

# Kaiserslautern Lumberjacks Lacrosse

## New Member Information Packet and FAQ



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## **Team History**

### ***When did the team start and who founded it?***

The team was founded by Daniel Miofsky, a German who moved to Kaiserslautern to study in 2008. After becoming part of the Kaiserslautern University sports program, the team then joined a club in Hochspeyer and was able to join the league with a full roster in its first season. In 2012, the team moved to a local club in Kaiserslautern, TSG 1861 Kaiserslautern e.V., where we operate now.

### ***How many different teams do the Lumberjacks have?***

Currently, we have two teams, a men's team and a women's team. In the past there have been multiple teams and even a youth program. It all depends on the number of consistent players that come out and take over responsibility.

## **The Game in Germany**

### ***What is the league structure like?***

There are 4 leagues, The Bundesliga (federal League): North, East, South and West

Each consists of a 1<sup>st</sup>, a 2<sup>nd</sup> or even lower leagues. The best teams of the 1<sup>st</sup> leagues go to the play offs.

### ***How are the rules different?***

Lacrosse in Germany is played by the official FIL rules. Major differences are that field measurements are slightly adjusted to the metric system, and that we usually have to be flexible when we play, as we usually play on modified soccer/field hockey fields.

### ***When does the season occur?***

In the Bundesliga West, before the season starts, all teams compete in a one day tournament – The “Bundesliga West Cup”. This is the official start of the season.

The season itself is split into two halves: the first takes place from September to November. The second half starts in March and finishes out in May.

### ***How do the referees work?***

Every team has to provide referees for the league games. Therefore, each team is incentivized to provide referees, for if not, you have to pay extra in order to cover

games your team is required to ref. Every season there are several Camps for getting a refereeing license, some are even taught in English.

### ***What is the level of play?***

The level of play is wide spread. There are a lot of beginner teams. On the other hand there are some pretty advanced teams. Many of the German National Team players are found in our league and play at a solid level.

## **Practice and Game Info**

### ***Where and when do we practice?***

The team practices year-round, at the following locations:

TSG 1861 Kaiserslautern e.V.  
Hermann Löns Straße 25  
67663 Kaiserslautern  
(YEAR-ROUND) Mondays and Thursdays from 7.30 PM until 9.30 PM

Unisport Technical University Kaiserslautern  
Paul Ehrlich Straße 28  
67663 Kaiserslautern  
(WINTER- Inside the Gym) Tuesdays from 5.30 PM till 6.30 PM  
(SUMMER- on the grass field behind the GYM) Tuesdays from 6.00 PM till 8.00 PM

### ***When do we Play Games and where?***

The Season goes all Year round. For the Americans would it be known as Spring and Fallball. We have twelve League Games in total per Year. We try to scrimmage as many teams as possible all year round (also sometimes we play indoor lacrosse, known as "Box Lacrosse").

Usually we Play teams around Kaiserslautern in a Radius of 300 km (roughly 200 Miles). We sometimes have a 9 seated Team Van from the TSG which we can use and we organise private cars (everyone chips in for gas).

Additionally, there are a lot of fun tournaments in Germany and around Europe pretty much year-round. We often will participate in these (if just a few people are interested, we'll usually play as pick up Players for another Team).

## **Time commitment**

### ***What is the practice schedule like/how much time should i expect to dedicate to the team?***

The year can be split into four main seasons for playing. The 'regular season' is split into fall and spring, with approximately 6 games each. In-between these seasons is the winter season, where the team focuses more on indoor lacrosse due to the weather. The indoor winter season is less structured and more for fun, with the focus being the fall/spring official outdoor seasons. The summer season is similar, with a more relaxed outdoor regiment.

During the official season, practice normally occurs on Mondays and Thursdays, from 1930 until approximately 2130. There are often optional practices on Tuesdays as well, which last around two hours, but are not as 'mandatory'.

Games generally occur on weekends, and generally take around 3 hours including warm ups. These games can happen either at home, or up to 3 hours away (for the far away games).

All in all, you can expect, during the fall and spring seasons, to commit around 9-10 hours a week to the sport. This includes coming to both practices during the week, and participating in a majority of the season's games. During the slower seasons (summer/winter), the commitment is usually less, and more for fun than a dedicated time for competition.

For Americans, the team also understands that many guests in Germany like to travel a lot while they are here, or might have fluctuating work schedules (night shift, etc). This is totally understandable and the team is happy to work with people to accommodate their desires. Missing practice and games is understandable, the important thing is communication (Teamsnap) and being committed when you say you will be somewhere. Some people come to every practice and games, others come to far fewer. Long story short, there is room for everyone that wants to play on the team, just talk to us!

## **Financial Commitment**

### ***How much does a player have to pay?***

For taking part in practice a player has to be member of our sports Club—TSG. The TSG membership costs 6 €/month for students and 12 €/month for non-students. Additionally, there is a 7 € Lacrosse team fee, which goes to the Lumberjack's team account. This account helps fund team-specific costs. To clarify, this totals to 13€/month for students, and 19€/month for non-students.

There is also a one-time-per-season payment of 32,50 € to cover fees associated with joining the German Lacrosse Association (DLaxV).

Other personal costs, such as chipping-in for gas money, or buying your own equipment.

### ***What are the expenses for the Club (TSG)?***

The club has to maintain the facilities including the fields and the sports hall, but also, e.g. the locker rooms, showers, and our shed. Furthermore, insurances for all of the club's athletes and the vans, owned by the club, have to be paid.

### ***What are the expenses for the lacrosse "Team Account"?***

From our team account we have to pay for things like balls, nets, coach and referee fees. Lastly, the team account covers part of the money needed to use the passenger vans (rented from TSG) when we need to travel to games.

