

ALA Member Participation in Non-Member Activities Policy

Version 1.0

Last Modified: September 13, 2025

Purpose

1. There are increasing numbers of lacrosse programs that are operated by entities other than ALA members. Some of these are quality programs that enhance the lacrosse experience of the Alberta lacrosse community. However, some of these programs can also lead to confusion, overprogramming, cost escalation and other negative impacts on the lacrosse community and participation in lacrosse. These can have particularly negative impacts on the quality of the experience of those who participate in the activities of ALA members.
2. It is not possible for the ALA to approve, sanction and oversee all types of lacrosse activities in Alberta. However, the ALA does have an interest in governing the conduct of its members and members of members, including players, coaches, officials, managers, directors, executives and the parents of minor participants in any of the above roles, such that the programming of its members remains sustainable and accessible to as many families, players, volunteers and coaches as possible. This includes the viability of programming that requires a certain number of players or members to attend.
3. The ALA also has an interest in ensuring that its high performance pathway (Prairie Cup, Team Alberta, Alberta Summer Games, Canada Summer Games) and related development camps and programs remain a program of choice for those players and coaches seeking to develop their skills toward high performance lacrosse.

Policies

4. The ALA will not specifically authorize or allow any programming by a person or entity that is not a member of the ALA, Lacrosse Canada or World Lacrosse. The ALA may promote some non-member lacrosse activities under the terms of its Advertising and Promotion Policy.
5. The ALA does not permit the participation in its events of entities that are not members of the ALA, Lacrosse Canada or World Lacrosse in any of its competitions. The only exception to this rule may be made for international participants in tournaments where the program is operated under the auspices of a governing body of a similar nature to the ALA, Lacrosse Canada or World Lacrosse and is primarily made up of players that are not residents of Alberta or Canada.
6. The ALA will not generally punish or sanction its members for participation in lacrosse activities which are not carried out by its members.

7. The ALA may choose to enact discipline for participation in non-member lacrosse related activities for when the non-member lacrosse related activity is detrimental to the goals and objectives of the ALA. In particular, lacrosse activities by people or organizations would be contrary to those goals and objectives if they do the following:
 - a. Brings disrepute to the game of lacrosse. Examples include inappropriate social media content, financial irregularities or irresponsibility, unsafe play or inappropriate alcohol or drug use.
 - b. Uses confusing names or marks that may be confused with the ALA, Lacrosse Canada or World Lacrosse or events held under their governing jurisdiction. This would particularly apply to events labelled as provincial, national or international championships or teams that purport to represent provincial or national teams.
 - c. Encourage players or coaches to not participate, or not participate fully, in ALA or ALA member activities. This would include things like missing practices, games or tournaments for the purpose of attending non-ALA member lacrosse activities.
 - d. Schedule activities that are very similar to ALA and its members lacrosse programming, including at the same time and in the same discipline. For example, if a non-ALA member hosted a box lacrosse tournament for minor lacrosse aged players during the ALA's minor box lacrosse season.
8. Sanctions or discipline that may be imposed by the ALA for violations of this policy include:
 - a. Warnings;
 - b. Suspensions from playing or coaching for a particular number of games or a particular period of time; or
 - c. Suspensions from particular positions such as serving as coaches, managers, board members or executives for any team or of any member of the ALA for a particular period of time or indefinitely.
9. Any sanction or discipline imposed under this Policy must only be imposed after a hearing of the ALA Discipline/Appeal Committee in accordance with the ALA Bylaws. Any member that believes that another member has breached this Policy may make a complaint in writing to the ALA about such conduct in accordance with the ALA Bylaws.