



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5, 2016**

ATTENDANCE

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

**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5, 2016**

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:26 PM.

Chair's Welcome (John Doherty)

1. John welcomed the group and thanked everyone for attending. He also thanked the Board of Directors for their well wishes while he was ill during the 2016 season.
2. At the September 11th, 2016 Board of Governors meeting, What Not To Yell presented a partnership proposal for consideration. John announced that the WNTY presenters had followed up with him for feedback. The Board of Directors agreed that there has been an upward trend of unsportsmanlike behaviour from spectators at recent Provincial Championship games which required addressing. Frank spoke about how the problem was affecting new referees and contributing to the decline in overall referee registration over the past four years. John asked Marion and Joe to work with WNTY to present a partnership proposal at the December 8th Board of Directors meeting.

To approve the previous minutes dated June 8th, 2016.

M/ Jim Bomhof

S/ Frank Lawrence

CARRIED.

VP Finance (George MacDonald)

1. George presented the Audit Committee report from Beckett, Lowden and Read for the Board of Directors to review.

VP Development (Michael Varanesi)

1. Michael announced that the OLA Development Committee has made progress for the first year. The plan is to showcase what materials are potentially available at the 2016 AGM, and then have all projects finished and ready for distribution by the 2017 SAGM.
2. Michael celebrated the success of the 2016 Team Ontario program, which saw gold medals awarded to box (Pee Wee, Bantam, Midget, Bantam Girls and Midget Girls) and field (U-15 and U-18) teams. Michael recognized Wendy

Cuthbert and Bob McMahon for their ongoing dedication to the Team Ontario program.

VP Field (Joe Hiltz)

1. Joe shared that the OMFLL has recently completed a review of their policy papers. Many of the policies which were duplicated in their constitution have been removed.

VP Major (Jim Bomhof)

1. Jim congratulated the Six Nations Chiefs (MSL) and Orangeville Northmen (Junior B) on their Canadian Championship wins, as well as the Brooklin Merchants (Senior B) and Orangeville Northmen (Junior A) on their Ontario Championship wins.
2. Ron MacSpadyen asked Jim for information about how the 2016 Minto Cup format resulted in the Orangeville Northmen playing nine games over ten days. Jim responded that he would direct Ontario Junior A Commissioner Dean McLeod to look into the 2017 Minto Cup format to avoid the same situation.

VP Minor (Marion Ladouceur)

1. Marion notified the Board of Directors that she would Wendy Bennett-Costante to establish a list of block amendments (list to be comprised of any proposed MR amendment that is modified specifically to include field lacrosse) for approval at the 2016 AGM.

VP Officiating (Frank Lawrence)

1. Frank explained that the following amendment was already in practice with the support of each league's commissioner, but would not be placed in writing.

The referee assignor, in consultation with the Vice President Technical (Officiating), shall appoint two referees for all games in the Major, Senior and Junior leagues. The referee assignor, Vice President Technical (Officiating) and the Referee Development Team, with opinion from the commissioners for Major, Senior and Junior leagues, shall appoint referees to attend National Championships.

M/ Frank Lawrence

S/ Jim Bomhof

CARRIED.

2. Frank shared that the OLRA Board of Referees are exploring new options for assigning software.

To direct Fiona to bill each association for the past year's use of the Referee Assigning software.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Jim Bomhof

DEFEATED.

VP Promotions (Lynn Orth)

1. Lynn advised the Board that, at the conclusion of the 2016 season, there were only three clubs who were non-compliant (Akwasasne, Mississauga and Thunder Bay). All other clubs are members in good standing.

To enforce the prevention of clubs who are "Members Not In Good Standing" from voting at the 2016 Annual General Meeting.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Jim Bomhof

DEFEATED.

2. Lynn recommended that the U-17 OWFL All Star Format not be automatically granted for 2018 based on the level of competition. Multiple directors pointed out that this proposal was rushed to approval and should not have been approved by the Board of Directors based on how the event operated.

Staff Reports (Ron MacSpadyen)

1. Ron presented the results of the online registration survey that was conducted by OLA Summer Intern Corina Mahorn. Based on the survey results and consultation with the current provider of registration software, the Ontario Lacrosse Association plans to move ahead with online registration for 2017.

