

North of England Men's Lacrosse Association

CONSTITUTION

A. Name

The Association shall be called the 'North of England Men's Lacrosse Association', hereinafter referred to as 'NEMLA' or the 'Association'.

B. Aims and Objects

The organisation of lacrosse competitions on behalf of its members in accordance with their wishes as agreed from time to time at General Meetings.

C. Structure

1. NEMLA shall operate under the Constitution and Bye Laws of the English Lacrosse Association, hereinafter referred to as the 'ELA'.
2. The geographical limits for membership of NEMLA shall be defined as the area of England north of an imaginary line drawn from east to west running through Rugby, or as otherwise defined by the ELA.
3. A committee, hereinafter referred to as 'the NEMLA Management Committee' or the 'Committee' shall on behalf of NEMLA be responsible for the administration of the sport in its area.
4. The operation of the Committee shall be governed by its own Bye Laws.
5. Any club in the North of England willing to conform to the NEMLA Constitution shall be eligible for membership of NEMLA, and must be elected by a majority of at least two-thirds of those present and voting at any meeting of the Committee.

D. Administration of Meetings

1. All meetings shall be convened by the General Secretary of the Committee.
2. A minimum of twenty-one days' written notice of all General Meetings shall be given to clubs and to members of the Committee, together with an agenda and appropriate details of the business to be transacted.
3. The Chairman of a General Meeting shall be the current Chairman of the Committee unless otherwise agreed by the Meeting.
4. Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded by the General Secretary of the Committee, and made available to the ELA upon request.

E. Annual General Meeting

1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held as soon as is practicable after the close of each season, and in any case within two months thereof.
2. The Committee and any of its constituent sub-committees shall present reports to the members of their activities since the previous Annual General Meeting.

F. Special General Meeting

1. A Special General Meeting shall be convened at any time on receipt by the General Secretary of the Committee of notice of alteration to, rescission of, or addition to any part of this Constitution, Bye Laws of the Committee or Rule of any competition.
2. Such notice must be signed by the Chairmen or Secretaries of not less than four clubs, or by three members of the Committee.

G. Attendance at Meetings

1. A maximum of three representatives from each club shall be entitled to attend General Meetings.
2. The members of the Committee shall be entitled to attend General Meetings.
3. It shall be mandatory for all clubs to send a minimum of one representative to any meeting of the Association.
4. The Committee may, at its discretion, grant dispensation to any club from the requirement of G 3 above.

H. Propositions at General Meetings

1. No proposition shall be considered unless twenty-one days' written notice thereof has been given in the manner prescribed under D 2 above.
2. Propositions may not be amended except for reasons of clarity or accuracy.
3. The Committee may formulate and submit propositions for consideration.
4. Propositions from member clubs which are to be considered at an Annual General Meeting must be submitted to the General Secretary of the Committee, and signed by the Chairmen or Secretaries of not less than two clubs.
5. A proposition to rescind a resolution which has been passed at any General Meeting within the preceding twelve months, or a proposition to the same effect as one which has been negated at any General Meeting within the preceding twelve months shall not be in order unless notice in writing thereof shall have been received by the General Secretary of the Committee, signed by the Chairmen or Secretaries of not less than fifteen clubs, or by nine members of the Committee. When such a proposition has been disposed of, a similar proposition may not be considered within a further period of twelve months.

I. Voting at General Meetings

1. A quorum shall consist of representatives from not less than one-third of the clubs in the Association.
2. Each club shall have a single vote on each proposition.
3. The members of the Committee shall not be entitled to vote unless acting as club representatives.
4. The Committee may, at its discretion, permit postal voting by any club.
5. No part of this Constitution, Bye Laws of the Committee, or Rule of any competition shall be altered, rescinded, or added to without the consent of two-thirds of those voting.
6. All propositions other than those described in I 5 above shall not be passed without the consent of the majority of those voting

North of England Men's Lacrosse Association

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - BYE LAWS

A. Objects

1. The organisation and administration of competitions within its remit.
2. The settlement of disputes between clubs arising from competitions, on the appeal of either party, excluding disputes of a financial nature.