### ***Can I get equipment from the team?***

The team does have a large collection of "loaner gear" in the Shed that you can use while you figure out whether or not you like the sport. If you want to stick with the sport and get serious about playing, buying your own equipment would be a good idea. The prices can vary a lot, depending on what's your weapon of choice.

### ***What is the DLaxV (German Lacrosse Association)?***

For each player that plays on our team for any portion of the season, the DLaxV charges the team with 32,50 €. This money is used for example for referee camps, general organization, the national team and so on. It is the German Equivalent of US Lacrosse, so we pay into the lacrosse community. This is a one-time fee, per season.

### ***How do I pay my dues?***

Dues are collected, in cash, once per quarter. Money will be collected at the FIRST practice of the respective quarter (January, April, July, and October). The team financial manager will notify the team when he or she will be collecting payments.

***Are there other expenses not mentioned?***

If you want to play for the team long-term, a set of shorts and a pinnie are necessary. This can be purchased individually at Turf Gearilla for approximately 27 € (Shorts) and 30 € (pinnie).

[www.gearilla.de](http://www.gearilla.de)

*Please note:* If you join the team after the season starts, you'll still need to pay the one-time-per-season DLaxV players fee.

***Note: If you are willing to pay one year upfront (12\*19€=228€) we will not charge you the additional 32,50 € DLaxV fee.***

## **Team Events**

### ***What Team Events are there?***

#### **Team Meetings:**

We have a Team Meeting at least twice a year. We talk about organisation, Team Funds, New Positions, Finances, Practice, Promotion and further updates. Everybody is welcome to present new Ideas.

#### **Team Bonding:**

We also have Team Bonding events for example ``Grill and Chill`` at the University or somebodies Place, Lasertag, nights at the bar, BBQs, etc.

#### **Asta Somerfest:**

This is a fest at the University from 1500 till 2400 which is put on by the University. We usually have a booth where we sell alcoholic drinks to raise money for the team.

We sometimes also organize parties at different places to do Promotion and add Team Funds.

#### **Christmas Party:**

We also have a Christmas Party where everybody just meets up and has a good time.

## **Communication**

### ***How do I stay in touch with the team/learn about events?***

The team communicates via a few different means. Day to day chat usually happens on our team Whatsapp thread (simple app for your phone). We also have a facebook page for bigger events. Lastly, there is an app/website called TeamSnap (VERY IMPORTANT), which we use for building the roster and confirming players for games and trips. It's very easy to stay in touch, just talk to some of the team leaders to get added onto our chat so you can be in the know.

### ***Whatsapp: "Lumberjacks Roster" Group (Mens Team)***

This Chat is for general and important Information all around Practice/Games only!

Get the Mobile WhatsApp App and ask Frederic Manz (017620007958) or Jan Mehne (017678956977) to invite you to the group.

### ***Whatsapp: "Kaiserslautern Lacrosse" Group (Men and Women)***

Information about who is going out and where/random Stuff.

Get the Mobile WhatsApp App and ask Jan Mehne (017678956977), Frederic Manz (017620007958) or Anika Kinscherff (016096565878) to invite you to the group.

### ***Facebook: "K-Town Lumberjacks" Secret Group (Men and Women)***

Just ask to be added to the group. Occasional news about Team events and Tournaments.

### ***Teamsnap Organisation App/Website (Men)***

You will set your availability for Games and Scrimmages on the Website or Mobile Phone App. There are the four following Options to choose from. "Going", "Not Going", "Maybe" and "Haven't Replied". If you'r Status is "Not going" or "Haven't Replied" within 24 hours before the game, we will not be able to put you on the Roster/Game Sheet for the considered game anymore. Please try to set your availability as soon as possible to "Going" or "Not Going". This makes it easier for the Manager and Coach.

Send Frederic Manz or Jan Mehne your e-mail Address. Teamsnap will generate a Link which makes it possible for you to create an account.

## **Assorted FAQs**

### ***What are the team officer positions?***

Playing Coach (status January 2017): Billy Lawson

Team Manager: Jan Mehne 017678956977 or jan.mehne@googlemail.com

Frederik Manz 017620007958 or Frederic\_manz@web.de

Head of Finances: Florian Mahler 017685709372

Ref Coordinator:

Equipment Manager: Jonas Flöck 01727058496

Pinnie Numbers and Pointbench: Tobias Schunke 017684373441

Team Merchandise: Chris Figueroa

German Public Relations: Johannes Mirgel

Promotion: Hannes Barlang

## **Are you all Set and Ready to Play?**

- Am I signed up on League Master?
  - Have I payed the Club and Team Fees?
  - Have I payed the one-time per Season DlaxV fee of 32,50 €?
  - Am I Part of Teamsnap/have I set my availability?
- (at the latest 24 hours before the Game)?

## ***What is this thing called league master?***

League Master is a website where you must register in order to have your name in the “German Lacrosse System”. This is free, and simple. It allows our team manager to formally add your name to the roster so that you are eligible to play in official games. Instructions are below for you to do this:

*How do I sign up on League Master? Get on the following website:*

[www.dlaxv.de/index.php/de/leaguemaster](http://www.dlaxv.de/index.php/de/leaguemaster)

It’s going to be in German. You can always ask one of us to translate it. Or you can use Google translate as well.

The website will ask you for your E-Mail Address and a Password for your account. Afterwards you’ll have to Type in your full name, date of birth, Jersey Number (contact Tobias Schunke if you don’t have one yet), your Position (Middie/Attack etc.), Club and the Team you are playing for. The Name of our Club is “TSG 1861 Kaiserslautern” and our Team Name is “K-Town Lumberjacks”. Please make sure to put all the Information in the System. It was easier in some cases to use a laptop instead of using a smartphone to fill in the Information because the mobile website might not show all the information you need.

## **What is your Profession?**