



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY APRIL 6, 2016**

ATTENDANCE

In Attendance:	George MacDonald	VP Finance
	Lynn Orth	VP Promotions
	Jim Bomhof	VP Major
	Marion Ladouceur	VP Minor
	Joe Hiltz	VP Field
	Frank Lawrence	VP Officiating
	Michael Varanesi	VP Development
	Stan Cockerton	Executive Director
	Ron MacSpadyen	Marketing Director
	Jeramie Bailey	Promotions Director
With Regrets:	Rick Phillips	VP Coaching
	Chuck Miller	OLA Past President
	John Doherty	OLA President

**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY APRIL 6, 2016**

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:16 PM.

Chair's Welcome (Jim Bomhof)

1. Jim welcomed the group and thanked everyone for attending. Stan provided an update on John Doherty's health; John is in good spirits and is looking forward to his surgery and a speedy recovery.

To accept the previous minutes dated January 31st 2016.

M/ Frank Lawrence

S/ Lynn Orth

CARRIED.

2. Stan provided an update on the building. A temporary lease was signed which will expire on June 30th, 2016. The remaining sports have hired a realtor to research similar properties in the area while negotiations continue with the current property owners. Approximately twenty sports are involved in this negotiation. Stan affirmed the OLA's desire to stay at the current property, which would only change if there was an unreasonable cost increase in the long-term lease agreement.
3. Stan announced that Chris Driscoll has elected to move on from his tenure with the OLA. The Board of Directors agreed that Chris would be missed. Stan restated that there the current staff will be responsible for working through the 2016 season while the duties of the Technical Director are reassessed. Hiring any replacement staff will not be conducted during the season. Joe Hiltz asked if the OLA plans to continue the Lax on Wheels program. Mike Varanesi stated that Lax on Wheels continues to be a priority under his portfolio, and will continue with the assistance of Jeramie Bailey for the foreseeable future.

VP Finance (George MacDonald)

1. George reviewed the management letter which was provided by Beckett Lowden Read, including the three recommendations that were provided. George noted that these recommendations are not binding, and will be reviewed to determine their pertinence.

VP Officiating (Frank Lawrence)

1. Frank presented the Board of Referees roster for the 2016 season. Jim Bomhof noted that the number of referees at this level had decreased from the 2015 season, and asked how this might affect games. Frank spoke to the benefit of the Qualifiers Program in the training and development of senior referees from across the province, which will eventually replenish the reserves of senior referees who are retiring. Jim Bomhof noted that Palmer Funkenhauser was included in the list of Board Referees. Frank responded that Palmer is a strong referee with a great attitude who was originally trained in the Qualifier Program and has been accepted back into Ontario on an interprovincial transfer from the Alberta Lacrosse Association.

To approve the 2016 Board of Referees roster as presented.

M/ Michael Varanesi

S/ Jim Bomhof

CARRIED.

2. Frank presented the list of referees who have been selected to represent Canada at the 2016 European Field Lacrosse Championships in Budapest, Hungary. Frank noted that these names had already been approved by the RDC.

To approve the international travel request forms of Brent Coulombe, Greg Fancett, Jeff Orzeck and Alex Wagner to attend the 2016 European Field Lacrosse Championships as representatives of Canada.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Lynn Orth

CARRIED.

3. Frank presented the list of referees who have been selected to represent Ontario at the 2016 European Box Lacrosse Invitational in Prague, Czech Republic. Frank noted that that these names had been approved by Stan Cockerton prior to travel arrangements being made.

To approve the international travel request forms of Frank Lawrence and Jeramie Bailey to attend the 2016 European Box Lacrosse Invitational as representatives of Ontario.

M/ Lynn Orth

S/ Jim Bomhof

Frank Lawrence and Jeramie Bailey declared conflicts of interest.

CARRIED.

4. Frank presented the list of German officials who have been invited to participate in the 2016 OMFLL spring season. Frank explained that both officials will also be attending the 2016 European Field Lacrosse Championships in Budapest. These officials have been invited to provide an opportunity to officiate high level games in preparation for their attendance in Hungary. Frank noted that these names had been approved by Men's Field Referee in Chief Neil Macdonald prior to being presented to the Board of Directors for approval. Stan asked if Frank had reviewed copies of their certification. Frank confirmed that he had received a current copy of each official's certification and insurance.

To approve the international travel request forms of to officiate the 2016 OMFLL spring season as representatives of Deutscher Lacrosse Verband.

M/ Joe Hiltz

S/ George MacDonald

CARRIED.

5. Frank thanked the Ontario Lacrosse Association for funding the referee evaluation database for the 2015 season. All of the supervisions were reviewed and adjustments were made as a result of the data submitted. Frank asked for the OLA to continue to fund the cost of maintaining the referee supervision database for the 2016 season.

To approve the cost of maintaining the referee supervision database at a maximum of \$600 for the 2016 season.

M/ Frank Lawrence

S/ George MacDonald

CARRIED.

VP Major (Jim Bomhof)

1. Jim reported that the transfer process has begun for the 2016 season. Five midget players have transferred into Ontario (three from Quebec to Cornwall, and two from Alberta to Hamilton). Jim also explained that reclassifications have begun, and are currently being shared with Peter Flook and Marion Ladouceur.

VP Field (Joe Hiltz)

1. Joe announced that the minor field season is set to begin with the 2016 Jammer Classic. Joe asked whether players who had been suspended from a previous season could serve their suspension in the Jammer Classic. The Board of Directors agreed that, because the Jammer Classic is an OLA-sanctioned tournament, suspended players would be required to serve any carry-over suspensions in the Jammer Classic prior to playing.