B. Composition

1. The Committee shall consist of up to twelve persons, to serve as follows:
 - a) General Secretary; Fixtures' Secretary; Under 19 Fixtures' Organiser, all to be elected at each NEMLA Annual General Meeting.
 - b) A minimum of three, and a maximum of six, persons to hold non-specific positions, all to be elected at each NEMLA Annual General Meeting.
 - c) One person to be appointed by each of the following Associations at their respective Annual General Meetings: Cheshire County Lacrosse Association, Lancashire County Lacrosse Association and Yorkshire County Lacrosse Association.
2. The Committee may co-opt persons whom it considers to be specially suited to serve, for any purpose.
3. Each sub-committee may annually appoint one person from its members to serve on the Committee.

C. Operation

1. The Committee shall operate under the NEMLA Constitution.
2. The Committee shall be the controlling authority within its remit.
3. The Committee shall meet at least once in each month of the season.
4. All persons on the Committee shall have equal voting rights on decisions made by the Committee.
5. A quorum at each Committee meeting shall consist of five persons eligible to vote.
6. The Committee shall annually elect its own Chairman, plus persons as required to serve on the MPC.
7. Minutes of all Committee meetings shall be recorded by the General Secretary.

D. Sub-committees

1. The Committee may, at its discretion, create sub-committees for any purpose.
2. A Disciplinary sub-committee shall deal with all aspects of disciplinary matters in accordance with its published procedures and any relevant competition Rules.
3. The Territorial Associations shall at their Annual General Meetings appoint representatives to serve on the Disciplinary sub-committee on the following basis: Cheshire County Lacrosse Association, two; Lancashire County Lacrosse Association, two; Yorkshire County Lacrosse Association, one, and shall notify the names of such persons to the General Secretary of the Committee as soon as possible.

4. No current player shall serve on the Disciplinary sub-committee.
5. A quorum at each Disciplinary sub-committee meeting shall consist of three persons.
6. All sub-committees shall annually elect their own Chairmen and Secretaries.
7. Sub-committees may co-opt persons whom they consider to be specially suited for their purpose.
8. All persons on sub-committees (including co-opted persons) shall have equal voting rights within their relevant sub-committees.
9. Minutes of all sub-committee meetings shall be recorded by their respective Secretaries and made available to the Committee upon request.

E. Transfers

1. Players wishing to transfer between clubs are free to do so.
2. Official NEMLA transfer forms must be completed by the Chairmen or Secretaries of both clubs involved.
3. The transfer form must be completed satisfactorily and unconditionally, and must be in the possession of the General Secretary of the Committee before the player is eligible to play for his new club.
4. The General Secretary of the Committee shall confirm in writing the authorisation of the transfer to the Secretaries of both clubs involved.

F. Protests/Complaints

1. All protests or complaints must be made in writing, and received by the General Secretary of the Committee within eleven days of the match concerned.
2. A deposit of £10 (payable to 'NEMLA') must accompany all protests or complaints, and this deposit shall be dealt with by the Committee at its discretion.

G. Negligence

1. Any club which in the opinion of the Committee fails through negligence of its officers to attend to official correspondence or responsibilities shall be subject to such disciplinary action as the Committee deems appropriate.

H. General

1. Each club shall at the commencement of every season be provided by the General Secretary of the Committee with a copy of the following:
 - a) The NEMLA Constitution;
 - b) The Management Committee Bye Laws;
 - c) The Senior League Championship Rules;
 - d) The Rules of Flags and Cup Competitions;
 - e) The Disciplinary sub-committee Procedures;
 - f) The Disciplinary Appeals Procedure.

