



**LACROSSE
VICTORIA**

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Junior Age Exemption Request Policy

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1. INTRODUCTION

Physical activity is an integral component of developing a healthy lifestyle for young people through to adulthood. The guidelines on covering the needs of young people in the sport of lacrosse is covered in the LV Junior Sport – Physical development and maturation Policy. To support this policy and provide guidance in the area where junior players are seeking an exemption to play competitive lacrosse outside of their chronological age grade, this policy has been developed.

2. AGE GROUP EXEMPTION REQUEST TYPES

For age graded competitions, when a player seeks to play outside of their 'normal' or chronological age grade, permit applications can be made in the following category:

- 2.1 Disability, medical condition, physical development issues or deficiencies in physical maturation.

3. EXEMPTION REQUESTS BASED ON PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

- 3.1 When supporting medical evidence is provided that demonstrates a disability, physical development issue an exemption will be granted according to the professional medical advice.
- 3.2 These applications are guided under the framework of the LV Junior Sport – Physical development and maturation Policy.

4. PROCESS FOR APPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Applications are to follow the following order of process.
 - (a) Coaches, club official and parents discuss the situation specific to each child to establish the most appropriate course of action and if an application is required for an exemption.
 - (b) When a club supports the application, this is sent to LV for review.
 - (c) When a club does not support an application, no further action is taken.
- 4.2 All applications received will be reviewed only by the LV General Manager in a confidential manner. Who may seek independent professional advice as required.

5. GUIDELINES ON EXEMPTIONS

- 5.1 Any club can have a maximum of four overage players nominated for any one junior team.
- 5.2 When a player is granted an exemption, there is an expectation on the club and the players coaches to develop a framework of a plan to ensure the player progresses to their correct age grade at the earliest opportunity.
- 5.3 A junior age exemption request is to be granted for at most one season in total. Once a player has been granted an exemption, a subsequent exemption may be considered with a new application.

6. ROLES & DUTIES OF PARTIES INVOLVED IN AN APPLICATION

- 6.1 Parent
 - (a) Discuss the need to seek an exemption and what it means for the child in the short term and their long-term goals for physical activity.

- (b) Ensure the child understands the purpose and limitations of an age exemption application.

6.2 Coach and Club

- (a) Discuss fully the situation with the child and parent seeking an exemption to ensure they are supported in the most appropriate way to the situation of the child's needs.
- (b) It is important that the club or any club official does not provide medical advice at any stage. The club or coach should only advise on their assessment of a player's skill level. Judgment on skill level should be centred around the players' confidence which is determined by the player.

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- (a) Discuss each case individually with the parent and club to determine the issues for the child concerned.
- (b) Evaluate the information provided and determine what is most appropriate for the child concerned in their interests, with consideration for the competition the player would be involved with.

7. REVIEW OF EXEMPTIONS GRANTED

7.1 Players granted exemptions are required to report to LV as required and directed.

7.2 LV has the right to re-evaluate any exemption granted at any time throughout the season and when it considers it necessary to revoke the permit.

- (a) These decisions are made in full consultation of the club, parents/guardian and relevant advisory groups.

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