



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2016**

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

**ATTENDANCE**

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

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**MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 10:04 AM.

President's Welcome (John Doherty)

1. John Doherty welcomed the group and thanked everyone for attending.
2. John announced that the Technical Director hiring committee will be comprised of Stan Cockerton, George Macdonald, Marion Ladouceur and himself. Interviews will be scheduled near the end of October.
3. John announced that the 2016 Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame Golf Committee is currently accepting hole sponsors. The cost is \$350 for a full hole, or \$250 for a half hole. OSFMLL, OJALL and OJBLL all committed to sponsor a hole.
4. John asked the group to review the previous minutes.

*The OLA Board of Governors shall accept the minutes of the March 6, 2016 meeting, as presented.*

M/ Lynn Orth

S/ Lisa Cartman

**CARRIED.**

Guest Attendance

1. Kyle Reidhead of Complete Concussion Management gave a 15-minute presentation on his company's concussion management strategy.
2. Melanie Wanless and Andrea Janzen of What Not To Yell gave a 15-minute presentation on their company's abuse prevention strategy.

OMFLL Report (Peter Debrone)

1. Peter informed the Board of Governors that will not be seeking re-election at the 2016 AGM due to personal reasons, but that he is very thankful for all the good work that has been done by the Board to promote the OMFLL. Peter did (self-)claim to be leaving "quite the legacy" behind as he looks forward to continued involvement in other areas of the game.

2. The fall ball season will be comprised of 9 teams in U-13 and 12 teams in U-16. Because of this success, OMFLL is interested in determining the feasibility of a U-19 spring program, though this proposal is not ready to be brought to the Board of Governors yet.
3. Peter announced that he has received positive feedback on the redesign of the OLA Field Lacrosse game sheet, which was a project between OMFLL, OJMFL, OSMFL and the OLRA.
4. Peter praised the online registration process for field lacrosse. The only concern was the two-step registration process for coaches and volunteers, which slowed down the registration process according to the users.
5. Peter shared that the OMFLL is scheduled to take part in a policy paper meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup> with the goal of bringing the OMFLL's constitution in line with OLA policy.
6. Peter revealed the OMFLL is considering moving the OMFLL Face-Off event from Brampton to the 12 new turf fields that have been established by the City of Burlington.

#### Junior B Report (Dave Vernon)

1. Dave spoke to the success and surprises of the 2016 Junior B season. Cited as examples were improvements for Orillia, Guelph and Sarnia (Orillia having made the playoffs in 2016 despite finishing in last place in 2015). Many of the playoffs series were decided by the fifth and final game. Orangeville eliminated the Gaels to win the 2016 Ontario Championships before going on to host the Founders Cup and doing an outstanding job. In front of a sold out crowd, the home town team downed the Gaels in the gold medal game to cap off an exciting year.
2. Dave shared that the executive committee and chairman to the board are planning to meet to make recommended changes to the Junior B policy papers.
3. Dave announced that the OJBLL will not be expanding for the 2017 season.

#### Zone 9 Report (Dave Vernon)

1. Dave shared that Zone 9 is facing a marked increase in bad behaviour from parents and spectators throughout the season. This has resulted in coaches being suspended within the zone and parents being banned from the arenas. Zone 9 has established a policy to ensure that every association has one executive member present at every home game to deal with this issue.

2. Dave asked whether there were clear rules surrounding the protest of a game based on a referee's decision. Dave presented an issue that arose during the 2016 Ontario Lacrosse Festival which led to a discrepancy in the understanding about what situations were or were not appealable. John Doherty asked Marion Ladouceur to follow up on this situation.

#### OJMFLF Report (Dave Vernon)

1. Dave presented Mark's report on his behalf, as Mark was scheduled to attend the OJMFLF 2016 Opening Day.
2. Dave shared that there are 17 teams operating in the league this season. Teams will begin by playing a mini-tournament (three shortened games) to seed the teams and allow coaches to see their players. This format is intended to generate excitement to tournament play. Several more teams are interested in joining the league.
3. Dave spoke about the updated OJMFLF website, which is now updated with scores, playoff brackets and pictures.
4. Dave stated that the Men's Team Ontario U-18 team competed in the First Nations Trophy tournament in Winnipeg, but that the OJMFLF was not given any information on team try-out dates or locations, and three players on the team do not currently appear to be registered with the OLA. John Doherty asked Mike Varanesi to investigate the situation to determine whether or not these players are planning to register for fall field only.

