



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
SUNDAY MARCH 5, 2017**

**HILTON MEADOWVALE HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE  
SOUTH STUDIO 3  
10:00 AM**

**ATTENDANCE**

|                |                        |                       |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| In Attendance: | Marion Ladouceur       | OLA President         |
|                | John Doherty           | OLA Past President    |
|                | George MacDonald       | VP Finance            |
|                | Frank Lawrence         | VP Officiating        |
|                | Laurie Hansen          | VP Minor              |
|                | Joe Hiltz              | VP Field              |
|                | Mike Varanesi          | VP Development        |
|                | Lynn Orth              | VP Promotions         |
|                | Andrew Ecclestone      | OLRA President        |
|                | Brad MacArthur         | Major Series Lacrosse |
|                | Dave Vernon            | Junior B              |
|                | Lisa Cartman           | Junior C              |
|                | Glen Flippance         | Senior Men's Field    |
|                | Mark Scheutzkowski     | Junior Men's Field    |
|                | Josh Briscoe           | Minor Field           |
|                | Shelly Nobile          | Zone 4                |
|                | Mike McKay             | Zone 5                |
|                | Tina Manning           | Zone 6                |
|                | Jenn Matheson          | Zone 7                |
|                | Nicole Roe             | Zone 8                |
|                | Dave Wilson            | Zone 9                |
|                | Wendy Bennett-Costante | Zone 10               |
|                | Andrew Ecclestone      | OLRA                  |
|                | Stan Cockerton         | Executive Director    |
|                | Bruce Codd             | Technical Director    |
|                | Ron MacSpadyen         | Marketing Director    |
|                | Jeramie Bailey         | Promotions Director   |
|                | Peter Flook            | OLA Administration    |
| With Regrets:  | Rick Phillips          | VP Coaching           |
|                | Jim Bomhof             | VP Junior - Major     |
|                | Sharon McKeachnie      | Senior B              |
|                | Dean McLeod            | Junior A              |
|                | John Mayo              | OWFL                  |
|                | Sue Powless            | Senior Women's Box    |

**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
SUNDAY MARCH 5, 2017**

**MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 10:15 AM.

President's Welcome (Marion Ladouceur)

1. Marion welcomed the group and thanked everyone for attending. She asked for everyone present to introduce themselves, and then wished everyone a productive and positive 2017 season.
2. Marion thanked John Doherty for his assistance during the transition process, and for his years of service as President of the Ontario Lacrosse Association.
3. Marion shared some of the encouraging feedback that she received regarding the operation of the 2017 OLA SAGM. There were many association presidents and representatives were willing to share information in a commitment to grow the game.
4. Stan Cockerton announced that the Ontario Lacrosse Association has relocated to 1 Concorde Gate, Suite 200C in Toronto as a result of space consolidation by the property managers of our previous location.

*The OLA Board of Governors shall accept the minutes of the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting, as presented.*

M/ Glen Flippance

S/ John Doherty

**CARRIED.**

2017 Financials and Operating Budget (George MacDonald, Stan Cockerton)

1. George presented the 2017 Ontario Lacrosse Association budget, which is a "break even" budget. This budget is the second part of a three-year trend, which forecasts a positive perspective.
2. George announced that, given the relatively flat registration numbers for 2016, a more conservative budget was prepared for this season. That said, a new development line has been added under the revenue column. This development line will be the result of new skills camp opportunities during

the 2017 season: three regional clinics will be held targeting players at both the grassroots and high performance levels.

3. George pointed out that, as with 2016, only two copies of the Ontario Lacrosse Magazine are budgeted to be published in 2017. The high quality of the Ontario Lacrosse Magazine means that Ron may address the membership to determine the future publication schedule.
4. Stan Cockerton announced that rent of the OLA office space had increased as the result of the relocation to 1 Concorde Gate. Ministry requirements are currently being finalized before the March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 deadline which will extend funding for lacrosse through the 2017 season.

*The OLA Board of Governors shall accept the 2017 operating budget, as presented.*

M/ George MacDonald

S/ Laurie Hansen

**CARRIED.**

#### 2017 Festival Budget (George MacDonald, Ron MacSpadyen)

1. Ron presented the 2017 Ontario Lacrosse Festival budget. Ron announced that Pee Wee and Midget Nationals are each expected to see increased team registrations (from what is presented) because the Canadian Lacrosse Association had extended the registration deadline to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Glen Flippance asked if revisions to the number of teams would affect the budget; Ron answered that it would. Glen asked if the budget could be circulated for approval once it is finalized as opposed to approving the projected budget (given the current variance in team entries).

#### 2017 Team Ontario Budget (George MacDonald, Bruce Codd)

1. George presented the 2017 Team Ontario Lacrosse budget. Brad MacArthur asked about the increase in website fees from the previous season. George answered that this cost pertains to the online registration fees for Team Ontario players.

