

Welcome to the 2014 Allegheny Lacrosse Officials Association training program. Lacrosse is one of the fastest growing sports in the world, and we are in dire need of well-trained officials to work at every level of the sport. This is a wonderful game, and I know you will enjoy working with us.

We have developed a training program that follows the recommendations of US Lacrosse, the national governing body of the sport. The training program includes standardized training materials, tests, and on-field experiences. If you work with us through the training program, you will have all of the basic skills that you need to begin your life as either a junior or a Level I official (depending on your age and experience). Over time, you will have the opportunity to move up through the ranks to Level II and Level III, eventually becoming certified to work college games. I look forward to watching all of you working in the national championships on television.

A summary of the training program is presented here:

<http://www.uslacrosse.org/participants/officials/mens-officials-information/mens-training-and-certification-process.aspx>

Before our first meeting in January, I would like you to access the training package on the US Lacrosse website, and familiarize yourself with the rules. I will also ask that everyone take the rules test (open book) before class so that we can assume that a rudimentary knowledge of the rules exists in everyone, regardless of your experience with the game. We will "pop quizzes" throughout the training in order to help reinforce the material presented in class.

Our class schedule will be January 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> in Charleston and February 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> in Morgantown, venues to be announced and forwarded in the near future. Classes begin at 6PM on Friday night, lasting a couple of hours at most for exchange of information and materials. Classes begin at 9 AM and I try to be sure that we are out between 2:30PM and 3:00PM on Saturday and Sunday, please plan accordingly. Unless there is a blizzard, class will meet, and there are no options for makeup. I would like to get everyone either on the field or in a field house prior to the ice breaker tournaments, however scheduling for this is difficult. I will let you know the details the first day of class if I'm able to accomplish this.

When you come to class please bring a rulebook, the training materials, and paper and pencil.

Since I have everyone's email address, in the event of inclement weather I will send an email out. I will try to do so the night before, but if things change, I will have to send it out in the morning. Please check your email between 8:00 and 8:15 in the morning to ensure that I haven't sent out a "class canceled" notification.

I am very much looking forward to the chance to meet all of you, and to start you on the path of a lacrosse official. Thanks for your interest in the game and I look forward to seeing you.