#### Junior A Report (Dean McLeod)

1. Dean reviewed the 2016 Minto Cup championship in Langley, BC. Ontario's representatives, the Orangeville Northmen, lost in overtime of Game 5 to the Coquitlam Adanacs. Dean said that both goaltenders were the best that he had ever seen in his involvement in OJALL, and that the officiating was top notch throughout the tournament.
2. Dean shared his two highlights of the 2016 OJALL season; the 4<sup>th</sup> place Mimico Mountaineers defeating Burlington in the playoffs and the Orangeville Northmen sweeping perennial favourites Six Nations Arrows to win Ontario.

*Should the Executive Director and President approve a representative to make a trip to the CLA Hall of Fame for a Hall of Fame Induction Dinner, the Ontario Lacrosse Association will reimburse the cost of one pair of tickets for that attendee to attend the Hall of Fame Induction Dinner.*

M/ Dean McLeod

S/ Frank Lawrence

**CARRIED.**

#### OSMFLL Report (Glen Flippance)

1. Glen shared that Jim Calder has requested that the OSMFLL field a special team of OSMFLL players which will be called the Toronto Lacrosse Club, and will compete against a special team of QSLL players called the Montreal Lacrosse club on June 17-18, 2017 to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the written rules of lacrosse. Glen plays to select four players from each team within the league who will represent Ontario. The list of players will be provided to the VP of Field in advance of the event so that players can be signed off as members of the OLA.

#### Zone 7 Report (Jenn Matheson)

1. Jenn shared that Zone 7 teams are focused to make some changes to assist our teams for the 2017 season. Jenn shared that it is a major struggle in Zone 7 to create competitive schedules for each division's second teams.
2. Jenn announced that Zone 7 has plans to honour its Coach of the Year, Player of the Year, Ref of the Year and Volunteer of the Year in October at the upcoming AGM.
3. On behalf of Zone 7, Jenn asked the Board of Governors to assist with mandating online registration. John responded that online registration should be discussed with Ron MacSpadyen present.

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

1. Wendy reviewed the stated goals of Zone 10 from March's Zone meeting minutes, and proudly announced that the tournaments hosted by Zone 10 were an incredible success. Zone 10 has requested that the OLA give feedback to each tournament following its conclusion (things that were well-received, whether or not the tournament could be facing sanction, etc.)
2. Wendy announced that Zone 10 has instituted a Zone Social Media Policy as a direct result of poor behaviour from certain members.

#### Zone 4 Report (Shelly Nobile)

1. NTR.

#### Junior C Report (Lisa Cartman)

1. Lisa reported that overall game attendance is increasing around the league.
2. Lisa announced that the Clarington Shamrox were the Meredith Cup winners, which capped off an fantastic season for all teams.

#### Zone 8 Report (Nicole Roe)

1. Nicole shared that Zone 8's associations are very excited about the 2017 season.

#### Review of Old Business:

1. Jenn asked for an update on her SAGM proposal which has been submitted to Stan and Ron for consideration. John responded that he would remind Ron to respond to this request.

#### New Business:

1. Shelly Nobile discussed the importance of seeing reports and motions ahead of each Board of Governors meeting. Jeramie reiterated the importance.

*Any proposal being presented at a Board of Governors meeting are circulated by the proposing individual a minimum of seven days prior to the meeting date.*

M/ Shelly Nobile

S/ Joe Hiltz

**CARRIED.**

2. Mike Varanesi recommended that the hiring committee should be comprised of a representative from every sector and personnel from the OLA's Hiring Committee. The merits of this recommendation were discussed by the group, but no changes were made to the hiring committee that was named by John Doherty.
3. Mike Varanesi reminded everyone present about the importance of attending regularly scheduled meetings. "In order for governance to be in place, meeting must be held and not ever cancelled." The Board of Governors agreed that meetings must take more of a priority for everyone.

4. Jenn Matheson shared that Zone 7 was planning to resubmit last year's withdrawn amendment to mandate online registration. John said that Ron MacSpadyen was currently reviewing options and would communicate new information related to the online registration process as it became available.

*To adjourn the September 11th, 2016 Board of Governors meeting.*

M/ Shelly Nobile

S/ Nicole Roe

**CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM.