

## International Lacrosse Federation Player Eligibility Criteria

### 1. Eligibility relating to Dual Passport Holders

Any competitor, who is a national of two or more countries at the same time, and holding passports of those countries, may represent either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one country in a recognised (by the ILF) event, he may not represent another country unless he meets other eligibility conditions set out in the by laws.

A competitor who has represented one country (in a recognised event) and who elects to represent another country, for which he holds a passport, may represent his new country after at least three years have passed since the competitor last represented his former country.

### 2. Age Limitations

The **lower limit age** that applies to all World Championships and ILF sanctioned events is **16** years of age as of the day prior to Championship commencement.

**Dispensation at U19 (over age)** – must be resident / 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).

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

Requests for dispensation should in the first instance be addressed to the Convenor of the Competition Committee who will consult with the Officers of the Federation and as appropriate (decided by Competition Convenor and the President) with the full membership or other Nations entered into a specific Under 19 Event.

***Dispensation at U19 (over age) – On a second or subsequent occasion***

***In addition to the above relating to dispensation, if a Member requests dispensation on a second, or more, occasion then in addition to the residence there will be an added criterion that those over age must all be passport holders of the Member. Specifically if the allowance of up to 4 non-passport holders is taken up then these must all be within the U19 members of the squad. [Agreed May 2007]***

### 3. Nationality

Prime criteria for eligibility is to be a passport holder of the country concerned but the following will also be accepted :

#### 3.1 Birth / Naturalisation (born in the country or naturalised within an adopted country). (Effectively becomes a passport holder).

*[Note in any situation of naturalisation without becoming a Passport Holder this would be part of the limitation on Non-Passport holders]*

### **3.2 Parents**

One or both birth parents, adoptive parents or step-parents born in the country  
*[Note if not a Passport Holder then this would be part of the limitation on Non-Passport holders]*

### **3.3 Grandparents**

One or more birth / adoptive grandparents born in the country  
*[Note if not a Passport Holder then this would be part of the limitation on Non-Passport holders]*

Note : Step-Grand Parents are not acceptable

### **3.4 Marriage (spouse being born in the country) with the qualification that the spouse, and husband, must be resident in the country being represented**

*[Note if not a Passport Holder then this would be part of the limitation on Non-Passport holders].*

Note : In the event of death of the spouse this would not prevent the individual from qualifying by this criteria.

Note : Divorce from the spouse would disqualify the individual from qualifying by this criteria.

Note : this criteria relates to accepted marriage in the context of a civil or religious ceremony. "Common –law " situations and /or partnerships without such formal acceptance (and hence supporting documentation) will not be accepted.

### **3.5 Residence**

Minimum two year period of residential qualification will be acceptable.

*[Note if not a Passport Holder then this would be part of the limitation on Non-Passport holders]*

## **3. Non – Passport Holders – Limitation of Numbers**

Any squad for a specific ILF sanctioned event shall have at least 85% (in all cases rounded downwards) of the playing squad qualifying holding a passport of the Nation concerned. Qualification by other than possessing a passport for the country concerned will limited to 15% (in all cases rounded upwards).

In the case of the field game this would be 85% of 23, which is 19.55 rounded down to 19. Consequently the maximum number of Non-Passport Holders would be 4.

The exception to this will be where a new / developing nation needs support and this is undertaken through positive action or where this occurs of its own right. Instances of this would be considered by the Convenors of the Competition and Development Committees with a recommendation made to the Officers.

In World Championship terms this would only apply to the teams not in contention for the Championship i.e. the Development group currently known as the Green Division.

#### 4. Prior Qualification

Individuals who qualified for, and played for, a Nation under the eligibility criteria operative before the July 2004 changes remain qualified to play for that Nation in perpetuity and will be treated as a passport holder (i.e. will not be subject to the Limitation on Non-Passport holders. Nations have submitted the names within this group and these are held within the Competition Committee.

*(Note : it was agreed in July 2004 that notification of names was required by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004)*

#### 5 Change of Country

This will be permitted on the basis that :

**ILF sanction has been sought / given**

**Eligibility criteria has been met**

**A three year period has elapsed between playing for one country and then playing for another (\*)**

Note that this would exclude a player from playing for one country in one form of Lacrosse (eg Field) and then playing for another country in another form (eg Indoor) within the three year period.

\* The exception to this would be where a new / developing nation needs support and that we might undertake this through positive action or where this occurs of its own right. Instances of this would be considered and agreed by the Convenors of the Competition and Development Committees.

In World Championship Field terms this exception would only apply to the teams not in contention for the Championship i.e. the Green Division / Affiliate Members.

#### Age considerations

Note that **player movement between countries** (assuming eligibility criteria is met) **without the three year gap will be permitted in the case of players within the Under 19 age qualification period for movement from lower age group to senior Lacrosse.** **Note : the reverse would not apply.**

Implications :

An 18 year old could play in the U19 World Championships for one country and then for another at Senior level without the three year qualifying period.

An under 19 could not play in the Senior Championship for one country and then play (assuming age criteria met) in the next U19 for a different country).

#### 5 Documentation Checks

The Competition Committee shall have the power to call upon the National Governing Body of member Nations to provide documentary evidence as needed to support the status of players within their squads. Failure to provide satisfactory documentation may result in the player being debarred from participating in the tournament in question.

Ron Balls

Chair Competition Committee  
30<sup>th</sup> July 2007

Updated to reflect decisions made at the 2007 ILF Meeting

## Player Eligibility - Under 19 World Championships 2008

In addition to the eligibility criteria relating to representation of a particular country the following gives further detail of the specific age considerations applying to the 2008 Under 19 World Championships :

### Lower Age

The lower limit age that applies to all World Championships and ILF sanctioned events is 16 years of age as of the day prior to Championship commencement.

Consequently with the 2008 Championships starting on July 3<sup>rd</sup> then players must be born on or prior to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1992

### Upper Age

The upper age limit is that all players must be under 19 as at 31<sup>st</sup> August of the year before the Championships take place.

For 2008 this means that players must be born after 31<sup>st</sup> August 1988.

### Over Age

In some circumstances, generally for the newer (developing) members competing at the Under 19 Championships for the first time, on application, the ILF will permit over-age players. In general the waiver on age limit will be to Under 21 and for 2008 this would mean being born after 31<sup>st</sup> August 1986.

For "over-age" players there is the added criteria that the players – **must be resident / 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).**

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

***Note that for Members seeking dispensation for a second or subsequent time that all players in the over age group (i.e. in the range September 1<sup>st</sup> 1986 to 31st August 1988) must be passport holders of the Member represented. [Agreed May 2007]***

Requests for dispensation should in the first instance be addressed to the Convenor of the Competition Committee who will consult with the Officers of the Federation and as appropriate (decided by Competition Convenor and the President) with the full membership or other Nations entered into a specific Under 19 Event.

### Player Movement (between countries)

Note that **player movement between countries** (assuming eligibility criteria is met) **without the three year gap will be permitted in the case of players within the Under 19 age qualification period for movement from lower age group to senior Lacrosse. Note : the reverse would not apply.**

*Implications :*

*An 18 year old could play in the U19 World Championships for one country and then for another at Senior level without the three year qualifying period.*

*An under 19 could not play in the Senior Championship for one country and then play (assuming age criteria met) in the next U19 for a different country).*