



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2017**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2017**

**MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM.

Chair's Welcome (Marion Ladouceur)

1. Marion welcomed the group and thanked everyone for attending. Marion asked if anyone other than Frank Lawrence had staff reports to be reviewed during the meeting. Lynn Orth asked for her SAGM report to be added to the agenda. Laurie Hansen asked for the minor box preliminary ratings to be added to the agenda. Jim Bomhof asked for Junior – Major draft review to be added to the agenda.
  
2. Marion announced that the 2017 OLA Discipline/Appeals Committees at the OLA level would be as follows:
  - a. **Minor Discipline**
    - i. Laurie Hansen (Chair), Michael Varanesi and Frank Lawrence;
  - b. **Junior - Major Discipline**
    - i. Jim Bomhof (Chair), George Macdonald and Lynn Orth;
  - c. **Field Discipline**
    - i. Joe Hiltz (Chair), George Macdonald and Frank Lawrence;
  - d. **Appeals Committeee**
    - i. John Doherty (Chair) and two members of the Board of Directors not utilized in the discipline process.

If not available for the committee at the time that a hearing is necessary,  
any replacement member shall be appointed by the OLA President.

*To approve the previous minutes dated January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.*

M/ Michael Varanesi

S/ Jim Bomhof

**CARRIED.**

### VP Promotions Report (Lynn Orth):

1. Lynn reviewed the SAGM report with the Board of Directors. Lynn asked if anyone was willing to act as a moderator for any of the sessions. Directors are encouraged to contact Lynn directly to sign up to facilitate sessions during the weekend.

### VP Minor Report (Laurie Hansen):

1. Laurie announced that Cheryl Laplante has nearly completed the 2017 minor box season preliminary ratings. June 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for associations to declare a team entry.
2. Laurie explained that she, along with Michael Varanesi and Bruce Codd, have been visiting zone meetings across the province to ensure that everyone is on the right track for the 2017 season. The group has received positive feedback from zone executive members regarding their attendance.

### VP Junior – Major Report (Jim Bomhof):

1. Both the Major Series Draft and Junior “A” Midget Entry Draft were successful events. Leagues are in the midst of preparing their season schedules. Junior C’s Shelburne Vets have elected to declare a one-year hiatus to consolidate operations.
2. The Ontario Senior B Lacrosse League has decided to trial LacrosseShift to compile their stats for the 2017 season. Joe Hiltz added that the OMFLL is also considering moving their stats compilation platform to LacrosseShift.

### VP Officiating Report (Frank Lawrence):

1. The officiating clinics portal has been opened for 2017. Registration for all three sectors will occur online.
2. The Referee Development Team will continue to visit selected tournaments during the 2017 season. Two tournaments will be used by the RDT to evaluate referees for the Qualifier Program: the Owen Sound “A” Tournament and the Zone 9 Conradi intermediate tournament. Each tournament will offer opportunities for officials to display their proficiency to senior RDT supervisors.

## Staff Reports:

1. Jeramie presented the revised version of the OLA box lacrosse game sheet, which will be printed for the 2017 season. The currently used OLA box lacrosse game sheet may still be used by teams until supplies have been exhausted, at which point the revised version will be supplied.

## Review of Old Business

1. Marion, Fiona, Laurie and Ron have reviewed the Out of Province / Out of Country tournament attendance guidelines and policy. This policy will now read:

### **Canadian-Based Teams**

To be approved for participation in the event this application must be accompanied by the following documents

- Letter of permission from Provincial Governing Body (CLA Member Association)
- Letter or Email from the Invitational Tournament / Event Convener confirming application
- Declaration from participating team acknowledging competition occurs under OLA playing and equipment rules; players are properly registered with their teams
- Proof of \$5,000,000 liability insurance coverage

### **International-Based Teams**

To be approved for participation in the event this application must be accompanied by the following documents

- Letter of permission from local governing body
- Letter or Email from the Invitational Tournament / Event Convener confirming application
- Declaration from participating team acknowledging competition occurs under OLA playing and equipment rules; Players are properly registered with their teams
- Proof of \$5,000,000 liability insurance coverage
- Proof of individual player insurance coverage

*To approve the Out of Province / Out of Country tournament policy attendance guidelines, effective immediately, with all required documents for submission to be sent no less than 45 days prior to the start of the event to the OLA President and the appropriate sector representative.*

M/ Laurie Hansen

S/ Jim Bomhof

**CARRIED.**

2. Jim presented the OWBLL's annual Spring Stick Check Tournament proposal.

*To approve the OWBLL's 2017 Spring Stick Check Tournament proposal as submitted. Going forward, the OWBLL Spring Stick Check Tournament will be the sole responsibility of the VP Junior – Major to approve and oversee in operation, provided there are no changes to the annual proposal.*

M/ George MacDonald

S/ Lynn Orth

**CARRIED.**

3. Jim presented the list of associations and teams who have outstanding bills from the 2016 season. Arrangements have been made between Fiona and the representatives of most of the teams and organizations on this list to begin repaying outstanding debts. Jim thanked Fiona and Peter for their assistance in preparing this list.