North of England Men's Lacrosse Association

SENIOR LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

A. Organisation

1. The Competition shall be called the North of England Men's Lacrosse Association (hereinafter referred to as NEMLA) Senior League Championship, and shall be limited to clubs, members of NEMLA.
2. Before 1st June in each year, all clubs wishing to compete shall give notice in writing to the Management Committee Fixtures' Secretary, with appropriate details.
3. Each season shall commence no later than the first Saturday in October.
4. English Lacrosse Association (hereinafter referred to as the ELA) Rule 31.3 shall apply to all games.
5. A win shall score two points, and a draw one point.
6. The teams which have scored the highest number of points shall hold the Championship of their respective divisions.
7. The Fixtures' Secretary shall maintain complete league tables for all teams.
8. If a match is not played, one team having conceded the match due to reasonable circumstances, its opponents shall be awarded two points as if it had won the game, and the records shall show the result of the match as one goal scored by the winners, none by the losers.
9. If a match is not played, for reasons which the Management Committee consider inadequate or unreasonable, the Management Committee may deduct or allocate points at its discretion.
10. In the event of an official non-league match (i.e. a match subject to the Flags and Cup Competition Rules) not being played, for reasons which the Management Committee consider inadequate or unreasonable, the Management Committee may deduct not more than two points from the teams' league total.
11. If a match is played, subsequent to which the management committee upholds a protest or claim for points made by the losing team, the record shall show the result of the match as one goal scored by the team whose protest or claim is upheld (being declared the winners), none by the losers and the points for the match awarded to the winners.
12. A trophy for each division shall be provided by the ELA, and the winning team shall have its name inscribed thereon. The team shall be entitled to hold it until the first day of April in the following season, after which date it must be delivered to the General Secretary of the Management Committee upon request. The holders shall in each case be held responsible for its safe custody and preservation.

B. Promotion/Relegation

1. At the close of each season the top two teams of each division shall be promoted to the next higher division, circumstances permitting.
2. At the close of each season the bottom two teams of each division shall be relegated to the next lower division, circumstances permitting.

3. No two teams of the same club shall, by virtue of promotion or relegation, be included in any division, with the exception of the lowest division.
4. When only one team is eligible for promotion, it shall change places with the bottom team in the next higher division, but when no team so qualifies, the next highest eligible team shall play the lowest team in the next higher division, and the winner of this play-off shall be the team to play in the next higher division the following season.
5. Should two or more teams be equal in points in any division at the end of the league programme, the placings for the Championship promotion or relegation will be determined by the season's records of the specific matches between the teams in question, i.e. if two teams have equal points, the records of two games will be examined; if three teams have equal points, the records of six games will be examined.

The relevant match records will be reviewed as follows, stopping as soon as a team establishes an advantage over the other team(s) involved in the tie: best goal difference; highest number of away goals scored; highest number of home goals scored; lesser number of away goals conceded; lesser number of home goals conceded.

If all the above options have been exhausted and the teams involved are still equal, the process will be repeated using the entire divisional programme.

Notes.

- a) Matches conceded will not be taken into account. If a team has conceded one or more of the matches in question, the respective opposition will be awarded the higher placing.
- b) If any team in contention for the 1st or 2nd place in any division is unable to be promoted by virtue of a team from the same club being in the immediately higher division, the team(s) with the opportunity of promotion will be placed in the higher division for the following season.
- c) If the tie is for the first place, the current seasonal championship will be determined using the above sequence.

C. Bona-fide Status of Players

1. All players must, in the opinion of the Management Committee, be bona-fide playing members of the competing teams. If players are determined by the Management Committee to be non bona-fide, not more than two points may be deducted from the defaulting team's total and, whatever the result of the match, the opposing team shall be awarded the points for the game. The score for the match shall be recorded as if the match had been conceded by the defaulting team.

D. Referees

1. It shall be mandatory for each home team in all divisions to provide one referee.

E. Expulsions

1. Any player being given an expulsion foul by a Basic Award referee (or higher) shall be automatically suspended from playing in the next three consecutive matches in which he would otherwise play (defined as League matches, Flags and Cup Competition matches, Under 19 League matches, Under 19 Cup and Shield Competition matches, or any combination thereof).
2. The referee concerned shall notify the Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee in writing with details of the match, the player expelled, his club and the offence.
3. In all cases following expulsions in circumstances which a referee may consider to be best dealt with by the Disciplinary sub-committee he shall submit a written report to the Secretary of the sub-committee, which shall then be dealt with by that sub-committee.

