



## **WINNIPEG BOX LACROSSE COMMISSION CLUB FORMATION & ADMISSION POLICY**

### **A. PURPOSE**

This policy establishes the criteria and process for the formation and admission of new lacrosse clubs into the league. Its purpose is to ensure that any new club aligns with the league's mission, values, strategic objectives, and provides a clear, demonstratable benefit to the league and its members.

### **B. GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The WBLC is committed to:

1. Sustainable growth and long-term stability
2. Competitive balance and positive participant experiences
3. Equitable access to lacrosse within the WBLC's jurisdiction
4. Strong governance, safety, and player development standards

New clubs must support and enhance these principles.

### **C. REQUIREMENT FOR LEAGUE APPROVAL**

1. No lacrosse club may operate within, represent itself as part of, or participate in league competitions without formal approval by the league.
2. League approval is mandatory prior to:
  - i. Entering teams into league competitions
  - ii. Using league branding, affiliation, or recognition
  - iii. Accessing league programs, resources, or services
3. The WBLC reserves the sole discretion to approve, conditionally approve, defer, or deny any application.

### **D. DEMONSTRATED BENEFIT TO THE LEAGUE**

1. Applications must clearly demonstrate how the proposed club will provide a tangible benefit to the league.
2. Benefits may include, but are not limited to:
  - i. Increasing overall participation or membership
  - ii. Expanding geographic reach or serving underrepresented communities
  - iii. Enhancing competitive balance or program depth
  - iv. Supporting athlete, coach, or official development pathways
  - v. Strengthening league reputation, partnerships, or sustainability
  - vi. Filling a clearly identified program or service gap
3. Clubs that primarily duplicate existing clubs without a clear league-wide benefit may be denied

## **E. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must submit a Club Formation Application that includes:

1. Club mission, vision, and values
2. Governance structure and leadership roles
3. Evidence of organizational capacity and financial sustainability
4. Proposed programs, age categories, and competitive levels
5. Risk management, safety, and compliance policies
6. Clear explanation of the club's benefit to the league
7. Letters of support or needs analysis, where applicable

## **F. REVIEW AND EVALUATION PROCESS**

1. Applications will be reviewed by the WBLC designated committee or Board.
2. Evaluation criteria include:
  - i. Alignment with league mission and strategic goals
  - ii. Demonstrated league benefit
  - iii. Operational readiness and sustainability
  - iv. Impact on existing clubs and competitions
  - v. Compliance with league policies and standards
3. The WBLC may request additional information or modifications prior to making a decision.

## **G. CONDITIONAL APPROVAL**

1. The WBLC may grant conditional approval subject to specific requirements, timelines, or performance benchmarks.
2. Failure to meet conditions within the specified timeframe may result in revocation of approval.

## **H. ONGOING COMPLIANCE**

1. Approved clubs must remain in good standing and continue to demonstrate benefit to the league.
2. The WBLC reserves the right to review club status periodically and to impose sanctions or revoke membership if a club no longer meets the league standards or objectives.

## **I. AMENDMENTS**

This policy may be amended by the WBLC at any time to reflect evolving strategic priorities or operational needs.