*To suspend the membership privileges of those teams and associations who have not repaid or made written arrangements to repay their 2016 outstanding debts by the end of the business day on Friday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.*

M/ Frank Lawrence

S/ George MacDonald

**CARRIED.**

4. Michael announced that a planning meeting has been scheduled to take place at the SAGM between himself, Ron MacSpadyen, Joe Hiltz, Peter Debrone, Doug Luey and representatives of the CanAm football group to explore partnership opportunities. Marion asked for Michael to complete a report to be reviewed by the Board of Directors at the April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting.
5. Ron presented the list of minor box association boundaries as they are recognized by the Ontario Lacrosse Association. The boundaries are determined by each city's municipal planning department for the town, city or village for which the association originally applied. For those associations in areas where the town, city or village no longer exists, the formerly recognized municipal boundaries remain the determining boundary lines for that associations catchment.

*To affirm the list of OLA recognized boundaries as presented.*

M/ Joe Hiltz

S/ Laurie Hansen

**CARRIED.**

6. Ron shared his research into 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary jersey patches for OLA members. Based on a minimum order of 5000 patches, the cost will be \$1.40/patch. Ron asked Marion to follow up with Jane Clapman of the Canadian Lacrosse Association to determine the appropriate next steps.
7. Ron presented a proposal for the OLA's "Try Lacrosse" free online registration program for the Board of Directors to review.

*To approve the OLA "Try Lacrosse" free online registration requirements for 2017.*

M/ Michael Varanesi

S/ Laurie Hansen

**CARRIED.**

8. Laurie discussed the concerns of Minor Council to the Board of Directors recent change to the MR2.08 section of the OLA Constitution. Following the January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board of Directors meeting, the Zone Directors contacted Laurie to express concern over the conflicts between MR2.08(b) and MR2.08(c). The Board of Directors talked at length in order to find a balance between what is best for the game and what is best for players and parents.

*To affirm that the Ontario Minor Field Lacrosse League will, for the 2017 season, abide by MR2.08(c) as it was amended at the January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board of Directors meeting, which reads:*

**MR2.08(b)**

A player who is eligible but resident in a municipality with no minor team in any group for which he is eligible, shall sign with the club which is the next closest centre. The distance shall be measured from the player's residence to the two or more municipalities concerned, by the shortest route (excluding toll roads) and by mileage shown on the search engine dictated for OLA registrations for the current playing season. Such player must return to his own municipality the next year of play.

**MR2.08(c)**

Having made his choice, such player shall remain a member of the club for which he has signed until properly released, or until the municipality in which he lives operates a team for

which he is eligible, at which time he shall have the choice of signing with the new team in his own municipality or remaining with the club with which he originally signed.

**NOTE:** Paperweight players **MUST** return to their own resident association once attaining Tyke age. Soft lacrosse players **MUST** return to their own resident association once attaining Tyke age.

M/ Joe Hiltz  
S/ Jim Bomhof  
**CARRIED.**

*To approve, effective immediately, the implementation of the MR 2.08 section, for all sectors other than OMFLL spring season, to read as follows.*

**MR2.08(a)**

A player resident in a community represented by a club with house league and/or a team entered in a category for which he is eligible to play, must register with that club except where such player's services are waived by that club subject to the provisions of MR 3.11.

**MR2.08(b)**

A player who is eligible but resident in a municipality with no minor team in any group for which he/she is eligible, shall sign with the club which is the next closest centre. The distance shall be measured from the player's residence to the two or more municipalities concerned, by the shortest route (excluding toll roads) and by mileage shown on the search engine dictated for OLA registrations for the current playing season. Such player must return to his resident municipality the next year of play; at which time, should the club have no team for which he/she is eligible, the player returns to the association with which he/she was previously signed and is considered unconditionally released.

**MR2.08(c)**

All signed players must have their residence only placed on all OLA Registration Forms. Mailing addresses used in rural areas will not be accepted (i.e. – R. R. #8). Rural players must give their lot, concession number as well as the village, town(ship) or city which they reside.