#### Zone 4 Report (Shelly Nobile)

1. Report submitted.

#### Zone 5 Report (Mike McKay)

1. Mike reported that all clubs are utilizing online registration and are very happy to be doing so. The “try lacrosse” program is having a notable effect on registration numbers, which is encouraging for all associations.
2. Zone 5 is still looking for a referee-in-chief after the resignation of Ian Garrison. Mike thanked Ian for his involvement during the previous seven seasons.
3. Zone 5 has received an new association application from Tyendinaga to compete in 2017. Marion reminded Mike that new association applications, once approved at the zone level, must be approved by the OLA’s Board of Directors.
4. Mike advised Bruce that Team Ontario’s weekday practice schedule would cause issues for players who are unable to travel. Mike explained that the Team Ontario program continues to appear to be too focused on central Ontario players and resources. Bruce replied that he would take Mike’s feedback under advisement.

#### Junior A Report (Dean McLeod)

1. Dean notified the Board of Governors that the 2017 playing schedule is in the final stage of approval by the Junior A Council, and will be circulated very shortly. Marion asked Dean to ensure that Frank is copied on correspondence related to the dissemination of the final schedule.
2. Dean announced the 2017 CLA Minto Cup will be played at Memorial Arena in Brampton. The City of Brampton has contributed \$65,000 toward the operation of this event.
3. Dean advised the Board of Governors that Brampton wished to apply to host the 2021 CLA SAM to coincide with the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brampton Lacrosse Club. Marion instructed Dean to prepare an application to be considered by the OLA Board of Directors before contacting the CLA.

#### Zone 6 Report (Tina Manning)

1. Report submitted.

#### Junior B Report (Dave Vernon)

1. Report submitted.
2. Dave announced that, at the previous day’s Junior B League meeting, team representatives reviewed the updated OJBLL bylaws. Ryan Dowdell has created a mileage chart for “next nearest player movement” which is based on arena-to-arena addresses. The OJBLL would prefer to use a player-address-to-team-boundary (the approach that is currently utilized by minor zones), but will operate for 2017 using Mr. Dowdell’s work.

3. Dave shared that the FNLA had applied (and tentatively approved) to host the 2018 Founders Cup in Allegany. Final approval will be based on FNLA's to secure all of the resources and officials necessary to successfully operate the national championship. In the event that FNLA is unable to resolve the logistics of hosting to the satisfaction of the CLA by the agreed-upon timelines, Ontario will host the 2018 Founders Cup.
4. Dave recommended that a Commissioner's Meeting be held to resolve some of the issues between Junior A and Junior B related to player eligibility. Marion agreed to direct Jim Bomhof to arrange a Commissioner's Meeting to consider these issues.

#### Zone 7 Report (Jenn Matheson)

1. Report submitted.

#### Junior C Report (Lisa Cartman)

1. Lisa shared that the Junior C Lacrosse League will operate with 15 teams for the 2017 season. The final schedule will be released by March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Marion asked Lisa to ensure that Frank is copied on correspondence related to the dissemination of the final schedule.

#### Zone 8 Report (Nicole Roe)

1. Nicole described a common issue in Zone 8 whereby returning players are purposely not registering with the hopes that their local team will be folded so that they can be granted an automatic release to the next closest center. Josh Briscoe announced that the OMFLL was experiencing the same situation. Marion directed the Board of Governors to follow MR 3.01 in these situations.

#### Zone 9 Report (Dave Wilson)

1. Dave reiterated the two major issues experienced by Zone 9 during the 2016 season: referee abuse by parents during games and the consumption of alcohol during minor games. Dave's opinion is that each of these issues reflects poorly on the sport; a change in culture is necessary to improve these situations in 2017.

#### Senior Men's Field Report (Glen Flippance)

1. Glen announced that the OSMFLL will be contributing a team of Ontario players called the Toronto Lacrosse Club to compete in Montreal on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as part of the CLA's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of lacrosse. Glen showed a picture of the jersey that will be worn by the players representing Ontario.

Marion directed Glen to ensure that all players who compete as part of this event are first registered with the Ontario Lacrosse Association for 2017.

2. Glen reported that Ontario has been approved to host the Ross Victory Cup in either Mississauga or Kitchener during the 2017 Thanksgiving Day weekend.
3. Glen shared that Six Nations has been approved by the OSMFLL Council to rejoin the league on a probationary status for 2017. Glen did not share the probationary requirements that Six Nations is required to fulfill, but indicated that he would forward the specifics of VP Field Joe Hiltz for record-keeping.

*The OLA Board of Governors shall approve Six Nations to join the Ontario Senior Men's Field Lacrosse League for competition on probationary status for the 2017 season.*

M/ Glen Flippance

S/ Dave Wilson

**CARRIED.**

4. Glen announced that he has decided to retire as commissioner following the competition of the 2017 season. Glen is currently working on a 2018 succession plan with Joel Firmin, who has taken an active role in the operation of the league during the past 12 months.

