

The Sport Committee - Terms of Reference

The World Lacrosse Sport Committee is established as a committee under section 1.8 of the WL Constitution in the WL Governance Handbook.

The Sport Committee advises the WL Sport Department staff and reports to the WL Board of Directors via the WL staff lead.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Sport Committee serves to provide the direction and vision for the sport of lacrosse in all its current and future forms, across all elements of the sport.

2. Responsibility

- 2.1 The Sport Committee is primarily responsible for:

- 2.1.1 The presentation of the sport, in all its existing and future disciplines, at the highest levels of competition.
- 2.1.2 Advises on maximizing the opportunities that Olympic inclusion provides.
- 2.1.3 Approaches its work with short and long-term views.
- 2.1.4 Addresses specific topics (e.g. pace of play, roster size, age, etc...)
- 2.1.5 Informs how the sport is officiated and how rules are applied.
- 2.1.6 Reports on and informs World Lacrosse strategy for its direction with respect to the sport.

3. Composition, Membership, and Member Role

- 3.1 The Sport Committee is composed of eight (8) members. Each member serves the committee in their own capacity, and not as a representative of a WL Member or constituency unless otherwise detailed.

- 3.2 Members must be “in good standing” with their affiliated NGB (where applicable) and will submit a letter of no objection signed by the President/CEO of the NGB prior to being appointed to position. Electronic correspondence (email) shall suffice as evidence of no objection.

- 3.3 Chair appointed by the WL Board - 1 person

- 3.3.1 To serve as the convener and chair of meetings and prepares necessary reports on meeting activities.
- 3.3.2 In collaboration with staff, ensures relevant timelines and expectations are being managed.
- 3.3.3 The individual in the role of Chair is appointed by the WL Board of Directors.

- 3.4 Marketing and Media - 1 person

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- 3.4.1 Provide expertise with regards to increasing the visibility and marketability of the sport in the modern media era. This includes linear and digital broadcast platforms, as well as social media presence.
- 3.4.2 Represent best practices for increasing casual and new fan exposure and engagement with the sport.
- 3.5 Commercialization - 1 person
 - 3.5.1 Provide expertise with regards to the commercialization and consequently revenue generation opportunities through monetization of the sport and other WL properties.
- 3.6 Continental Representation – 2 persons
 - 3.6.1 Disseminate and collects information to/from relevant continental constituencies (athletes, coaches, officials, NGBs).
 - 3.6.2 Provide perspective on the sport within the WL continents.
- 3.7 Active Athlete¹ – 1 person
 - 3.7.1 Disseminate and collect information to/from relevant athlete populations to provide “the players’ perspective” in decision making of the committee.
 - 3.7.2 Serve as “the voice of the athletes” in committee meetings.
- 3.8 Olympic Team Sport Representative – 1 person
 - 3.8.1 Provide perspective on the best practices of other Olympic sports and their experiences at the Olympic Games and World Championship levels.
- 3.9 WL CEO or Staff Representative - 1 person
 - 3.9.1 Ensure the WL strategic plan and corresponding staff activities are in alignment with the direction and vision of the Sport Committee.
 - 3.9.2 Provide expertise with regard to best practices from other Olympic sports and their International Federations.

¹ Individuals selected into this role, must have participated in a World Championship within the previous eight (8) years.

4. Skills, Qualities, and Competencies

- 4.1 Members of the Committee will need to have the skills, qualities and competencies outlined in Appendix 1. In forming the Committee, the Chair will seek to balance a range of skills, qualities, and competencies, as well as gender and geographic diversity. Appendix 1 will be reviewed annually by the Committee Chair and may change.

5. Operating and Reporting Procedure

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5.1 The Committee will follow the WL General Procedures applicable to all Committees, which is available in the WL Governance Handbook.

6. Meetings

6.1 The Committee must keep records of its meetings. These may be detailed minutes or summary reports with actions and names of people to act identified, as stated in each TOR. All documents for WL committees should be retained on the WL shared drives for purposes of committee continuity and appropriate record keeping across WL. The WL Office will assist in setting such files up.

6.2 The Chair of the Committee is responsible for ensuring meetings are called and that an agenda and any relevant papers are circulated one week prior to the meeting and for ensuring that minutes/records are kept and identifying who should take these.

6.3 The Committee will prepare an annual summary statement of activity by 31st December, using the template provided by the WL Chief of Staff. This should be sent to the WL F&G Director and WL Chief of Staff who will combine the information into an annual activity report for the Board of all its Committees.

6.4 Once approved by the relevant Committee, all minutes/records are to be sent to:

5.4.1 The Committee members.

5.4.2 Any other person specifically identified in the individual TOR for that committee.

6.5 It is expected that most of the meetings will take place virtually in video or audio calls unless in-person meetings are specifically agreed as necessary by the WL Board when TOR are determined.

6.6 A quorum of a minimum of 50% of the Committee shall be required for all meetings. In the absence of the Chair, he/she will appoint a deputy, or the members present will appoint a Chair for that meeting, who will liaise with the Committee Chair.

6.5 A quorum of eligible voting members is required to conduct voting, when required in committee decision making.

6.5.1 WL Staff do not enjoy voting privileges.

6.5.2 The Chair will hold their vote until all other ballots are recorded and shall only cast a vote in the event a tied outcome needs to be settled.

6.5.3 All resolutions require a simple majority (50% +1 vote) to be accepted.

7. Delegated Authority

7.1 The Committee, following notification to the President, may seek such external professional advice as it deems necessary to discharge its responsibilities.

7.2 The Committee has no delegated authority for decisions or expenditure other than where specifically authorized by the Board.

Appendix 1 - Skills, Qualities, and Competencies for Members of the Sport Committee

In addition to the descriptors noted in section 3, the membership of the Sport Committee will seek to gain a balance of the following amongst its members:

- Rules knowledge and understanding of their application within the sport of lacrosse, preferably at an international or elite level with knowledge of two or more disciplines being advantageous.
- Strong interpersonal, political, and influencing skills with a can-do attitude.
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills that can translate concepts to defined action.
- Excellent IT skills, particularly MS Word creating complex documents with tables, indexes, styles.
- Project Management experience.
- Willingness to explore new options for delivery of Officiating across the sport.
- Knowledge of the lacrosse competition landscape and willingness to look for and embrace harmonization opportunities across the disciplines.
- Experience in a similar role in lacrosse or another sport.
- Knowledge and understanding of the rules from other sports.

Members of the Sport Committee should aim to uphold the values of World Lacrosse and to encourage these to be upheld across the community.

- Teamwork
- Passion
- Respect
- Integrity
- Friendship
- Inclusiveness