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Code of Ethics

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World Lacrosse

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July 2016

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# **World Lacrosse Code of Ethics**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

It is the aim of World Lacrosse (WL), its member associations and all those involved in lacrosse to represent and promote the highest possible ethical values within the sport.

World Lacrosse is committed to the Olympic Charter and its fundamental principles.

In furtherance of this aim the World Lacrosse Board has adopted this Code of Ethics based on the principles and rules of the IOC Code of Ethics.

At all times World Lacrosse, and event participants within the framework of events organized and/or recognized and approved by World Lacrosse, will endeavour to represent the principles of the Code of Ethics.

This Code of Ethics applies to the World Lacrosse Board, Committee Chairs, Committee members, World Lacrosse staff (including consultants, agents and any person acting on behalf of World Lacrosse) and to all participants in World Lacrosse events in a capacity whatsoever, in particular athletes and the athlete's entourage.

## **2. EQUALITY and DIGNITY**

1. Safeguarding the dignity of the individual is a fundamental requirement of Olympism.
2. There shall be no discrimination between the participants on the basis of race, gender, ethnic origin, religion, philosophical or political opinion, marital status, sexual orientation or other grounds.
3. All doping practices at all levels are strictly prohibited. The provisions against doping in the World Anti-Doping Code shall be scrupulously observed.
4. All forms of harassment of participants are prohibited.
5. All forms of participation in, or support for betting related to World Lacrosse events, and all forms of promotion of betting related to World Lacrosse events are prohibited.
6. Participants in World Lacrosse events must not, by any manner whatsoever, infringe the principle of fair play, show non-sporting conduct, or attempt to influence the course or result of a competition, or any part thereof, in a manner contrary to sporting ethics.
7. World Lacrosse and the relevant parties shall seek to ensure the athletes' conditions of safety, well-being and medical care favorable to their physical and mental equilibrium.

## **3. INTEGRITY**

1. World Lacrosse Board and staff or their representatives shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration or commission, nor any concealed benefit or service of any nature, connected with the organization of World Lacrosse events. An exception may be granted if such remuneration, commission, benefit or service is pre-approved by the World Lacrosse Board upon recommendation of the Ethics Commission.
2. Only gifts of nominal value, in accordance with prevailing local customs, may be given or accepted by the FIL Board and staff or their representatives, as a mark of respect or friendship. Any other gift must be passed on to the organization of which the beneficiary is a member.
3. The hospitality shown to World Lacrosse Board members and staff and the persons accompanying them shall not exceed the standards prevailing in the host country.
4. World Lacrosse Board members and staff shall respect the Rules Concerning Conflicts of Interests.
5. World Lacrosse Board members and staff shall use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. They must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of World Lacrosse, the lacrosse family or the Olympic movement.
6. World Lacrosse Board members and staff, their agents or their representatives must not be involved with firms or persons whose activity or reputation is inconsistent with the principles set out in the Olympic Charter and the present Code.

#### **4. GOOD GOVERNANCE AND RESOURCES**

1. World Lacrosse will adhere to basic universal principles of good governance of the Olympic and sports movement, in particular transparency, responsibility and accountability.
2. The income and expenditure of World Lacrosse shall be recorded in its accounts, which must be maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. An independent auditor selected by the Board will check these accounts.
3. World Lacrosse recognizes the significant contribution that broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters of sports events make to the development and prestige of World Lacrosse events throughout the world. However, such support must be in a form consistent with the rules of sport and the principles defined in the Olympic Charter and the present Code. They must not interfere in the running of sports institutions. The organization and staging of sports competitions are the exclusive responsibility of the independent sports organizations recognized by the IOC.

#### **5. RELATIONS WITH NATIONS AND MEMBER NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES (NGBs)**

1. The World Lacrosse Board shall work to maintain harmonious relations with nation state authorities and NGBs in accordance with the principle of universality and political neutrality of the Olympic movement.
2. Members of the World Lacrosse Board are free to play a role in the public life of the states to which they belong. They may not, however, engage in any activity or follow any ideology inconsistent with the principles and rules defined in the Olympic Charter and set out in the present Code of Ethics.
3. The World Lacrosse Board shall endeavor to protect the environment on the occasion of any events they organize and undertake to uphold generally accepted standards for environmental protection.

#### **6. CONFIDENTIALITY**

1. World Lacrosse member NGB officers and staff shall not disclose information entrusted to them in confidence.
2. Disclosure of other information shall not be for personal gain or benefit, nor be undertaken maliciously to damage the reputation of any person or organization.

#### **7. IMPLEMENTATION / ETHICS COMMISSION**

1. World Lacrosse shall see to it that the principles and rules of the Olympic Charter and the present Code of Ethics are applied.
2. The member NGB officers and staff shall inform the World Lacrosse President of any of breach of the Code of Ethics with a view to an investigation and possible disciplinary action by the Federation.
3. The World Lacrosse Ethics Commission will be chaired by the World Lacrosse President or a designated representative approved by the Board and composed of the chair and up to four additional members independent of the Board.
4. Nominations to the Ethics Commission can be made by each World Lacrosse member NGB and or Olympic Movement party.
5. The Ethics Commission will be comprised of such members as determined by the World Lacrosse Board and will be selected under procedures determined by such Board.
6. Any disciplinary procedures recommended by the Ethics Commission to the Board shall follow the procedures as outlined in the World Lacrosse Code of Conduct Policy.