



Westside Lacrosse Code of Conduct

Westside Lacrosse requires all players and parents to sign and abide by a "Code of Conduct" that embodies basic common sense principles, demonstrates excellent sportsmanship, consideration of others, and projects a positive image to our young athletes.

Any Westside Lacrosse players or family members that fail to abide by this code will be subject to appropriate measures, including loss of playing time, suspension and removal from the team. Thank you for your help in promoting these principles.

The Code of Conduct

Players, team officials, coaches, spectators and parents are to conduct themselves in a manner that "Honors the Game" and demonstrates respect to other players, coaches, officials and spectators. In becoming a member of the lacrosse community an individual assumes certain obligations and responsibilities to the game of lacrosse and its participants. The essential elements in this "Code of Conduct" are SPORTSMANSHIP, HONESTY and INTEGRITY. Those who conduct themselves in a manner that reflects these elements will bring credit to the sport of lacrosse, themselves, and Westside Lacrosse.

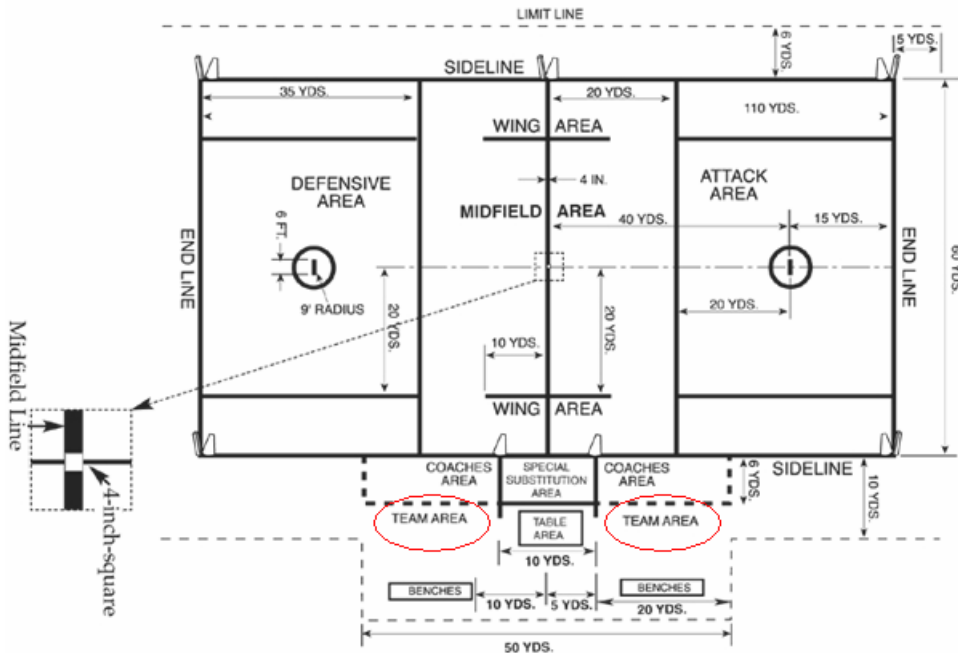
Westside Lacrosse supports the following behaviors, developed and distributed by US Lacrosse, for those participating or involved in any way with the Westside organization and youth lacrosse in general:

- Sportsmanship and teaching the concepts of fair play are essential to the game, and must be taught and developed both at home and on the field during practices and games.
- The emphasis on winning should never be placed above the value of good sportsmanship, the concepts of fair play, or the skills of the game.
- Derogatory comments are unacceptable. Use positive reinforcement with players and adults alike. It should be remembered that criticism, once made, can never be retracted.
- The safety and welfare of the players are of primary importance.
- Coaches must always be aware of the tremendous influence they have on their players. They are to strive to be positive role models in dealing with young people, as well as with adults.

- Adults involved with the game must never permit anyone to openly or maliciously criticize, badger, harass, or threaten an official.
- Knowledge of the Rules of Lacrosse must be respected and adhered to by all who participate in the game of lacrosse, both in the letter and the spirit of the game. Attempts to manipulate rules in an effort to take unfair advantage of an opponent, or to teach deliberate unsportsmanlike conduct, is considered unacceptable conduct.
- Eligibility requirements, such as age and previous level of participation, must be followed. They have been established to encourage and maximize participation, as well as promote safety.

These general elements inform the following specific guidelines for Westside Lacrosse players:

- No player is permitted to question an official during a game or otherwise protest an official's ruling. When the official makes a call on the field, the affected player is to sprint off the field to the Special Substitution Area to serve the technical or personal foul. If a player believes that there is an issue related to officiating, he should professionally communicate their concern to the coaching staff, and the coaching staff will decide the best course of action.
- No player is permitted to talk to an opposing player during a game. If an opposing player talks trash or otherwise tries to distract a Westside player, they are to be ignored. There is no value to Westside players having conversations with opponents during a game. If opponents use profanity or insulting language, the Westside player should inform the coaching staff.
- The captains for a particular game will be our ambassadors to the other team. When instructed, the captains will greet the coaching staff of a visiting team by thanking them for coming to LCCC and wishing them well. This should be accompanied by an encouraging greeting to any nearby players, such as: "Good luck!"
- At the end of the game when handshakes are exchanged with the opposing team, Westside players are to be courteous and genuine with their comments as they bump fists or shake hands moving through the line. If an opposing player is rude, they are to be ignored and move on to the next player.
- Professional behavior on the sidelines will be required. A rule against talking to any officials or opponents on the field applies here and is extended to include loud protests. Teammates are expected to encourage players on the field and remain in the proper position on the sidelines, which is circled in red for reference in the field diagram below.



- Westside players are to interact with the Substitution Coach on substitution, timing, entering and leaving the field of play, etc. This does not include complaining about playing time.
- No Westside player is permitted to be critical of a teammate.
- Crude, lewd, profane or otherwise inappropriate language is not permitted during practices or games.

For minor infractions, the most common consequence to violations of the Westside Code of Conduct will be loss of playing time. Parents will not be specifically informed of all such minor infractions, but the coaches will always be available to provide clarification if necessary.

The purpose of the Westside Lacrosse Code of Conduct is to build character, encourage excellent sportsmanship, promote teambuilding, and make the Westside Lacrosse organization an outstanding example in the region. No Code can fully describe all behavior that is representative of what is best in sports; instead, we rely on one another's good judgment to uphold a high standard of integrity for ourselves and our organization. We appreciate your commitment to making Westside Lacrosse the best it can be.

 Westside Lacrosse Player Date Westside Lacrosse Parent Date

Westside Lacrosse acknowledges the contribution of US Lacrosse to the Code of Conduct detailed above.
<http://files.leagueathletics.com/Text/Documents/2464/15480.doc>