



Association Newsletter Vol 3 January 2025

Mark Your Calendars! 2026 Season Training Dates and Required Meetings

ANNUAL MEETINGS: REQUIRED ATTENDANCE

PORTLAND Saturday, January 24, 8:00am - 12:00noon PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE: SYLVANIA CAMPUS (12000 SW 49th St, Portland, OR 97219) See map on page 6. Building HT. Please arrive early & be in room by 8:00am. Parking is Free on Saturday

Need a new OLOA Jacket? Don will have jackets available at this meeting. \$50. Bring a check

EUGENE Saturday, January 31, 8:00am - 11:00am TBD
Location: Way Point Church
332 58th St. Springfield, OR 97478

BEND Sunday, February 1, 8:00am - 11:00am
Location: Vince Genna Stadium
401 SE Roosevelt Ave, Bend, OR 97702

PORTLAND Veterans Training:

Meeting Location: PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE: SYLVANIA CAMPUS (12000 SW 49th St, Portland, OR 97219) See map on page 6. Building TCB. Parking Fee Applies. Approximately \$2-\$3 exact change or CC at Kiosk in parking lot. (OLOA will reimburse; details TBA) Please arrive early and be in room by 7:00pm.

- Tuesday, February 17, 7:00pm - 9:00pm
- Tuesday, February 24, 7:00pm - 9:00pm
- Tuesday, March 3, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

EUGENE Veterans Training: Waypoint Community Church (332 58th St. Springfield, OR 97478)

Wednesday, February 18, 7:00pm - 9:00pm TBD

Wednesday, February 25, 7:00pm - 9:00pm TBD

Wednesday, March 4, 7:00pm - 9:00pm TBD

SALEM Veterans Training: Salem Chamber of Commerce (1110 Commercial St. NE, Salem OR 97301)

- Thursday, February 19, 7:00pm - 9:00pm
- Thursday, February 26, 7:00pm - 9:00pm
- Thursday, March 5, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

BEND Veterans Training: Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt (360 SW Bond St, Unit 500, Bend, OR 97702)

- Monday, February 23, 5:30pm - 8:30pm
- Tuesday, February 24, 5:30pm - 8:30pm

High School Season Information for 2026

2026 Certification Requirements:

- Completion & Passing of HS Rules Exam
- Completion & Passing of Youth Rules Exam (required if you plan to work tournaments in off-season)

Upon completion of tests:

- Email OLOA Secretary James Strohecker with confirmation (attach certificate) **Due by: February 15**
- James.strohecker@gmail.com

Be sure that you have renewed your US Lacrosse membership, too!

Game Schedules and Scheduling Blocks:

- By late February, Assignors will have game schedules available to begin the work of assigning games.
- Schedule Blocks: Now is the time to begin updating your availability beginning March 16. (first day of HS season)
 - Sign-In and block any dates you are not available to work games. Early season availability should be completed no later than February 15th. (look to block 30 days now and then update regularly thereafter)
- March 3, 2026: Game Schedules Available for Acceptance
- First games will be on Monday night, March 16th

Preseason Checklist

- Wash Uniforms, Jackets, Hats, Shorts/Pants
- Inspect gear/order replacement items now before the rush of the season
- Waterproof Jackets, Hats (Need a new jacket? Contact Don Huber: email: don11660@gmail.com)
- New Batteries for Timers
- Start your Fitness Training: Stretch, Walk-Jog-Run

Oregon Tournaments: Mark Your Calendars!

2026 Spring/Summer Tournaments (Plan Ahead Now to Support Lacrosse in Oregon)

- SALL: May 2-3: Sisters, Oregon
- Hot Shots: June 12-14: Bend, Oregon
- Northwest Summer Open: June 20-21; Portland, Oregon
- Rogue Rising Lax Tournament: June 27-28, 2026; Medford, Oregon
- Oregon Lacrosse Classic: July 18-19; Bend, Oregon
- Cascade Summer Shootout: July 24-26; Bend, Oregon

(Sign-up Link and Tournament details will be updated after January 2026 for Summer Tournaments)

New Official Recruiting

Even though the OLOA is fast approaching the 2026 HS season, all of us need to continue to keep our eyes and ears open to potential new officials. Whether you are officiating another sport that may have a person(s) interested in expanding their sports or friends from your current or past playing days...we all need to make the effort to build our ranks to support the future growth of the game in Oregon.

If you identify a person who might be interested in officiating lacrosse, please do the following:

- 1) encourage them to review the OLOA page on the OHSLA website
- 2) introduce them to the game by inviting them to one of your games to watch
- 3) alert an OLOA board member and possibly set up a coffee or lunch meeting to help the interested person learn more about how to become an official.

The OLOA Newsletter will highlight a few of our officiating “brothers” each edition. A great way to get to know each other on and off the field. This Month’s Edition:

Dan White

Lacrosse has been a part of my life for 23 years. I began playing lacrosse in the 6th grade and played into college (Go Beavs) before taking a break for over a decade to focus on career development and starting a family. I always had a stick in my hands during this period, and the itch of the game never really went away. I joined a men’s league team a few years ago and the refs at those games always asked us to consider becoming an official. I seriously started considering it when I was checked on the elbow in a game and three fingers on my hand went numb for two weeks! I figured being an official would keep me involved in the game, be easier on my body, and add a little extra income; so, I made the switch, and I’ve loved every minute of it. I’m so glad that I became an official as it will allow me to stay involved with the game that I love for the foreseeable future.

My favorite memories so far have been getting to officiate playoff games and tournaments. Playoff games come with a high level of intensity, and you know you have to bring your A-game because someone’s season is ending that night. Tournaments are awesome because you usually get to travel, you officiate a ton of games to boost experience, you get to see different teams/players from around the region, and you get amazing hangouts during the down time.

I have two younger kids (about to be 8 & 6) so outside of the game, my life revolves around their schedule. School/play dates/sports/etc. I work from home as an Operations Manager for a financial servicing firm so I’m usually on the deck with a beer by 4pm. I like to watch sports, go to concerts, play video games, and go on walks/hikes during any spare time that I can get. Unless I can get a game assigned, then put it on my schedule!





Scott Weyer

I got into officiating through my brother, Bob. He said they were always looking for good officials, he said I fit the official part. I have been an official for 11 years now and absolutely love it.

My favorite memory is doing a game with Devin Bentz. It was just the two of us and we had West Linn and Bellevue! Great game, Devin was fantastic, just a great day.

Love the outdoors, seeing comedians and Duck Football! My best times though are when I get to spend time with my grandchildren!

Jack Fairfield

I graduated from high school in 2010 and didn't end up playing in college. After a year of missing the game and watching my brother play in high school, I considered getting into coaching but ultimately chose to try officiating because of the set your own schedule nature of refereeing. I enjoyed it and kept coming back. I moved to the Portland area in 2023 from Arizona and have enjoyed working with the awesome OLOA officials.

I enjoy the teamwork aspect of refereeing and the intensity of being in a competitive game. I appreciate that there are always new things to learn and that everyone in the crew has different experience and perspective that they bring to the table.

I am an avid (yet very average) chess player and have been playing since I grew up. My wife Lexy and I live in Beaverton with our basset hound, Missy, and we are expecting a daughter in early summer this year.



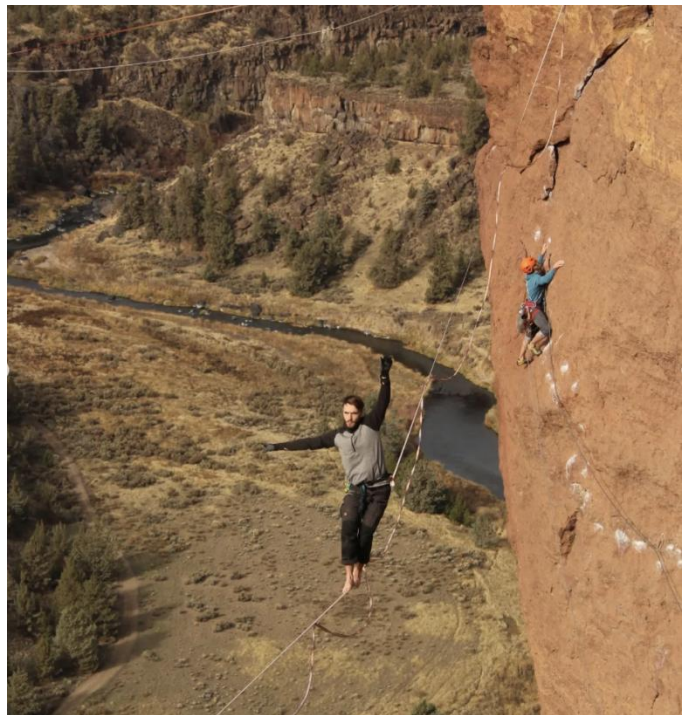
Michael Buisan

I started my officiating career in Spain when I was playing/coaching a men's team from 2015 to 2018. The game was so fresh and new there and as a player and a coach, I saw a place where I could step up and help grow the game through officiating. A dream of mine is one day to officiate European tournaments.

A treasured memory was my last-minute decision to ref the Spanish League final in 2018. This was basically a tournament playoff, in which I played and lost in the game right before the final... tired and beat up, I took off my cleats and officiated the final barefoot. The team I played for was Alicante Barefoots, so it just felt right!

Now entering my 6th season as a part of OLOA I have many pleasant memories of working with guys from all over the state during the season and tournaments. I can't wait to continue to grow and learn.

Outside of the game you can catch me in the woods hunting and foraging. During the sunny season I love going out to the coast, Smith Rock or waterfalls to set up Slacklines over the gap and try to wiggle to the other side. I love dancing to live music or at festivals, surfing, rock climbing, and multicultural experiences. I went to school for journalism at the UO and since then have been working as a freelance videographer.



Portland Area Annual Meeting and Veterans Training Location

Portland Community College: Sylvania Campus, 12000 SW 49th Ave, Portland, OR 97219

Weekend: Free Parking

Weekday: Parking Fee Applies. (anticipate approximately \$2-\$3; OLOA will reimburse; details TBA)