M/ Laurie Hansen  
S/ Lynn Orth  
A/ Joe Hiltz  
**CARRIED.**

## New Business

1. Jeramie spoke about referee clinic registration costs for 2017. Zone Directors were made aware by email of an administrative cost to register referees through direct billing to the association, which has been paid by the Ontario Lacrosse Association's VP Officiating during the 2015 and 2016 referee clinic registrations. Zone Directors expressed concern about requiring their associations to shoulder the cost of direct billing for the 2017 season.

*To approve the direct billing costs of referee registration to be paid by the Ontario Lacrosse Association for the 2017 season. During the 2018 season, these costs will be applied in full to any association who requests direct billing through the Ontario Lacrosse Association.*

M/ George Macdonald

S/ Laurie Hansen

**CARRIED.**

2. Joe shared an email he received from OMFLL Commissioner Josh Briscoe which requested approval for Orangeville to host a U-9 minor field tournament on the weekend of April 7 - 9, 2017.

*To approve the OMFLL to host the proposed U-9 minor field tournament during the weekend of April 7 - 9, 2017.*

M/ Joe Hiltz

S/ Jim Bomhof

**CARRIED.**

3. Jim Bomhof presented the request of the Markham Junior "B" Ironheads to relocate to West Durham for the 2017 season, with direct affiliation to the West Durham Minor Lacrosse Association and secondary affiliation with the recently relocated Stouffville Minor Lacrosse Association. The boundaries of the new West Durham team would be recognized as the municipal boundaries of the City of Pickering. Supporting documentation included letters from West Durham Minor Lacrosse Association President Bill Elliot and Ontario Junior B Lacrosse League Commissioner Dave Vernon.



*To approve the relocation of the Markham Junior “B” Ironheads to West Durham, with the club’s boundaries recognized as the City of Pickering, for the 2017 season.*

M/ Jim Bomhof

S/ Lynn Orth

**CARRIED.**

4. Laurie shared that she had received an email from a member who had proposed the establishment of a new OLA award to be named in memory of Tucker Williams. Included in the email were proposed details for the criteria of the new award. The Board of Directors discussed reviewing the criteria with a number of stakeholders before finalizing and announcing the establishment of the new award. Marion asked Laurie to revise the criteria and before returning to the Board of Directors for full approval.

*To approve, in name, the establishment of the OLA’s Tucker Williams Award.*

M/ Laurie Hansen

S/ Joe Hiltz

**CARRIED.**

5. Frank announced that he would be replacing Brent McCauley with Blair Ferguson as the new Ontario Head of Referee Supervision, given that Brent had announced his formal involvement with the Brampton Junior “B” Excelsiors beginning in 2017. Frank advised the Board of Directors that he would seek approval for Blair’s appointment at the next RDC Meeting.
6. Frank announced that he had approached Lynn Brandwood to coordinate and compile information related to submissions to the referee supervision database. Frank advised the Board of Directors that he would seek approval for Lynn’s appointment at the next RDC Meeting.
7. Frank presented the international travel request for Alex Wagner to represent Ontario’s officiating program at the 2017 Hong Kong Open (April 14 – 16, 2017). Marion asked if Alex was a referee in good-standing with the OLRA, and currently certified by attendance at a 2017 Officiating clinic. Frank confirmed that Alex was both in good-standing and certified, had participated in the 2016 Alumni Cup / First Nations Trophy national championship and would represent Ontario in the highest regard.

*To approve the international travel request of Alex Wagner to attend the 2017 Hong Kong Open.*

M/ Frank Lawrence

S/ Jim Bomhof

**CARRIED.**

8. Frank announced that the CLA had communicated an additional rule change to each provincial director of officiating on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017, despite the fact that Ontario began its recertification clinics on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Frank asked for those OLA delegates travelling to the upcoming 2017 CLA SAM to discuss how and why rule changes are made after rulebooks had already been printed and without consultation from each Member Association's Director of Officiating.
9. Marion circulated copies of the 2017 Offense Declaration form. All directors and staff signed and submitted their 2017 forms in accordance with OR4.01, which were then placed in a sealed envelope to be forwarded to the attention of OLA Privacy Officer Chuck Miller.

Closing Remarks (Stan Cockerton):

1. Stan advised the Board of Directors that it may be necessary to add a follow-up meeting to the schedule in order to approve any outstanding Ministry of Ontario policies ahead of the March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 deadline. Marion advised the Board of Directors that, on circulation of the remaining policies, the Board of Directors will decide on whether to vote by email on the remaining policies or meet in person on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.

*To adjourn the February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board of Directors meeting.*

M/ Lynn Orth

S/ George MacDonald

**CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:45PM.