

FLAGS & WHISTLES

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

www.uslacrosse.com

May 2008

Another Busy Season Finished

By Laurette Payette

WDOC Executive Committee Chair

April is certainly a busy month for all WDOC umpires who are working hard to cover all Youth, Middle School, High School Varsity, High School Junior Varsity, WDIA, PCC, NCAA, and NAIA games, playoffs, and championships. Have you had time to do laundry? Have a sit-down dinner, see a movie, read a book, or take care of a yard? Probably not ... but know that your hard work is appreciated by many players, coaches and fellow umpires. Thank you!

May is championship month...NCAA, State High School Associations, WDIA, and the 75th Annual USL Women's Division National Tournament. I trust that all umpires planning to attend the WDNT at McDonough School in

Owings Mills, MD and St. Paul's School in Brooklandville, MD on Saturday, May 24th through Monday, May 26th have registered on-line....if not, do so ASAP! Anyone interested in the "new" WDNT "District Clinic" on Saturday, May 24th and Sunday, May 25th must register on-line at your earliest convenience —

there are only 12 slots available for clinic participants. The NCAA Division I Championship will be held at Towson University in nearby Towson, MD on Friday, May 23rd at 6 PM and 8:30 PM and Sunday, May 25th at 7 PM.

June is the beginning of preparing for the 2009 lacrosse season by attending camps, clinics, festivals, tournaments, shoot-outs, and other lacrosse events. June is also a great time to reflect on the 2008 season and how you have grown as an umpire and time to tie up loose ends after the busy spring season — write thank you notes, submit evaluations, complete updated Local Board Rosters and Databases, pay invoices, collect outstanding debts, and volunteer for a variety of USL endeavors revolving around "recruiting, training, and retaining" umpires.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the USL Women's Division National Tournament. Please continue to share your ideas, your suggestions, your questions, and **your time**....a very valuable asset.

RULE CHANGES "SUGGESTED or PROPOSED"

USL Rulebook – Page 78
– "Introducing Rule
Changes"

Reminder: The Rules Committee meets once a year to consider and discuss proposed changes to the rules. If you have a suggested or proposed rule change it **must** be made in writing using the "Rule Change Request Form" available from US lacrosse at www.uslacrosse.org and **must** be requested by no later than **June 1st** for consideration at the summer Rules Committee meeting.

**Recruit
Train
Retain**

**Vail Shoot Out Tournament – District Umpire Camp
And District Rating Opportunity
Sat. June 28-Wed. July 2, 2008
Vail, Colorado**

WANTED:

**New and Renewal District Candidates
to improve their skills!!!**

Come to Vail's beautiful mountains for four full days of high-level lacrosse competition. In addition to working games each day, you will receive classroom and on-field training sessions in the three-person umpiring system.

This is a great opportunity to improve your skills with teaching and feedback from National and International rated clinicians.

Camp starts Saturday evening with a classroom session at 6:00 pm and ends on Wednesday after games conclude at 3:00 pm.

Daily feedback will be provided. Take this opportunity to observe and/or work with National umpires.

Cost: \$300.00 **Non-refundable**

Includes: 7-10 hours of classroom and on-field three-person positioning
District Clinic Workbook
Umpiring games in the three-person system with
feedback from clinicians
Box lunch at the field each day
Dinner at the evening classroom sessions
B-B-Q social with coaches, teams and other officials
Water and beverages at the fields
Written evaluation to be sent within two weeks of camp completion
We will arrange condo housing for you-cost for housing is your expense.

Registration opens March 1, 2008 and is based on a first-come, first-served basis. If you wish to attend the Vail Shoot Out District Umpire Camp, please send an email expressing your interest (include your name and email address) to Trina Mangano Balch at tmand3gs@yahoo.com.

