

Renegades Lacrosse, Inc.

Policy on Elevating Players Above Grade Level

“Playing Up”

Renegades Lacrosse has established a policy around the concept of playing up. We define “playing up” as allowing a player to join a team above that player’s school grade for the boys or grade “level” for the girls. Each player registered with our program shall play with his or her travel team, as assigned by our boys’ and girls’ directors, per their school grade or level.

Our Program consists of the following team grades and levels, in addition to our K-2 Clinic.

Boys Program: Grades 2-8 Travel

Girls Program: Levels 3/4, 5/6 & 7/8 Travel & Select

Exceptions to our policy are limited to the following situations:

1. A player’s parent is the head coach of a team that is a grade level above the player’s then current grade in school;
2. The girls’ program provides for “Select” teams at the 5/6 & 7/8 levels. Select teams are composed of girls with above average lacrosse skills or experience. The Select teams are chosen by the level directors, who have the discretion, to allow a player to play up;
3. In certain circumstances, when a team is short-handed and a head coach requests the assistance of a younger player, it will be allowed as long as protocol is followed. Each head coach affected by the request and the parent(s) of the player(s) in question all agree with the *temporary* assignment.

Our program recognizes the value of allowing players to maximize their full potential through competition. We also know the value of having skilled and experienced players set an example and lead those possessing less of either, or both. The concept of team play was foremost in our minds when we set the policy laid out above. We are a youth program focused on teaching the fundamentals of our sport with emphasis on sportsmanship and team play. We feel there are other outlets and venues for those players who exhibit exceptional talent and have the need for a higher level of competition; namely, club lacrosse. Our program has been in existence since 2002 and on balance, we’ve found the better choice for our program is to have our kids play with classmates or at the same level, with limited exceptions.