



January 27, 2010

FROM THE HYLA BOARD TO OUR PARENTS, PLAYERS AND PATRONS:

Each year one of our most difficult struggles is dealing with the loss of the equipment we loan for use during our season. All too common, helmets, pads and goggles are not returned to us and are kept for use for summer camps and indoor seasons. This increases the costs to our program and attempting to gather up loaned equipment after the season is a significant time expenditure.

With the popularity of our sport, the problem has increased. Thus, while we have held off as long as we could, it has come to the point where we must adopt the procedure of most of the other area programs and require a deposit to secure the return of loaned helmets, pads or goggles.

While we regret the need for this change, it will involve no increase in cost to participate in our programs, so long as equipment is returned. At signups, HYLA will collect a check for the deposit amount, which will not be cashed. It will simply be held for the season and returned at the time loaned equipment is turned in. The last day for equipment return, as always, is Fun Day, the day of the finals of our Mudsock tournament. This year, that date falls on Sunday, May 30. The following Monday, the deposit checks applicable to equipment not returned will be deposited. A \$30 charge will be imposed for any checks returned due to insufficient funds.

The deposit amounts will be \$75 for boys helmet and pads, \$30 for boys for pads only and \$30 for girls goggles. These amounts were selected to cover the cost of our equipment and fall in the mid range of what other programs have established. As stated, though, there will be no actual cost if the equipment is brought back, deposit checks will simply be returned.

Consistent with this change in policy, HYLA will no longer permit its equipment to be used for post-season activities such as camps and tournaments. The exception will be boys helmets, we will be implementing a rental program for those at a later date. Pads and goggles will not be loaned. Our experience has shown that for players who intend to continue with the sport after their initial season, the purchase of pads or goggles is a much more financially sound investment. Both are reasonably priced and any rental fee HYLA could impose would go a long way towards purchase of pads or goggles that the player will have to keep.

We trust you understand the need to implement this change in policy. It is part our effort to keep operating costs as low as feasible. It will also allow the time and effort of the volunteers we have to be directed towards improving our program and the sport of lacrosse in Hilliard. Thank you.