4. In the case of an expulsion foul given by a referee below the Basic Award level, the referee concerned shall submit a written report to the Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee, which shall then be dealt with by that sub-committee.
5. The Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee shall confirm in writing the suspension to the Secretary of the player's club.
6. The Secretary of the player's club shall confirm in writing to the Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee the completion of the suspension as soon as possible, detailing the matches missed.

F. General

1. No-one under sixteen years of age shall be allowed to play in matches.
2. When a club, for whatever reason, is unable to fulfil all its fixtures on the officially appointed date, preference must be given to the completion of its scheduled matches with priority given to Flags and Cup Competition matches, thereafter in order of seniority of its teams.
3. No fixture shall be postponed on account of a participating team having one or two players engaged in an International, Territorial or other representative game.
4. Clubs shall notify results of all matches to the Fixtures' Secretary within three days of a match being played.
5. Clubs shall record the names of all players selected and played for all teams, and shall make such records available to the Management Committee upon request.
6. When a senior team has no fixture, clubs shall select such a notional team, and the details shall be entered in the club's records.
7. No team shall be numerically stronger on a particular day than any of its club's more senior teams, with the exception that up to fifteen players may play on the lowest registered team of a club in any division, provided that all its club's higher teams field thirteen players. Such a team may play more than fifteen players, provided the opponents' agreement has been obtained prior to the start of the game, and the referee informed.

North of England Men's Lacrosse Association

RULES OF FLAGS AND CUP COMPETITIONS

A. Organisation

1. The competitions shall be as follows:
 - a) Senior Flags – to be contested by all teams in the League, Premier division.
 - b) Junior Flags – to be contested by all teams in the League, Second division.
 - c) Stockport Cup – to be contested by all teams in the League, Third division.
 - d) David Beesley Cup – to be contested by all teams in the League, Fourth division.
 - e) Nigel Wayne Trophy – to be contested by all teams in the League, Fifth division.
2. The initial rounds and semi-finals of each competition shall be established by the Management Committee by means of a draw, and each competition shall proceed on a knockout basis, culminating in a Final.
3. The competing teams shall be drawn in pairs, the first drawn team in each case being the home team.
4. For the Senior Flags draw, the teams which occupied the top four positions in the Premier division at the close of the previous season shall be seeded.
5. The Final of each competition shall be played on a neutral ground, unless otherwise agreed by the Management Committee.
6. A trophy for each competition shall be provided, and the winning team shall have its name inscribed thereon. The team shall be entitled to hold it until seven days prior to the Final in the following season, when it must be delivered to the General Secretary of the Management Committee upon request. The holders shall in each case be held responsible for its safe custody and preservation.

B. Bona-fide Status of Players

1. All players must, in the opinion of the Management Committee, be bona-fide playing members of the competing teams. If players are determined by the Management Committee to be non bona-fide, their team(s) shall be liable to be expelled from the competition and their opponents shall be awarded the match. In the case of both teams in any match fielding non bona-fide players, the match shall be declared nul and void, both teams shall be liable to be expelled from the competition, and the Management Committee shall award a bye to the team which the winner of the match would have played in the next round, if appropriate. In the case of both teams in a Final fielding non bona-fide players, the match shall be declared nul and void, both teams shall be liable to be expelled from the competition, and the losing teams from the semi-finals shall play for the relevant trophy.
2. Players must not have played for any other club in any of the previous rounds of a competition.
3. Players must not have played in a match in any higher competition in the current season.
4. Players must have played in a minimum of three League matches prior to the preliminary rounds of a competition, and six matches prior to the Final, for the relevant or a lower team in the current season.
5. Dispensation from Rules B 2, B 3 and B 4 above may be granted by the Management Committee, subject to applications in writing being received by the General Secretary of the Management Committee a minimum of ten days prior to any match.