VP Promotions (Lynn Orth)

1. Lynn reported that the 2016 SAGM was well-received by attendees. Lynn thanked Ron MacSpadyen, Jeramie Bailey and Tina Manning for their help and support.
2. Lynn recounted her ongoing involvement with assisting the field sector in rewriting their constitutions. Stan Cockerton asked when the draft versions of these documents would be presented for feedback. Lynn responded that the goal was to have all documentation complete ahead of the 2016 OLA AGM.

VP Minor (Marion Ladouceur)

1. Marion shared her experience as an attendee at the CLA Aboriginal Development Committee meeting, which included a captivating presentation on cultural sensitivity by Peter Garrow of Akwesasne. Marion recommended that this type of module become part of the SAGM content for 2017, and that future versions of the membership registration form include an option for participants to declare their heritage as part of their identity. Stan agreed to look into whether or not a change to the registration form would be possible.
2. Marion stated that intermediate numbers appeared to be decreasing across the province. As a result, the intermediate division has been removed from zone play for the 2016 season and will play province-wide to ensure that each team meets the requirements for provincial play. Marion has established a small committee to carry out this task for this season.

3. Marion received notification from Junior B commissioner Dave Vernon that the Guelph Regals Junior B lacrosse nets, which are owned by the team, have been removed from Victoria Road Recreation Centre by individuals previously associated with the Guelph Minor Lacrosse Association's executive. Marion has attempted to resolve the issue diplomatically with the interim Guelph Minor Lacrosse Association President without any success. Marion read out MR 10.01 to the Board of Directors, which details the penalty assessed for failure to comply with an order set out by the Board of Directors.

To serve written notice to the Guelph Minor Lacrosse Association executive via the interim president, stating that the nets which belong to the Junior B Guelph Regals must be returned within 10 days, or a fine of \$1000.00 and immediate suspension of the entire Guelph Minor Lacrosse Executive shall be levied under MR 10.01.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Michael Varanesi

CARRIED.

4. Marion asked Stan Cockerton whether eligibility letters had been prepared for individuals who were prevented from attending a minor referee's certification clinic. Stan presented copies of these letters to the Board of Directors to review and noted that OLRA President Andrew Ecclestone would be copied on all correspondence. Stan announced that he would be speaking with CRC Committee Chair Glen Flippance and asking him to amend the policy to prevent this type of situation from occurring in the future.

To serve written notice to the named individuals on behalf of the Board of Directors, regarding their 2016 membership eligibility.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Lynn Orth

CARRIED.

VP Development (Michael Varanesi)

1. Michael announced the members of the 2016 Development Committee: Lynn Swindells, Laurie Hansen, Tammy Schuetzkowski and Cheryl LaPlante. Staff will contribute their support where requested. The first order of business is to inventory the current resources that are available to OLA members. The group is very enthusiastic about being involved, and momentum is building.

2. Michael shared that Team Ontario is operating quite well thanks to the involvement of Wendy Cuthbert and Bob McMahon.
3. Michael expects that girls box and girls field will continue to make significant strides forward. There have been some initial scheduling conflicts that will need to be worked out ahead of the 2017 season; further meetings are planned for the end of the 2016 season in order to finalize the remaining puzzle pieces.
4. Michael pointed out that the Zone Boundary Realignment Committee has stalled and that action needs to be taken soon. Ron MacSpadyen asked to be included in any formal discussions related to zone realignment. It is recommended that this committee also examine the release policy to determine whether or not releases can be streamlined at the club level.

Review of Business:

1. NTR

New Business:

1. Stan discussed the situation where private companies partner directly with OLA clubs, and whether or not there is an insurance issue when private companies or individuals (who are non-OLA members) are on the floor/field during try-outs and practices. Stan asked: "if that non-member becomes injured (or potentially injures a member), could the OLA be held liable?" Stan asked Marion to draft written notification to send to minor clubs that will ensure that any participant who is in an OLA-sanctioned space (floor/field/dressing room/etc.) is registered and, if applicable, certified with the Ontario Lacrosse Association, and that they follow all OLA Rules and Regulations, regardless of whether or not they are volunteers or paid personnel. Ron MacSpadyen stated that private contractors who work with OLA clubs in OLA-sanctioned spaces should be required to provide an up-to-date CRC to the hosting club, proof of insurance to the OLA (which names both the OLA and the club specifically with liability coverage of \$10,000,000), WSIB certification, sign an OLA membership card, and follow all OLA Rules and Regulations. Ron's request was tabled until the June 8th Board of Directors meeting to give time for each Director to reflect on the implications of the request.
2. Ron MacSpadyen introduced the Toronto Stars Minor Lacrosse Association's request to adjust the OLA-approved boundary lines for the city of Toronto. Based on the association's unique status of Area 14 within the city of Toronto, the Toronto Stars have requested to have their boundary lines slightly adjusted to include their home arena within their boundary lines.

To approve a modification to the Toronto Stars Minor Lacrosse Association's OLA-approved boundary lines, which are based on the association's unique status of Area 14 within the City of Toronto. The North Boundary shall be Lawrence Avenue, the West Boundary shall be Victoria Park Avenue, and the East Boundary shall be Morningside Avenue. This boundary revision shall be effective immediately, in response to the request made by the Toronto Stars Minor Lacrosse Association and approved by the Zone 6 Executive.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Lynn Orth

CARRIED.

To adjourn the April 8th, 2016 Board of Directors meeting.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Jim Bomhof

CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 10:39PM.