

Dear Parents,

As we are about to enter the fall indoor season in the Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program, I wanted to introduce myself and let you know of some of the key priorities established for the upcoming fall and spring seasons. My name is Paul Gustin and I will be serving again this year as the Assistant Commissioner of the Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program. Lacrosse has been a key part of my life and I have had a lot of fun and learned many of "life's lessons" from the sport over the years. My interest is to pass this on to the boys in our community so they can have fun and learn life's lessons from the sport as I have. In addition to our other activities in the boys lacrosse program this year, I want to communicate more regularly with the parents of the boys in our program so I can let you know what is going on and give you a forum for providing input. Also, I would welcome your involvement in some of our activities as the program takes a fair amount of work and we can use all the help we can get.

We recently held elections for the 2007/ 2008 Hereford Lacrosse Board and the current Board Members are listed in the "About Us" tab of the Hereford Lacrosse Website ([www.herefordlacrosse.org](http://www.herefordlacrosse.org)) under "Organization Chart". As we still have a few open positions, please feel free to let me or any of the other Board members know if you have any interest in filling one of the open positions.

At our August meeting, we agreed on the priorities for the 2007/2008 boys lacrosse program listed below. We also approved new policies and procedures for the evaluation & selection of skill based teams & coaches at our August meeting. Over the history of our Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program, we have had some concerns expressed regarding the fairness of our team and coaching selection procedures for skill based teams. Among other things, these new policies and procedures have put an unbiased second set of eyes in these selections to address these concerns. For anyone who is interested, an updated set of all our policies and procedures are listed in the "About Us" tab of the Hereford Lacrosse Website ([www.herefordlacrosse.org](http://www.herefordlacrosse.org)) under "Boys Procedures and Policies".

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous support of the Hereford Boy's Lacrosse Program. If you have any input on our priorities for the coming year or other things we can do to improve the Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program, please feel free to contact me at [pjsgustin@msn.com](mailto:pjsgustin@msn.com) or 410-370-6105. Take care and best wishes to you and your families.

Paul

## Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program

8/5/07

### Key Issues for 2007 / 2008:

- Update & improve the processes used for the evaluation & selection of skill based teams & coaches.
- Fill all vacant positions on the Boys Board with qualified, energetic individuals.
- Plan & execute the new processes for evaluating & selecting skill based teams & coaches for the Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 Seasons.
- Establish & gain alignment to a common vision, mission and set of operating principles for the Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program.
- Define and implement the process for discussing, approving and communicating major changes impacting the Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program.
- Support fundraising activities established for the fall & spring seasons.
- Debate discuss, decide and vote (if necessary) on the optimum team alignments for the Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 Seasons.
- Debate discuss, decide and vote (if necessary) on the optimum approach for enrolling the Spring 2008 Midget C Teams in MYLA and/or HARCO.
- Evaluate establishing a high school level program for players who do not get selected for the High School JV or Varsity Teams.
- Review volunteer lists and proactively recruit coaches and other volunteers or key positions.
- Continue with the development of our coaches by sponsoring another U.S. Lacrosse Coaches Clinic.
- Continue with the development of our players by sponsoring another Hereford High School Lacrosse Clinic.
- Establish a stronger communication program with parents regarding key activities and issues.
- Evaluate potential benefits and risks of putting the boy's clinic players into equipment similar to some other programs.
- Define, document and communicate the process for sending boys teams to post season tournaments in the spring.