Review of Business:

1. NTR

New Business:

1. Jim Bomhof explained that 16 players transferred into Ontario to play minor lacrosse in 2016 (14 from Quebec and 2 from Alberta). Jim recommended that the CLA transfer fee (normally charged to players at the junior level and above) be waived for these players because there were no available teams for these individuals to play for.

To waive the \$75 transfer fee to the 16 players on the CLA transfer list provided by VP Major Jim Bomhof for the 2016 season only.

M/ Jim Bomhof

S/ Marion Ladouceur

CARRIED.

2. Michael Varanesi announced that a conference call meeting had been held with representatives from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport regarding the 2016-2017 Ontario Quest for Gold program. No changes are expected to this program from the Ministry's standpoint, but Michael is working to revise the "points structure" and associated criteria in order to target the most elite athletes for selection. The committee for the 2016-2017 season will be comprised of Dave Vernon, Lisa Alton, Lynn Orth and Michael Varanesi.

To approve the 2016-2017 Quest for Gold Selection Committee members as Dave Vernon, Lisa Alton, Lynn Orth and Michael Varanesi, along with the proposed criteria.

M/ Jim Bomhof

S/ Frank Lawrence

CARRIED.

3. Michael Varanesi asked about the status of the OLA's Technical Director position. John Doherty replied that 27 applications had been received, which would be reduced to a half dozen before interviews would be conducted. The interview date is tentatively set for Saturday, October 29th, 2016.
4. <in camera discussion>

To utilize the Ontario Lacrosse Association's Legal Counsel to advise the Board of Directors regarding the discussed matter.

M/ Frank Lawrence

S/ Michael Varanesi

CARRIED.

5. Marion detailed the proposal from Oshawa Minor Lacrosse Association to apply for winter league sanctioning from the Ontario Lacrosse Association. Marion recommended that this league remain as a pilot program in order to review the success of the program. Frank asked whether Ontario Lacrosse Association referees would be used. Marion indicated that only certified referees would be used.

To approve the attached Oshawa Minor Lacrosse Association's request to officially sanction a 4-on-4 non-contact winter league as a pilot program for winter 2016, with a waived registration fee as per the presented proposal.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Frank Lawrence

CARRIED.

6. Lynn Orth detailed a situation whereby executive members of an OLA league are using the OLA contact list to promote/advertise their non-OLA-affiliated for-profit groups and/or interests. Ron MacSpadyen recommended that Chuck Miller (OLA Privacy Officer) draft a letter to remind all association executives of their responsibility to adhere to the OLA's Privacy Policy.
7. Frank Lawrence shared his concerns with the recent CLA Technical Bulletin mandating helmets for box lacrosse officials at all levels beginning January 1, 2017. The Board of Directors accepted that the CLA had not appropriately advised the OLA of any plans to change the officiating uniform.

The Board of Directors of the Ontario Lacrosse Association and the Ontario Lacrosse Referees Association recognize the inherent risks facing officials while performing their duties. In the interest of balancing referee safety with the recognized decline in registered officials each year, both the OLA and OLRA have elected to strongly recommend that a black, CSA-approved helmet be worn by officials while refereeing box lacrosse in any OLA-sanctioned game. Those officials selected to attend national championships that are sanctioned by the CLA shall follow all CLA guidelines, including the mandatory wearing of helmets at all levels. This recommendation will be disseminated at all referee certification clinics within Ontario prior to the 2017 season.

m/ Frank Lawrence

s/ Michael Varanesi

CARRIED.

Proposed Amendments Review:

1. Sixty-six (66) amendments were submitted by the membership for review.
2. Twenty-five (25) amendments were submitted as a single block amendment to include field lacrosse within the Minor Regulation section.
3. Zero (0) amendments were excluded because they lacked appropriate signatures.
4. Zero (0) amendments were excluded because they were not submitted on or before the published deadline.

To approve the sixty-six (66) submitted amendments that adhere to the published guidelines for dissemination and discussion at the 2016 Ontario Lacrosse Association's Annual General Meeting.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ George MacDonald

CARRIED.

To adjourn the October 5th, 2016 Board of Directors meeting.

M/ Joe Hiltz

S/ Lynn Orth

CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55PM.