**WDOC
Executive Committee
(NUC)**

Laurette Payette
Chair '10
lpayette@roadrunner.com

Laura Hebert
At-Large '09
lbhref@yahoo.com

Kathy Gibbons
SR I '09
kathy_gibbons@verizon.net

Bonnye Lang
At-Large '09
tandblang@verizon.net

Peter Hyde
SR II '08
p798hyde@aol.com

Fran Trumbo
At-Large '09
mtrum4@aol.com

Ericka Leslie
SR III '09
eadheiser@aol.com

Patti Klecha-Porter
At-Large '08
pklechapor@mail.wesleyan.edu

Rena Whitehouse
SR IV '08
renawhitehouse@hotmail.com

Jeff Secor
At-Large '08
jmsecor@earthlink.com

Elaine Torvinen
SR V '09
lovetoref@comcast.net

Patti Cleary
At-Large '10
pattilax@aol.com

Lynn Beltran
SR VI '08
lbeltran@slco.org

Perky Nellissen
Ex-Officio '08
gr8call@cox.net

Vail Clinician Applications Due Now

Vail Clinicians application

District Clinician Applications
for Vail District Camp

Dates: Saturday, June 28th -
Wednesday, July 2nd 2008

Must hold a National rating and
have clinic experience at the
District level.

Duties: Required to hold a
minimum of 2 evening (2-3
Hour) lectures. Power point
experience preferred.

**Responsible for following the
USL provided umpire
curriculum and must teach
toward USL standardized**

objectives. During tournament
must be available for on field
feedback to all candidates.

Conduct debriefings after each
day to entire group. At the
conclusion of camp, within 2
weeks, must complete a final
written evaluation/rating for 3-
4 campers

Stipend per clinician per day
\$125

Reimbursed for airfare up to
\$350.00

Housing covered in condos.

Dates: Arrive on Saturday June
28 for 6:00 pm classroom.

Departure after 1:00 pm on
Wednesday July 2. (2 hours
travel distance from Airport)

Deadline for applying: May
25th

If interested submit a resume/
clinic experience to

tmand3gs@yahoo.com

Women's Division LAX Championship May 24-26

Local, District, National and International Umpires are ALL encouraged to attend the **75th Women's Division National Tournament** (WDNT) in the Baltimore area Memorial Weekend (May 24 - 26, 2008). With approximately 1,400 premier players playing 180 games at two sites - McDonogh School in Owings Mills, Md., and St Paul's School in Brooklandville, Md., - the WDNT is one of the largest women's lacrosse events in the country.

The two sites lend themselves to the opportunity to attend the **NCAA Division I Woman's Lacrosse Championship**. The semifinals are Friday, May 23 at 6 and 8:30 p.m., and the finals are Sunday, May 25 at 7 p.m. at nearby Towson University in Towson, Md.

The US Lacrosse Women's Division Officials Council (WDOC) requires that all National and International rated umpires provide a two-day commitment for their service. Umpiring at the National Tournament provides an opportunity for these officials to fulfill their National service requirement.

District Umpires are highly encouraged to attend and would benefit from this experience. Experienced Local umpires interested in officiating must list past experiences with the three-person system or be recommended by their Local Board Chair.

On-line Registration

When registering, please be prepared to provide your USL Membership number which is located on your address label on Lacrosse Magazine, current Rating, Region and event Availability. Information will be forwarded to our Tournament Assigner of Umpires, Debbie Martin

<https://secure.uslacrosse.org/event/default.cfm?EventUUID=18786CAB-BDBE-7393-45484EC4DEFB1F9>

Housing

For more information log onto USL web site:

<http://www.uslacrosse.org/events/wdnt/housing08.phtml>

***Come
to
BERLIN!***

Dear Umpires,

I'm still looking for some Umpires for this years Berlin Open.

So if you could forward this mail to some Umpires in your country who might be interessted I would be more than happy for your support.

The Umpires should have umpire-experience for at least 3 years and the second rating you have in your country (in Germany it is the "black"-Level, in England it's Level 2 - territorial I guess...

The facts:

The tournament will start on Friday June 20th 2008 9:00am and end on the 22nd around 5pm. (The Prague Cup will be at June 25th-28th).

We will organise your accomodation Thursday till Sunday, pay 5€per game, a max. of 100€as one payment for your travel expenses and 20€ charges per day.

