

February 13, 2020

A message regarding the new Women's Field Lacrosse program being offered in Burlington

Starting in the 2020 season, Burlington Minor Lacrosse is pleased to introduce the Women's Field Lacrosse program to our offering to the residents of Burlington and associated areas within our residency boundaries. In the past, we have not offered this program and as a result, the girls of Burlington were permitted to travel to other centers offering this product. With the introduction of the Burlington teams, the question is raised... "Who do I play for?"

There are several different opinions in the various centers at the current time. BMLA will not operate on *opinion* but rather the ruling of the governing body of lacrosse in Ontario, the OLA.

"Burlington offering women's field lacrosse for the first time means players resident in Burlington, but previously registered with other OWFL centres, have a <u>one-time</u>, right-ofchoice in returning to their home municipality (as the municipality in which they live now operates a team for which they are eligible).

The choice they make in 2020 determines their eligibility in future seasons (i.e.: they will remain a member of whichever club they choose until properly released)."

What this means is, if you are resident within the bounds of the Burlington catchment area, you have the <u>choice</u> of returning to your current, non-Burlington club OR you can sign with Burlington without the requirement of the Release process. This is a one time choice as next year should you choose to play in Burlington, you will require a release from the other organization (and vis-versa).

This does not mean that players outside of the residency boundaries of the BMLA can sign with Burlington citing the "New Offering, One-time signing" right referenced above.

The BMLA sincerely hopes that all those eligible take the opportunity to be a part of these new teams and set the foundation of success for years to come.

Sincerely,

Linda Wright Director of Girls Lacrosse David Hunter President, Burlington Minor Lacrosse

Burlington Minor Lacrosse Association www.burlingtonlacrosse.com