form](#)                      [OUT of Region Form](#)

Be sure you have the proper applications filled out and submitted well before the event!