C. Referees

1. It shall be mandatory for each home team in all competitions to provide one referee, except where two panel referees are available.

D. Expulsions

1. Any player being given an expulsion foul by a Basic Award referee (or higher) shall be automatically suspended from playing in the next three consecutive matches in which he would otherwise play (defined as League matches, Flags and Cup Competition matches, Under 19 League matches, Under 19 Cup and Shield Competition matches, or any combination thereof).
2. The referee concerned shall notify the Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee in writing with details of the match, the player expelled, his club and the offence.
3. In all cases following expulsions in circumstances which a referee may consider to be best dealt with by the Disciplinary sub-committee he shall submit a written report to the Secretary of the sub-committee, which shall then be dealt with by that sub-committee.
4. In the case of an expulsion foul given by a referee below the Basic Award level, the referee concerned shall submit a written report to the Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee, which shall then be dealt with by that sub-committee.
5. The Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee shall confirm in writing the suspension to the Secretary of the player's club.
6. The Secretary of the player's club shall confirm in writing to the Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee the completion of the suspension as soon as possible, detailing the matches missed.

E. General

1. No-one under sixteen years of age shall be allowed to play in matches.
2. When a club, for whatever reason, is unable to fulfil all its fixtures on the officially appointed date, preference must be given to the completion of its scheduled matches, thereafter in order of seniority of its teams.
3. No fixture shall be postponed on account of a participating team having one or two players engaged in an International, Territorial or other representative game.
4. Clubs shall notify results of all matches to the Fixtures' Secretary within three days of a match being played.
5. Clubs shall record the names of all players selected and played for all teams, and shall make such records available to the Management Committee upon request.
6. Teams involved in a Final shall be granted dispensation from playing in League matches on the day immediately prior to the Final.
7. No team shall be numerically stronger on a particular day than any of its club's more senior teams.
8. No team may have more than three substitutes.

North of England Men's Lacrosse Association

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE : DISCIPLINARY SUB-COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

Remit

1. The sub-committee shall deal with the following:
 - a) written reports submitted by referees consequent to their giving expulsion fouls (see Rule 77.4 of the Rules of Men's Field Lacrosse, Rules E 1 to E 6 of the Senior League Championship Rules and Rules D 1 to D 6 of the Rules of Flags and Cup Competitions),
 - b) written reports submitted by referees alleging the bringing of the game into disrepute by clubs at specific matches in which they officiated,
 - c) cases referred to it by the Management Committee, based on concerns of bringing the game into disrepute.
2. The sub-committee may, at its discretion, refer cases to the Management Committee for adjudication.

Hearings

1. In the case of expulsion fouls given in accordance with Rule E 1 of the Senior League Championship Rules, or Rule D 1 of the Rules of Flags and Cup Competitions, no hearing shall take place unless circumstances described in Rules E 3 or D 3 respectively apply, or the player claims 'mistaken identity'.
2. In all other cases a hearing may be required by the sub-committee.
3. All cases will be dealt with as soon as possible, and due consideration given to all information provided to the sub-committee.
4. The Secretary of the sub-committee shall contact the reported player and his club secretary, notifying them of the nature of the complaint, and the date, time and venue of the hearing, and shall immediately confirm these in writing. The secretary of any other club concerned shall also be notified in writing.
5. In the case of clubs being reported, the Secretary of the sub-committee shall contact their secretaries, notifying them of the nature of the complaint, and the date, time and venue of the hearing, and shall immediately confirm these in writing.
6. The sub-committee may request written submissions from other parties prior to a hearing if considered appropriate.
7. Written evidence from witnesses may be accepted by the sub-committee at its discretion, prior to a hearing.
8. The Secretary of the sub-committee shall provide all sub-committee members with copies of all reports and other relevant information prior to the commencement of a hearing.
9. There must be no approach, either prior to hearings or afterwards, or attempt by any person to influence the members of the sub-committee or any other person involved. Any such approach or attempt may result in any such persons concerned being referred to the Management Committee for disciplinary action.
10. A fee of £15 (payable to 'NEMLA') will be charged to the club of any reported player, or in the case of a club being reported, to that club. Such payment must be received by the sub-committee prior to the commencement of the hearing, and shall be dealt with at the sub-committee's discretion. A receipt shall be provided to the club.

