



Hello FMLA families. We hope everyone is having a enjoyable holiday season. The purpose of this letter is to both recap the 2018 Fall season, and provide everyone with a look forward to an exciting 2019 Spring season.

First and foremost, the Board would like to remind all of our families that FMLA is a volunteer-based organization that relies on the support and participation of all our parents and families to help keep this program running and successful. We depend on fundraising and those who or are willing to donate their time, energy and money for the continued benefit of all of the boys' and girls' programs. Looking forward to 2019, there will be opportunities for volunteers to serve as chairs to the Board of Directors for the following areas:

- Finance/Accounting
- Field Operations/Maintenance (i.e. Game set-up & take down)
- Community Outreach/Fundraising
- Recruiting
- Social Media (i.e. Facebook, etc.)

We cannot stress enough the importance of the need for additional volunteers to help FMLA continue to grow and be successful, but most importantly, to ensure that all of our players and families have a positive experience with FMLA. For those who are willing to volunteer, or have a particular interest in any of the areas of need listed above, or would like to help out in another capacity, please reach out the Board directly. We will take all volunteers and form committees to work together to address the needs of the organization. No one will be asked to carry the load by themselves, so please help us grow your child's lacrosse organization. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.

### **Fall 2018 Recap:**

While the Fall season was a challenge from a weather standpoint, we saw great development from the youth program. The extended season added much-needed practice time. The H.S. Coaches were able to work with our youth programs through added skill sessions, including the most recent skill session that invited all you to bring a friend. Due to the success of this

program we will be looking to hold similar skill and team-building sessions towards the end of the Spring season.

### **Financial Overview:**

FMLA is a 501 3-C tax-exempt organization. Our tax returns are available on our website and all members have access to this information. As always, detailed information is available to be reviewed by contacting our Director of Finance.

Our fall financial update is as follows: Our fall 2018 dues were down slightly compared to 2017. We had approximately 170 players register for the Fall (2018) season, however, we hope to have somewhere between 250 and 300 players registered for Spring 2019.

FMLA had two successful fundraisers this fall, the t-shirt-fundraiser and the raffle for the Dallas Cowboys suite tickets. The total amount raised from the t-shirt fundraiser was up compared to last year at \$5,000. Thank you to all who participated. This, along with the successful Cowboys raffle fundraiser. This raised \$9,000 for the program. This helped us purchase 4 new light units for our fields. These units were purchased for \$6,000. Our current bank balance as of November 30th was \$50,873.22

Our budgeted/expected cash on hand for year-end is \$40,000 which is up from \$28,000 in 2017. Current monthly recurring expenses include leases, coaches' compensation, and fixed expenses (website, banking fees and insurance) \$15,000. Upcoming operational expenses in December include THSLL membership, DWLF Membership Fees, TGHSLL fees. We are continuing to investigate ways to reduce costs for our children to participate in lacrosse, but until we can find better quality, less costly fields to utilize for our practices, we are going to continue to incur these costs. We would invite any help/assistance that our families can give us with respect to our practice facilities.

### **Looking Ahead to 2019**

The Spring season is fast approaching, and many of our program's teams will be beginning practices soon. Reminder: Due to the new girls players' clinic is scheduled to be held on Saturday, January 12th, player registration will be extended until midnight on January 13th.

The HS girls program is scheduled to play in the AggieLand Tournament again this year in College Station to kick-off the Spring season. The HS girls team is also looking at playing some teams from outside the state of Texas while those teams are traveling through the state during their respective Spring Breaks. (Note that this will not interfere with our HS team's Spring Break)

For the Spring 2019 season, FMLA will hold the following fundraisers:

- Golf Tournament
- Spirit Wear Sales

The Golf Tournament is FMLA's major fundraiser for the Spring and we need additional parent volunteers to help plan, setup and run this tournament, so please let the Board know if you are willing to assist in this endeavor.

Spirit wear sales will be handled through the FMLA website. An email will be sent out to all families announcing that the Spirit Wear "store" is open. FMLA receives a minor percentage of the proceeds from the sale of spirit wear, so don't hesitate to buy hat's, t-shirts, etc. and support our teams.

As we look to the Spring, fundraising will focus on our Golf Tournament and the Spring Car Raffle.

In summary, we are all working together to ensure that every family has a fun and positive experience with FMLA. As mentioned previously, we do have some challenges to overcome, specifically, finding and securing adequate practice fields for each of our teams. The Board is continuously working to address any issues and potential problems and we welcome any input and help from any parent that is willing to step up and help the organization thrive and grow. We can't do it without your help. We are looking forward to a great 2019 season at FMLA and thank everyone for their continued participation and support!

Happy New Year!

FMLA Board