

OHIO PREMIER LACROSSE

2009-2010 Policy Statement

General Policies:

1. Participation in the Ohio Premier program is by try-out only for both middle school and high school players. Prior membership with Ohio Premier does not guarantee future membership. Commitment and ability will be factors in determining future consideration. **Middle School and High School tryouts** are held in the fall for participation in the winter “Developmental” sessions and, for the high school players, participation in select tournaments. Tryouts will be held again in June for participation in summer practices and tournament play. If unable to attend a tryout due to injury or prior commitment, players may request consideration for Ohio Premier by requesting a “tryout” at a future OP practice date.

2. The purpose of “Ohio Premier” is to provide opportunities for skill-development in preparation for competition at national tournaments, and to best prepare these athletes for competition at the highest levels in middle school, high school, and at the collegiate level. An added benefit is that these players become part of the Northern Ohio lacrosse community, fostering relationships that reinforce sportsmanship and camaraderie among these elite players who compete against each other during their high school spring seasons. These relationships foster mutual respect between players and programs, and help promote the key components of the Sportsmanship policy sponsored by US Lacrosse to:

Honor the origins of the game,

Commit to the core values of the game’s culture,

Respect all participants and

Recognize the value of fair play and both the letter and the spirit of the game.

3. All players are encouraged to attend fall and winter practices, and, to the best of their ability, players are expected to participate in summer practices. While participation in tournaments is optional, please have an awareness that we could not exist as a program if we do not have players commit to tournament play, and you will not improve as a player without that competition. If a player is consistently absent from practice, their placement on the team will be in jeopardy and their fees shall be forfeited. Absence from team events greatly impacts the individual’s preparation for team play, and has a detrimental impact on the team’s preparation for quality play. **Those athletes involved in winter sports should notify their age-group coach as to their schedule – participation in such school activities is encouraged, and every effort shall be made to keep these athletes involved with “Ohio Premier” without jeopardizing their multi-sport play in any way.** Those players unable to attend a summer event must notify OP prior to our rostering for those events.

4. One of the goals of the “Ohio Premier” program is to teach player responsibility. Players are accountable for their actions and decisions. Players are instructed to handle all communications with their coaches. All players and parent must make sure they are receiving e-mails from their coach and OP administrators, and shall check their e-mail and website frequently. Note that many questions, such as weather impacted practice changes, tournament info, etc., can be answered by referring to the web site – www.ohiopremier.wordpress.com. Players are expected to notify their coach via e-mail should they not be able to attend a scheduled practice.

Membership Fees:

1. Membership Fees – Fall/Winter Session:

Class of 2010:	\$150
Class of 2011, 2012, 2013:	\$330 (includes cost for November Tournaments)
Class of 2014, 2015:	\$285

High School players involved in winter sports are encouraged to participate in fall tryouts so as to secure a roster spot. Please note that there is no guarantee that a roster spot will be available in the spring – some age groups may not have the need to increase their roster for summer tournament play, and we anticipate having one team per age group. Roster sizes will be kept at a minimum (approximately 20 players) so as to maximize player participation in games.

Fees are kept as low as possible by having each family share equally in the cost of maintaining Ohio Premier - scholarship opportunities are not available. Payment plans are available upon request for those in need of assistance to participate – please contact the Club Financial Director (Robin Pospisil Robinpospisil@yahoo.com) for consideration.

Tournament fees are included as part of a player's membership fee – there will be no additional fee associated with participation in a tournament, nor will fees be prorated for non-participation in a tournament. It is anticipated that players participating in Ohio Premier will be attending tournaments. See the Tournament Schedule for a listing of events that are to be included as part of this fee structure.

2. **Travel expenses** incurred by players, including travel and hotel costs, are separate from the annual membership fee, and are the responsibility of each player's family.

3. Membership fees are due upon placement on a team for both the fall/winter, and summer sessions. All payments are made on-line at the Ohio Premier web site.

4. Each player is required to be a member of USLacrosse. Membership has many benefits, including individual player insurance coverage. Go to www.lacrosse.org to become a member or renew your membership on the Ohio Premier website.

5. A uniform fee shall be due for all players new to the program. Each player is required to have a uniform, and to bring that uniform to each practice.

Player Selection:

Ohio Premier will be composed of one team per age group. Summer roster sizes shall be limited to approximately 20 field players per team. Players wishing to participate in a developmental program in the summer without the travel component may do so at the reduced rate. Players on this developmental group wishing to move up to the travel team may do so only if a position becomes available. While Ohio Premier provides an excellent opportunity to improve on one's abilities, participation with the club alone will not assure that player of continued development as a player. It is anticipated that players will strive to develop their skills and improve their conditioning outside of Ohio Premier practices. While every effort will be made to keep teams intact as they progress up in age, continued participation with Ohio Premier will be determined by a player's commitment to succeed. Note also that, in an effort to maintain team unity and minimize team size, player spots may not always be available to new players.

Practice Schedule & Location:

Outdoor Summer-Fall Practices:

- Will be held at Canterbury School on the east side, and either Tri-City Park or Rocky River High School on the west side.
- Schedules shall be as posted on the web site – please stay current with potential changes as posted on the web site.

Indoor Winter Practices:

- To be held at Multiplex Indoor Sports Facility, 18909 South Miles Road, Warrensville Hts
- Indoor practices are on Tuesdays, from 4:00 to 6:00, beginning in October 27, and ending in February.

Tournament Policies:

- Travel and accommodations for tournaments are the responsibility of the player's family. Many tournaments now require clubs to secure rooms as part of a block through the tournament web site. Not doing so may result in our club being excluded from this or future tournaments. We will make every effort to inform families of the necessary arrangements that are to be made. Information regarding directions to tournaments, player waivers, etc. is made available on the website in a timely manner.
- Game schedules will be available the week of the tournament. They will be posted on the website as soon as they become available.
- Players shall arrive at the field for tournaments 1 hour before their first scheduled game and 30 minutes before each subsequent game. They should be in full uniform and prepared to warm up at that time. Being on time is the PLAYER'S responsibility. If this rule is not adhered to, the player will lose playing time for that game.
- While all players receive substantial playing time, there shall be no guarantee as to "equal" playing time. Decisions regarding playing time and position played shall be at the discretion of the player's coach.

Tournament Schedule

Class of 2011, 2012, 2013

Fall Ball Tournament – St Paul's School for Girls, Baltimore, MD

Saturday, November 14

Top of the Bay Fall Showcase – Bel Air, MD

Sunday, November 15

Class of 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

Northwestern 5 v 5 Indoor Tournament – Chicago Ill

TBA – early February 2010 event