For sure you get free access to all events (welcome-event thursday, players-party friday and The berlinopen-party saturday)

If your're interessted in coming and beeing a part of the best Lacrosse tournament in Europe please get back to referees@berlinopen.de

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I'm really looking forward to seeing you in Berlin 2008!

My Best,

Anika Altenhain

National Candidate Rating Process Reviewed, Revised

The feedback from the 2007 USL Women's Division National Tournament compelled the WDOC Executive Committee to review, evaluate, and revise the rating process for all National candidates. To that end a sub-committee of the WDOC Executive Committee was formed to address the concerns that included the process being vague and subjective, the forms being cumbersome and outdated, the lack of alternate rating sites and/or high level play on which to rate candidates, and the method used to provide feedback and rate candidates. The work of this committee has been driven by the ultimate goal of having an evaluation and rating process that is clearly defined, consistent, and objective in developing and maintaining National Umpires who have a skill set that enables all to officiate the same consistent, fair, safe game of women's lacrosse throughout the United States. This committee has been very busy! All National candidates have or will have seen the following revisions:

- A "revised" manual section describing the National Rating Process.
 - A new "Extenuating Circumstances Form" in the WDOC Umpire Manual that formalizes the process of identifying and communicating issues affecting service requirements and/or the renewing of a rating.
 - A new "Partner WAC" that was used by all National Rating candidates during the season.
 - A new "Rating Session WAC" that will be used by all raters at the USL WD National Tournament.
 - A new "Head Rater System" that will be used at the USL WD National Tournament. Each candidate will have a "Head Rater" who will be the spokesperson during each of the three rating games and will gather all forms and data from the entire rating team (6 raters).
 - A new "Alternative Rating Site" for National renewal candidates. During "fall ball" 2008 we will experiment with using the George Mason Fall Ball event as an alternative to the USL WD National Tournament for National renewal candidates. We'll try it....review it....and possibly expand on the idea.
- A new "National Clinic Application" for the traditional required clinics that have been held at the USTC in October and at Loyola in February for District Umpires aspiring to be National Umpires. The application will require recommendations and will no longer be on a first come, first served basis. Registration will be completed on-line through the USL website. More information to follow.
 - A new "Scoring System" for utilizing both the "Partner WAC's" and the "Rating Session WAC's" in determining ratings. The "Partner WAC's" that were used during in season games will represent 25% of the total for the recommended rating and the "Rating Session WAC's" will represent 75% of the total for the recommended rating. The rating session at the USL WD National Tournament continues to represent the "final exam" with the feedback collected during the season representing a part of the final exam.
 - An "Evaluation Form" will be available for all candidates, raters, and head raters to complete at the USL WD National Tournament. Please take the time to complete this form. We, the WDOC Executive Committee want all of your feedback — "the good, the bad, and the ugly"! Thank you in advance for participating in the process.

BE HEARD!

*Next Flag & Whistles
deadline July 30 for Au-
gust 15, 2008, publication
date.*

*Send submissions to:
ncyooper@gmail.com*

District Rating Opportunities

Super Region II Chair: [Peter Hyde](mailto:p798hyde@aol.com) p798hyde@aol.com

June 7 & 8 NYSPHSAA Championship; Contact Cheryl Silverman: csilver1@nycap.rr.com (Renewal & Invitation Only)

July 11 - 13 Baldwinsville, NY; Contact Sheila Donahue: sdonahu7@twcny.rr.com

July 24 - 27 Empire State Games; Contact Cheryl Silverman: csilver1@nycap.rr.com (Renewal & Invitation Only)

August 8 - 10 Lake Placid, NY; Contact Rick Nelson: RWNelson@nycap.rr.com

TBD NYSWCAA Fall Ball ; Contact Peter Hyde: p798hyde@aol.com

Super Region III Chair: [Ericka Leslie](mailto:eadheiser@aol.com) eadheiser@aol.com

June PIAA Championship, Public or Private School, Contact: Sally Laporte: salaporte11@aol.com (PA Umpires Only)

June 14-15 Lax by the Sea Contact Sue Paige paige190@comcast.net.

