



## **1. General Principles**

1.1 These regulations apply to all Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) world events. They apply at national team level only.

1.2 These regulations apply to women.

## **2. Eligibility and Nationality**

2.1 In order to play for the national team of a country be a national or non-national as defined here, and must fulfill the conditions of eligibility according to the internal regulations of that country.

2.1.1 A National:

a) holds the legal nationality of that country (i.e., passport, landed immigrant status, permanent citizenship, etc.) as obtained by birth or by naturalization

2.1.2 A Non National meets at least one (1) of the following conditions:

a) Parents: One or both birth parents, adoptive parents or step-parents born in the country.

b) Grandparents: One or more birth or adoptive grandparents born in the country. Step-Grand Parents are not acceptable.

c) Marriage: Partner/spouse being a passport holder the country, with the qualification that the couple must be resident in the country being represented.

Guidance: i) In the event of death of the partner /spouse this would not prevent the individual from qualifying by this criterion.

ii) Divorce from the partner /spouse would disqualify the individual from qualifying by this criterion.

iii) This criterion relates to a marriage or partnership which has been validated by a jurisdiction in that country

d) Residence: Minimum of a two-year residency period in the playing country within the last five (5) years is required.

Guidance: This does not necessarily have to be a continuous period but a cumulative total period of two (2) years over the previous five (5) years.

2.2 Any nation may have up to 15% of its players who are non-nationals (see above for requirements).

Guidance: 85% of the team must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in Section 2.1.1 (85% of the current squad size of 18 is 15.3 rounded down to 15). The maximum number of non-nationals would be 3.



Documentation must be provided.

### 2.3 Age Requirements

2.3.1 To be eligible to play in a FIL world event, a player must have reached the age of 15 as of the day prior to start of the event.

2.3.2 For FIL Under 19 (U19) world events only, players must be 18 years of age or younger on 31 August in the year prior to the Championship.

2.4 A player who has two legal nationalities or more, by birth, or by naturalization, may choose, at any age, the national team for which she wishes to play.

### 2.5 Changing National Eligibility

2.5.1 A player who changes her citizenship or acquires another citizenship and wants to participate for the first time in a FIL competition must have an International Transfer Card (ITC) that shows the transfer to the national association of her new country, approved and dated at least eighteen months (18) for a senior event or twelve months (12) for an U19 event, prior to the start of the FIL competition in which she wishes to participate.

2.5.2 A player who has previously participated in a FIL world event may represent another country under the following conditions:

- a) She is eligible to play for the new country as per Section 2, and
- b) She has an International Transfer Card (ITC; see Section 3) that shows the transfer to the national association of the new country, approved and dated at least eighteen months (18) for a senior event or twelve months (12) for an U19 event, prior to the start of the FIL competition in which she wishes to participate.
- c) A player may switch national eligibility only once.

### 2.6 U19 World Events ONLY

2.6.1 Students who attend school in a country other than their home country may apply for a waiver from the Women's Competition Chair to be able to represent the country in which they attend school. The decision to represent this nation is binding for all future U19 events. Criteria to be considered in granting a waiver includes, but is not limited to

- a) endorsement from home country
- b) and length of time of attendance at school

2.6.2 A player applying for this waiver must choose which national governing body (country) they may represent prior to team trials/selection. (Once a waiver is granted, it is binding for all U19 representation.)

2.6.3 A player who receives a waiver as outlined in 2.6.1 does not require an ITC in order to participate for their home country at a World Cup. A



player who remains in the country where she attended school and plays at a World Cup requires an ITC.

- 2.6.4 The School Waiver form must be submitted to the Women's Competitions Chair by December 31 of the year prior to the year of competition. (Link to document on FIL website.)

### **3. International Transfers**

#### **3.1 International Transfer Card**

It is the responsibility of FIL to ensure the good order of the sport internationally and, in relation to player movement, to safeguard the player and her position with regard to player eligibility for international competitions and to uphold discipline and maintain order between clubs and within the sport.

