

1/12/2008

Dear Parents,

As we are finishing up our indoor season and about to enter into our spring outdoor activities, I wanted to provide a brief update on the progress we have made in the Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program versus the priorities we have established for the year. We have been very busy and I am very pleased and proud of the progress we have made. **First** and foremost, we have spent a tremendous amount of time updating and improving the processes being used for the evaluation and selection of our skill based teams and coaches. We tested our new processes during the fall season and have made a few more minor changes as a result. While our new approach is not perfect, I believe it puts the necessary checks and balances in place to ensure the process is as fair as possible. As I was in the fall, I plan to be personally involved in this process for the spring season and I can assure you it will be handled with the utmost care and professionalism. If you would like to review our updated process, it is posted on the Hereford Lacrosse Website under About US \ Boys Procedures and Policies \ Policies – Updated September 2007. **Second**, we have instituted a procedure to ensure all team and league alignments will be reviewed and approved by the Boys Sub-Board before being implemented. We will be having this discussion in the coming weeks and I can assure you it will occur. **Third**, we approved the establishment of a high school intramural lacrosse program for the upcoming spring season. This program will be available for high school aged players who are too old to participate in our rec program and who are not on Varsity or JV roster at the high school level. This program will provide an opportunity for boys to continue playing lacrosse after they finish with rec lacrosse that did not previously exist. **Finally**, we have slightly realigned our Spirit and Tyker Programs in an effort to give our younger players a better experience. The intent here is to create a Tyker program consisting primarily of 2nd & 3rd graders that is more closely aligned with the players in other programs against which we are competing. In this format, our Spirit program will consist primarily of kindergartners and 1st graders. The primary goals of our Spirit Program will be to begin developing basic lacrosse skills and providing a fun and exciting experience. While the Spirit program will not allow for checking or physical contact, we would like the players to wear helmets and gloves to start getting them used to playing with some of the equipment they will be wearing in subsequent years.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous support of the Hereford Boy's Lacrosse Program. If you have any questions or any input on other things we can do to improve the Hereford Boys Lacrosse Program, please feel free to contact me at pjsgustin@msn.com or 410-370-6105. Additional information on our program activities is also posted on the Hereford Lacrosse Website (www.herefordlacrosse.org). Take care and best wishes to you and your families.

Paul Gustin