June 15-17 All American Girl Showcase; USTC; Downingtown, PA; Contact: Ericka Leslie: eadheiser@aol.com

June 22 to 24 National Draw; Cherokee HS; Marlton, NJ; Contact: Bonnye Lang: tandblang@toad.net

July 6 & 7 Upper Atlantic Tournament; USTC; Downingtown, PA; Contact: Ericka Leslie: eadheiser@aol.com

October Dickinson Fall Classic, Dickinson College; Carlisle, PA; Contact: Fran Trumbo: mtrum4@aol.com

October Fall Classic at Robert Morris University; Contact: Sheri Gigimigliano : ano@questdiagnostics.com

Super Region IV Chair: [Rena Whitehouse](mailto:renawhitehouse@hotmail.com) renawhitehouse@hotmail.com

July 17-20 All Star Express; Stevensville, MD, Contact: Bonnye Lang: tandblang@toad.net

Late September Limestone College FallFest; Gaffney, SC; Contact: [Rena Whitehouse](mailto:renawhitehouse@hotmail.com): renawhitehouse@hotmail.com

Late-October George Mason University Fall Playday; Fairfax, VA; Contact: Patti Cleary: pattilax@aol.com

Super Region V Chair: Elaine Torvinen

Late Sept/Early Oct Kent State Fall Ball Event; Contact: Connie Walton: waltonc@hudson.edu

Super Region VI Chair: [Lynn Beltran Ibeltran](mailto:Lynn Beltran Ibeltran@slco.org) @slco.org

June—July Vail Shootout & Camp; Vail, CO; Contact [Jeff Secor](mailto:jmsecor@earthlink.net): jmsecor@earthlink.net

Rotating events

May WDIA Championship; CO; Lissa Fickert: lfickert@earthlink.net (District Renewals Only)

WDIA Playdays in various Super Regions; Contact: Super Region Chair

Questions regarding approved District events should be directed to Elaine Torvinen. Be sure you have the proper applications filled out well before the event and get them to the appropriate person early enough for them to send them on to their final destination.

Online Testing - A Great Tool

by Elaine Torvinen

Hats off to everyone involved in making this program a reality. It is working wonderfully and is a great tool. LUC's can easily check to see who on their board has taken the test and what score they have earned. You can even get information on what questions were answered incorrectly most often and can plan continuing education sessions around those topics.

There was a large increase in the number of members using the online testing this year as well. Out of approximately 2600 members 1375 have taken the test online.

For myself as the test writer I can see where I need to improve my skills as a test writer as the site shows me which questions are giving people particular problems.

If any questions come up during your season don't hesitate to send them to me at

lovetoref@comcast.net.

New National Clinic Attendance Rules

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

National Clinic Attendees must have a recommendation letter from two of the following:

- *College Assignor
- *National Umpire
- *Board Chair

In addition the attendee must also submit previous season's schedule.

Summer + Clinic = FUN!

Generally summer is a great time to offer umpire clinics. College umpires are available to train and the kids are ready to run. USLacrosse co-sponsors trainings at all levels, and shares the costs. If you have a date where lacrosse will be played and want veteran umpires to come in and train your group contact Jenny Miriam at heyref4@juno.com.

“The World Cup is Coming, The World Cup is Coming”

As the Women's World Cup team prepares for the 2009 World Cup you can support the US Teams program when you purchase an exclusive USLACROSSE fundraising shirt! All proceeds from sales go directly to the teams. A lacrosse flag logo is front and center on this t-shirt made of 90% cotton and 10% polyester. USL and deBeer logos are on the left arm. These fundraising t-shirts will be on sale at the USLACROSSE vending tent at the National Tournament over Memorial Day weekend.

The Local Resource Committee needs your help by including your 'best practices' into the resource binder for new local boards.

We recognize there are many excellent tools that have been developed out of necessity to help your board run smoother. Those tried and true tools are exactly what we need to include in this binder. Please send your documents to Jen Dorff (craiger14@yahoo.com). We are confident you will help us to develop a comprehensive tool for new local umpiring chairs.