- 3.1.1 Players who wish to move from one country, irrespective of whether or not they are registered with the member national association of that country, to the member national association of another country are required to have a valid FIL International Transfer Card (ITC). The ITC must be signed by the player, by the FIL member of that country, by the new FIL member and confirmed by FIL. The transfer becomes valid on the date it has been confirmed by the FIL. (Link to document on FIL website.)
- 3.1.2 Players who wish to move from one country to another in order to represent that country at a FIL world event must have a valid FIL International Transfer Card (ITC) approved and dated at least eighteen months (18) for a senior world cup event or twelve months (12) for an U19 world championship prior to the start of the FIL competition in which she wishes to participate.
- 3.1.3 A player moving from a lower to higher age group (ie., U19 to World Cup), may change national eligibility within the 18 month waiting period (assuming all criteria are met). The reverse, from World Cup to U19 does not apply.

Guidance:

- i) An 18 year old could play in an U19 World Championship for one country and then for another at the next World Championship without the two year qualifying period.
- ii) An 18 year old player could not play in the World Cup for one country and then assuming age criteria is met, play in the next U19 event for a different country.

### **4. New and Developing Nations (NDN)**

4.1 For the purposes of gaining New Developing Nation (NDN) status, a New or Developing Nation is defined as a nation:

- 4.1.1 that is making their first appearance at the World Cup or U19 level, or



- 4.1.2 that is not in active contention for the Championship, i.e. Associate Members,
- 4.1.3 that has been considered and approved by the FIL Chairs of Competition and Development and the Women's Division, and added to a NDN list, published two years (24 months) in advance of a world event.
- 4.2 Teams who have previously participated in two Senior World Cups may not be eligible for NDN status.
- 4.3 Dispensation at U19 (over age)
  - 4.3.1 A nation may apply to FIL to be allowed to field over-age players (up to U21) in an U19 Championship. This is generally granted to those teams competing in such an event for the first time. If a team is granted this dispensation, any player who is over-age must be a resident and play lacrosse in the country concerned, in the accepted form of competition, for a minimum of 12 of the previous 18 months (not necessarily consecutive periods).
  - 4.3.2 Dispensation at U19 (over-age) – on a Second or Subsequent Occasion  
If a member requests dispensation on a second, or more, occasion then in addition to the residency requirement above, there will be an added requirement that those over-age must be passport holders of the country. Specifically if the allowance of up to 3 non-passport holders is taken up, these must all be within the U19 members of the squad. Over-age players may not take any of the non-member passport slots.
  - 4.3.3 Any player receiving a waiver must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in Section 2.
  - 4.3.4 The Dispensation Waiver Form is due by 1 December of the year prior to the event. (Link to document on FIL website.)
  - 4.3.5 Requests for dispensation should in the first instance be addressed to the Chair of the Women's Competition Committee who will consult with Women's Sector Chairs for a final decision. The full membership or other Nations entered into a specific Under 19 Event must be notified by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year prior to the event.

Guidance:

The spirit of this is to ensure that any "over age players" are playing and supporting lacrosse development in the country that they represent and not simply strengthening a team by bringing in overseas players.



## **5. Proof of Eligibility**

- 5.1 The FIL Competition Committee may call upon a member country or their National Governing Body for evidence to verify the legal nationality (or nationalities) and eligibility of any player by requesting any documents it deems appropriate (ie., passport, ITC).
  - 5.1.1 Under 19 teams must show proof of nationality and age of all players at manager's meeting prior to the world event.
- 5.2 Proof of legal nationality of a country by itself does not constitute sufficient evidence to guarantee a player's right to play as a national for the national team of that country – see Section 2.
- 5.3 Failure to provide satisfactory documentation may result in the player being disqualified from participating in the world event in question and if discovered after a tournament has begun, may affect the results and standings of the team.
  - 5.3.1 A player who is disqualified from participating in a world event after the tournament has begun due to lack of sufficient proof of nationality, will cause the team to forfeit all games in which the ineligible player was on the roster and all points earned by the team. The player will be ineligible to participate in any team activities or games for the duration of the event.
- 5.4 Failure to abide by the FIL player eligibility criteria may result in financial penalty to the National Governing Body. A national governing body will be fined up to \$5,000 USD for failing to abide by the eligibility requirements of the FIL. A country will be ineligible to participate in any world event until this fine is paid.