Attendance at Hearings

1. In the case of a reported player, the following shall be required to attend:
 - a) the reported player,
 - b) the Secretary of his club,
 - c) the Captain of his team,
 - d) the referee, and any other match official concerned,
 - e) witnesses from the teams concerned.

The Presidents or Chairmen of the relevant clubs may also attend.

2. Should the reported player fail to attend except for reasons of illness or being away from home, the case will be heard in his absence, any penalty imposed on the player will be valid, and he may be required to attend a subsequent meeting of the sub-committee to explain his absence.
3. Should any of the other persons required to attend under 1 above fail to do so, the sub-committee shall, at its discretion, decide whether to proceed.
4. In the case of a reported club, the following shall be required to attend:
 - a) the President or Chairman of the club concerned,
 - b) the Secretary of the club concerned,
 - c) the Captain of the team concerned,
 - d) the referee and any other match official concerned,
 - e) witnesses from the teams concerned,
 - f) other witnesses as appropriate.
5. Any reported player or club shall have the right to bring to the hearing a person of their choosing to act as their adviser. Such adviser shall be present whilst evidence is submitted, but shall not participate in the proceedings except to advise the player or club concerned.

Conduct of Hearings

1. During the following sequence there must be no reference to any past disciplinary record of the player or club whose conduct is the subject of the hearing.
2. Where a referee's report is available, a copy of it shall be provided to the reported player, and/or to the relevant club secretary.
3. Where a referee's report is available it shall be read to the meeting.
4. Any additional evidence from witnesses shall be given.
5. The reported player or club will have the opportunity of questioning the evidence provided.
6. The reported player or club will have the opportunity of presenting their own evidence.
7. The referee will have the opportunity of questioning the evidence provided by the reported player or club.
8. Any additional written submissions, e.g. from persons with specialist knowledge, will be presented.
9. The reported player or club will be given the opportunity of a concluding statement regarding the original report and the evidence submitted.
10. The referee will be given the opportunity of a concluding statement regarding the original report and the evidence submitted.
11. All persons other than the sub-committee members shall withdraw, and the sub-committee shall consider the evidence, and reach a verdict.

12. If the sub-committee determines the player or club to be guilty of bringing the game into disrepute, their past disciplinary record may be taken into account in the determination of the penalty.
13. The player or club shall be immediately informed of the decision and any penalty, and the Secretary of the sub-committee shall confirm these in writing to the player and/or club secretary involved within 7 days of the hearing, together with the right and nature of appeal.

Penalties

1. All penalties imposed by the sub-committee shall take immediate effect.
2. Suspensions of players for a specified number of matches are carried out on the basis of consecutive matches in which the player would otherwise play, (defined as Senior League matches, Flags and Cup Competition matches, Under 19 League matches, Under 19 Cup and Shield matches, or any combination thereof).
3. The sub-committee shall have the authority to suspend a player for whatever period of time it deems appropriate.
4. During the period of enforcement of a suspension, the player is also disqualified from playing in any other officially approved game of lacrosse.
5. The sub-committee shall have the authority to impose fines on clubs which it determines to be guilty of bringing the game into disrepute.
6. All fines must be made payable to 'NEMLA', and must be received by the Secretary of the sub-committee within any stated time scale.
7. The sub-committee shall have the authority to deduct a maximum of two points from any team which it determines to be guilty of bringing the game into disrepute.
8. The sub-committee shall not have the authority to deduct points from any team other than the team involved in bringing the game into disrepute.
9. The sub-committee shall have the authority to impose a penalty on a club, the duration of which shall be whatever period of time it deems appropriate.
10. Reprimands and warnings as to future conduct shall be expunged from the record immediately after two years from the date of the hearing.

Expulsion Fouls – Mistaken Identity

1. In the case of a player claiming 'mistaken identity' after being given an expulsion foul, the player concerned shall write immediately to the Secretary of the sub-committee, stating his claim.
2. The Secretary shall convene a hearing, and the procedures and conduct thereof shall be as described above, as appropriate.
3. On receipt of the claim, the automatic three match suspension prescribed under Rule E 1 of the Senior League Championship Rules (if applicable), or under Rule D 1 of the Rules of Flags and Cup Competitions (if applicable) shall be immediately abrogated.

General

1. Except as described above, the sub-committee shall under no circumstances enter into correspondence or discussions with clubs or individuals.

North of England Men's Lacrosse Association

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE : DISCIPLINARY APPEALS PROCEDURE

Remit

1. An Appeals Panel shall consider an appeal from a player or club which has been subject to a disciplinary penalty imposed by the Disciplinary sub-committee.

Composition of the Appeals Panel

1. The Panel shall consist of a maximum number of five members of the Management Committee, none of whom has been involved in the sub-committee hearing.
2. A quorum shall consist of three Panel members.
3. The Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee shall attend the appeal's hearing and maintain a record of the proceedings, but shall not otherwise participate, except as described below.

Lodging an Appeal

1. An appellant must lodge his appeal in writing with the Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee within seven days of receiving the written confirmation of the sub-committee's decision, stating the grounds for the appeal.
2. In the case of a player, his appeal must be accompanied by written support from his club President, Chairman or Secretary.
3. The appeal must be accompanied by a cheque for £25 (payable to 'NEMLA'), which will be returned to the appellant should the appeal be upheld.

Original Penalty

1. On receipt of the appeal, the penalty shall be immediately abrogated.

Hearings

1. All cases will be dealt with as soon as possible, and due consideration given to all information provided to the Panel.
2. The Secretary of the sub-committee shall convene the hearing, notifying the appellant and/or the relevant club secretaries of the date, time and venue.
3. The Panel may request written submissions from other parties prior to the hearing if considered appropriate.
4. Written evidence from witnesses may be accepted by the Panel at its discretion prior to the hearing.
5. The Secretary of the sub-committee shall provide all Panel members with copies of all reports and other relevant information prior to the commencement of the hearing.
6. There must be no approach, either prior to hearings or afterwards, or attempt by any person to influence the members of the Panel or any other person involved. Any such approach or attempt may result in any such persons concerned being referred to the Management Committee for disciplinary action.

Attendance at Hearings

1. In the case of a player appellant, the following shall be required to attend:
 - a) the player,
 - b) the Secretary of his club,
 - c) the Captain of his team,
 - d) the referee, and any other match official concerned,
 - e) witnesses from the teams concerned.

The Presidents or Chairmen of the relevant clubs may also attend.

2. Should the player fail to attend, except for reasons of illness or being away from home, the case will be heard in his absence, any penalty imposed on the player will be valid, and he may be required to attend a subsequent meeting of the Management Committee to explain his absence.
3. Should any of the other persons required to attend under 1 above fail to do so, the Panel shall, at its discretion, decide whether to proceed.
4. In the case of a club appellant, the following shall be required to attend:
 - a) the President or Chairman of the club concerned,
 - b) the Secretary of the club concerned,
 - c) the Captain of the team concerned,
 - d) the referee, and any other match official concerned,
 - e) witnesses from the teams concerned,
 - f) other witnesses as appropriate.
5. Any appellant player or club shall have the right to bring to the hearing a person of their choosing to act as their adviser. Such adviser shall be present whilst evidence is submitted, but shall not participate in the proceedings except to advise the player or club concerned.