#### Zone 10 Report (Wendy Bennett-Costante)

1. Wendy thanked Jim Leworthy, Laurie Hansen, Grant Sloane and Michael Varanesi for their involvement in working with the Mississauga Tomahawks to assist in re-establishing their association.
2. Wendy shared that she, along with Nicole Roe and Fiona Clevely, are working to prepare an information form for players who are cut from their home teams to explain the process of joining the next closest center. Marion asked Wendy to return to the next Board of Governors meeting with more information about this initiative.

#### Junior Men's Field Report (Mark Schuetzkowski)

1. Mark announced that he will continue to serve as OJMFLC commissioner for the 2017 and 2018 seasons.
2. Mark asked the Board of Governors for feedback about a prospective initiative to introduce a junior men's field lacrosse spring component for

interested players. The Board of Governors agreed that it was a good idea to encourage increased involvement. Joe Hiltz instructed Mark to submit a formal proposal to be brought to the Board of Directors for approval as part of the VP Field 2017 Action Plan.

3. Mark reported that Owen Sound has submitted an application to join the OJMFL in 2017. Mark Schuetzkowski announced that the OJMFL is in favour of Owen Sound's entry into the league.

*The OLA Board of Governors shall approve Owen Sound's entry into the Ontario Junior Men's Field Lacrosse League for competition in the 2017 season.*

M/ Mark Schuetzkowski

S/ Josh Briscoe

**CARRIED.**

#### Major Series Lacrosse Report (Brad MacArthur)

1. Report submitted.
2. Brad clarified that he will attend Board of Governors as the Chairman of the Board to Major Series Lacrosse until such time as a league commissioner is appointed.
3. Brad shared that Jim Brady was honoured for his 16 years of service as Commissioner of Major Series Lacrosse at the SAGM Luncheon. Jim was presented with a commemorative photo by artist Arnold Jacobs and received a standing ovation from the membership.

#### Minor Field Report (Josh Briscoe)

1. Josh stated that the OMFL online registration process has experienced a few issues that have been caused by associations who are not properly registering their players, but that the league is working with Ron MacSpadyen to fix the issue.

*Those associations who do not fully comply with the Ontario Lacrosse Association's online registration process as intended shall not have their registrations approved at the league-level or OLA-level.*

M/ Josh Briscoe

S/ Glen Flippance

**CARRIED.**

## Ontario Lacrosse Referees Association Report (Andrew Ecclestone)

1. Andrew announced that referee registration numbers for 2017 are projected to decrease from 2016 in all three sectors.
2. Andrew asked that the new rules for 2017-2018 season be posted on the OLA's website under the officiating tab.
3. Andrew presented Lynn Brandwood as the supervision coordinator for the OLRA for the 2017 season. Lynn has been approved by the RDC to act in this capacity for the referees.
4. Andrew stated that there will be no changes to game fees, mileage and per diem rates for the 2017 season. The OLRA will renegotiate its collective bargaining agreement with the OLA ahead of the 2018 season.
5. Andrew presented Charles Hillier as the privacy officer for the OLRA for the 2017 season.

*The OLA Board of Governors shall approve Charles Hillier to act as the OLRA Privacy Officer for the 2017 season.*

M/ Andrew Ecclestone

S/ Dave Vernon

**CARRIED.**

4. The OLRA Executive identified the following three areas for improvement in regards to the CRC Policy. This discussion was tabled for further consideration.
  - a. The CRC Handbook does not provide direction for "charged, but not convicted" individuals who submitted their CRC and were then charged with a crime which would constitute a Level 2 or Level 3 offense.
  - b. Members have been suspended without appeal, but the CRC Handbook specifically mentions an appeals process
  - c. A policy of this sophisticated nature requires a better process for its membership, including a full CRC committee of active/engaged participants to review these types of situations.

### Review of Old Business:

- 1. No old business to review.**

### New Business:

1. Tina Manning stated that Zone 6 was upset by the way that Markham's relocation to Stouffville had been communicated. Zone 6's concern was based on the fact that the relocation of the Markham Minor Lacrosse Association was delayed in favour of the relocation of the Markham Junior B Lacrosse team, and was approved after the boundaries of the Markham Junior B Lacrosse team were adjusted. Marion explained that, given the changing positions following the 2016 AGM in Niagara Falls and new elections in each zone, it is possible that communication was not properly passed on.
2. Tina circulated an invitation for the Board of Governors and their delegates to attend the Durham Region's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lacrosse celebration.
3. Shelly asked for clarification on how amendments to the constitution can be made. Marion clarified that they can be changed either by membership vote at the Annual General or by majority vote of the Board of Directors under R 9.01(b). Tina expressed concern that amendments that occur during the season can be disruptive, but Marion explained that changes made by the Board of Directors occur infrequently and are done in the interest of the game.
4. Stan announced that new policies that will govern the Ontario Lacrosse Association would be completed and introduced in accordance with ministry requirements by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Marion advised the Board of Governors that these new policies will be circulated once they have been completed and approved by the Board of Directors.

*The OLA Board of Governors adjourn its March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting.*

M/ John Doherty

S/ Nicole Roe

**CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM.