

# GEORGIA LACROSSE OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATION PLAN

## Part 1 – GHSA Requirements

### Section A – Classification

Officials are classified into one of three categories when registered by the Georgia High School Association. Requirements for advancement are listed below:

#### **REGISTERED**

- Be at least 18 years of age and a high school graduate or holder of a G.E.D.
- File proper application and be accepted by a local, GHSA-sanctioned association.
- Attend rules interpretation clinics as required by the Georgia High School Association each year.
- Make a score of at least 80 on the Rules Examination.
- Officiate the minimum number of GHSA contests as specified in Section B.

#### **APPROVED**

- Meet the requirements for a Registered official for two years.
- Attend rules interpretation clinics as required by the Georgia High School Association each year.
- Make a score of at least 85 on the Rules Examination.
- Officiate the minimum number of contests required as specific in Section B.

#### **CERTIFIED**

- Meet the requirements for a registered official for 2 years and for an approved official for 2 years.
- Attend rules interpretation clinics as required by the Georgia High School Association each year.
- Make a score of at least 90 on the Rules Examination.
- Officiate the minimum number of contests as specified in Section B.

### Section B – On-field Experience

The number of contests officiated per season required for each Classification Level is as follows:

*[Note: Approved and Certified officials may earn one-half the required number of contests working JV games (i.e., 2 Sub-varsity games = 1 Varsity game. Registered officials may earn all their game credits working Sub-varsity games.]*

**REGISTERED** – The minimum number of games worked per season is eight (8).

**APPROVED** – The minimum number of games worked per season is twelve (12).

**CERTIFIED** – The minimum number of games worked per season is fourteen (14).

### **Section C – Appearance and Deportment**

Officials shall not wear visible jewelry with the exceptions of wedding bands and necessary timing devices.

Officials should wear their hair in a neat, professional manner. Local associations may set grooming standards that are more restrictive than GHSA rules.

GLOA will supply officials for playoff games or for special-request games as requested by the GHSA or other sponsoring authority. GLOA also may be asked to provide qualified sideline or table officials as required.

The liaison person for each association (usually the Secretary) must be a person who handles details efficiently and one who is reasonably easy to contact during the workday.

The GHSA will not review tests and/or test scores or clinic attendance records from previous years. These issues must be resolved before the current end-of-year reports are filed.

Officials shall not smoke or use smokeless tobacco while they have jurisdiction over a game.

## **Part 2 – Georgia Lacrosse Officials Association Requirements**

### **Section A – Training Requirements**

#### **REGISTERED**

- Must have a current Registered official classification or have met all requirements for Registered official classification as specified in Part 1.
- A minimum of eight (8) hours of training, including classroom, rules interpretation, and on-field work, over multiple sessions. Sessions will be based on Association best practices, standards, and training materials in the following areas:
  - ⇒ Current rules interpretations
  - ⇒ Technical fouls
  - ⇒ Personal fouls
  - ⇒ Penalty enforcement and administration

- ⇒ Field mechanics
- ⇒ Team personnel interaction
- ⇒ Game management techniques and responsibilities
- A minimum of three (3) hours minimum on-field training focused specifically on officials' two-person mechanics.
- A minimum of one (1) game as a 'shadow,' one (1) game being 'shadowed,' and two (2) games solo with Certified senior partner.
- Satisfactory completion of Registered Official on-field evaluation, in accordance with Association best practices, standards, and guidelines. (A Certified senior partner may perform the on-field evaluation.)
- Registered officials must maintain this status for a minimum of two (2) seasons as specified in Part 1.

### **APPROVED**

- Must have a current Approved official classification or have met all requirements for Approved official classification as specified in Parts 1 and 2.

In addition, Approved officials must meet the following requirements:

- A minimum of eight (8) hours of classroom training, over multiple sessions. Sessions will consist of a comprehensive review of NFHS rules, conducted by Association Certified Trainers.
- Training will include current rules interpretations
- A minimum of two (2) hours minimum on-field training focused specifically on 2-person mechanics.
- Satisfactory completion of Approved Official on-field evaluation by an Association-approved observer in accordance with Association best practices, standards, and advanced training guidelines. (Alternatively, a Certified senior partner may perform the on-field evaluation.)
- Approved officials must maintain this status for a minimum of two (2) seasons as specified in Part 1.

### **CERTIFIED**

- Must have a current Certified official classification or have met all requirements for Registered official classification as specified in Parts 1 and 2.

In addition, Certified officials must meet the following requirements:

- A minimum of five (5) hours of classroom training, over multiple sessions. Sessions will consist of a comprehensive review of NFHS rules, conducted by Association Certified Trainers.
- Training will include current rules interpretations

- A minimum of two (2) hours minimum on-field training/field mechanics review
- Satisfactory completion of Certified Official on-field evaluation, in accordance with Association best practices, standards, and advanced training guidelines. (An Association Certified Trainer/Observer must perform the on-field evaluation as an observer from an off-field position.)
- Certified officials must maintain this status as specified in Part 1.

### **Section B – Fitness Requirements**

Fitness requirements are representative of the type of physical activity required to officiate lacrosse effectively. Officials should ensure that they are fit enough to run/walk approximately 2-4 miles during the course of a normal game. The following are also required:

- 60 yard run – 20 seconds (this replicates transitioning from trail official to lead official during a fast break)
- ‘5x5 square’ run (start at center x, slide 5 yards, backpedal 5 yards, slide 5 yards, come in 5 yards) – 25 seconds (this simulates the rapid movements required during a faceoff movement and/or goal line work)

### **Section C – Play-off Assignment Requirements**

Officials must have satisfied all Association membership requirements and be members in good standing in accordance with Georgia Lacrosse Officials Association by-laws and Board policies.

To be eligible for first round play-off assignments: at a minimum, officials must have attained “Approved” status.

To be eligible for play-off games beyond the first round: officials must have attained “Certified” status and must have a working knowledge of and on-field experience with 3-person mechanics.

### **Transfers and Appeals**

The Association Board may set policies to address members transferring into the Association from another Association.

Any official may appeal transfer or placement decisions in writing to the Association President. The Association President may consult with the Association Board, but the decision of the Association President is final and subject to appeal only to the GHSA.

#### ADDENDUM: GRANDFATHERING

1. The Certification plan listed above will become effective in the 2013 season. Officials will be grandfathered in according to the following:
  - a. Membership rolls will be consulted to establish years of membership in the Association to satisfy seasons served.
  - b. Minimum number of games will be calculated using officiating records from the 2012 season.
  - c. Members will be classified as Registered, Approved, or Certified for the 2013 year based solely on years of service (Part A) and number of games from 2012 (Part B) with no further verification of requirements.