Conduct of Hearings

1. During the following sequence there must be no reference to any past disciplinary record of the appellant.
2. Where a referee's report is available it shall be read to the meeting.
3. The Secretary of the Disciplinary sub-committee shall report details of the sub-committee hearing.
4. The appellant will have the opportunity of presenting their case.
5. Any additional evidence from witnesses shall be given.
6. The referee and any other match officials will have the opportunity of presenting their case.
7. Any additional written submissions, e.g. from persons with specialist knowledge, will be presented.
8. All persons other than the Panel members shall withdraw, and the Panel shall consider the evidence and reach a verdict.
9. If the Panel determines the appellant to be guilty of bringing the game into disrepute, their past disciplinary record may be taken into account in the determination of the penalty.
10. The appellant shall be immediately informed of the decision and any penalty, and the Secretary of the sub-committee shall confirm these in writing to the appellant and/or club secretary involved within seven days of the hearing.

Penalties

1. All penalties imposed by the Panel shall take immediate effect.
2. Suspensions of players for a specified number of matches are carried out on the basis of consecutive matches in which the player would otherwise play, (defined as Senior League matches, Flags and Cup Competition matches, Under 19 League matches, Under 19 Cup and Shield matches, or any combination thereof).
3. The Panel shall have the authority to suspend a player for whatever period of time it deems appropriate.
4. During the period of enforcement of a suspension, the player is also disqualified from playing in any other officially approved game of lacrosse.
5. The Panel shall have the authority to impose fines on clubs which it determines to be guilty of bringing the game into disrepute.
6. If the Panel determines the appeal to be vexatious or frivolous, it shall, at its discretion, fine the club concerned an additional £25.
7. All fines must be made payable to 'NEMLA', and must be received by the Secretary of the sub-committee within any stated time scale.
8. The Panel shall have the authority to deduct a maximum of two points from any team which it determines to be guilty of bringing the game into disrepute.
9. The Panel shall not have the authority to deduct points from any team other than the team involved in bringing the game into disrepute.
10. The Panel shall have the authority to impose a penalty on a club, the duration of which shall be whatever period of time it deems appropriate.
11. Reprimands and warnings as to future conduct shall be expunged from the record immediately after two years from the date of the appeal hearing.

General

1. Except as described above, the Panel shall under no circumstances enter into correspondence or discussions with clubs or individuals.
2. The decision of the Appeals Panel shall be final in each case.

North of England Men's Lacrosse Association

GUIDELINES ON DISPENSATIONS FOR FLAGS AND CUP COMPETITIONS

The following guidelines are issued to clubs to indicate the policy that the Management Committee will follow with regard to granting dispensations for these knockout competitions.

The applicable rules are Rules B 1 to B 5 of the Rules of Flags and Cup Competitions.

Circumstances in which dispensation will NOT be granted

Re. Rule B 2:-

No dispensation will be granted for players who have previously played in a Flags or Cup Competition round for another NEMLA club in the relevant season.

Re. Rule B 3:-

No dispensation will be granted for players who have previously played in more than one Flags or Cup Competition game for a higher team during the relevant season.

Re. Rule B 4:-

No dispensation will be granted for players who have played in fewer than three NEMLA league games for the relevant or lower team in the relevant season prior to the preliminary rounds, and six games prior to the Final. NB. This may be reconsidered in respect of teams in the lowest division if few matches have been played.

Circumstances in which dispensation will be considered

Re. Rule B 3:-

If a player has played in only ONE Flags or Cup Competition game for a higher team than that on which he would normally play due to exceptional circumstances, the Management Committee will consider an application for dispensation.

Procedure

Applications for dispensation must be put in writing, and received by the General Secretary of the Management Committee a minimum of ten days prior to any match (Rule B 5).

The following information must be included:

1. A full record of all league and Flags/Cup games played by the player, showing dates and the team he played for.
2. The reason why the player had played for the higher team in an earlier round of the knockout competition.

The Committee will only grant dispensation when it is satisfied the player is a bona-fide member of the lower team (as required under Rule B 1).

If the Committee feels that a clear case has not been presented, it is likely that the application will be refused.

The Committee will endeavour to provide a speedy response to each application, and understands that clubs may wish to select teams at an early stage following the lodging of an application.

John S Partt

General Secretary, Management Committee.