



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
TUESDAY OCTOBER 6, 2015**

**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARDROOM
7:00PM**

AGENDA

7:00PM President's Welcome

- 1 Review of Previous Minutes

7:10PM Director's Reports

- 1 V.P. Finance George MacDonald
- 2 V.P. Development Lisa Alton
- 3 V.P. Coaching Rick Phillips
- 4 V.P. Minor Marion Ladouceur
- 5 V.P. Major Jim Bomhof
- 6 V.P. Officiating Frank Lawrence
- 7 V.P. Field Joe Hiltz
- 8 V.P. Promotion Lynn Orth
- 9 Past President Chuck Miller
- 10 Staff Reports

Review of Old Business

- 1 Letter to CLA re: non-OLA-sanctioned teams

New Business

- 1 OLA Wearables - Jeramie
- 2 Team Ontario player registration - Marion
- 3 Application for OLA-sanctioned league - Marion
- 4 Online registration proposal - Marion
- 5 Review of submitted amendments for 2015 AGM

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ATTENDANCE

In Attendance:	John Doherty	OLA President
	George MacDonald	VP Finance
	Lynn Orth	VP Promotions
	Jim Bomhof	VP Major
	Marion Ladouceur	VP Minor
	Joe Hiltz	VP Field
	Frank Lawrence	VP Officiating
	Stan Cockerton	Executive Director
	Chris Driscoll	Technical Director
	Ron MacSpadyen	Marketing Director
	Jeramie Bailey	Promotions Director
	Peter Seto	(Guest)
With Regrets:	Lisa Alton	VP Development
	Rick Phillips	VP Coaching
	Chuck Miller	OLA Past President

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TUESDAY OCTOBER 6, 2015**

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:03PM.

President's Welcome (John Doherty)

To accept the minutes with corrections to Lynn Orth's report regarding the year of the Festival from 2015 to 2014, and to correct the word "under" to "until" on Page 4.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Frank Lawrence

CARRIED.

1. John asked Stan to introduce Peter Seto to the group. Peter was introduced as a provincial consultant who would attend our meeting in order to report back to the Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Culture on the state of affairs of the Ontario Lacrosse Association. Peter was welcomed by the group. Stan shared the Board of Directors concerns in regards to the elimination of direct funding to Sport Ontario. Stan asked for an update from Peter on the current year's grants. Peter answered that the primary grants for sport funding had been extended from the typical three year cycle to an additional year to allow the Ministry time to evaluate the funding it provides to amateur sport, including base funding and Quest 4 Gold funding (all sports are currently undergoing an evaluation process to determine future funding). Stan asked Peter for insight into the Ministry's long term goals for sport in Ontario. Peter explained that the goal of the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Sport is to hold sports accountable for all of the funding that is provided by the province through determined, measurable results. The long-term future goal of the Ministry is to decrease amateur sport's reliance on provincial funding; provincial funding is never guaranteed past the current funding cycle (though it is the position of the province to continue to support amateur sport). Stan asked what the evaluation criteria consists of. Peter answered that early evaluations indicate that membership numbers will no longer be the primary focus of the application process as other variables will likely take precedence. Peter predicted three possible directions for the Ministry to consider:

- a. Base funding is identical to the last cycle (a new three year funding cycle is introduced with no changes to the previous cycle);
- b. New funding program to be introduced in May 2016 with adjusted base funding (which may require each sport to report on the adjusted variables);
- c. Evaluation process is not complete by May 2016, which may result in an additional one year extension under the current guidelines.

Stan asked Peter whether Sport Priority Funding was a good option for the Ontario Lacrosse Association to consider. Peter explained that SPF is a highly competitive funding program that does not necessarily guarantee any level of funding to applicants. Stan asked Peter whether there was any advice that he would provide to the Ontario Lacrosse Association regarding the evaluation process. Peter responded that, because the Ontario Lacrosse Association relied minimally on provincial funding as compared to other sports, he would recommend that the Board of Directors continue to operate in the best interests of the OLA membership, regardless of the evaluation outcome. Stan and John thanked Peter for attending the meeting and providing insight.

2. John asked if there were any members of the Board of Directors who had urgent business to address during this meeting. Frank Lawrence asked to be added to the agenda.

VP Officiating (Frank Lawrence)

1. Frank asked the Board of Directors to consider adopting a double minor penalty for high-sticking in minor lacrosse for the 2016 season in the interest of player safety. Frank compared the player safety issue to the Checking From Behind situation of the last decade, and explained that increasing the severity of the penalty had resulted in a significant decrease of checking from behind infractions.

Review of New Business:

1. John discussed the issue of CLA-sanctioned (but non-OLA-sanctioned) teams competing in Ontario. At this point, the CLA is not willing to become involved in the situation. Long term, this is a crucial issue because of the use of shared resources. John proposed tabling the situation until the off-season in order to find a solution.

New Business:

1. OLA Apparel options were presented to the Board of Directors for discussion. Jackets will be given to all Board of Directors members for their contributions.
2. Marion described a situation where a player was registered to play for Team Ontario, but was not registered to an OLA association. Marion explained that the player was supposed to be registered to a Junior B team, but Junior B commissioner Dave Vernon had no record of this particular player signing a Junior B player's card. Chris Driscoll agreed that Team Ontario players at all levels will be reviewed in 2016 to determine their eligibility prior to competition in order to not repeat this situation.
3. 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 would be a pilot program for two seasons 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 one season, with a waived registration fee as per the presented proposal.

M/ Marion Ladouceur

S/ Lynn Orth

CARRIED.

4. Ron discussed issues with the current online registration platform and outstanding finances owed by the OLA's current online registration provider. The largest issue facing online registration in its current form is that so many problems are "hidden behind the curtain" from the membership. Online registration is moving forward, though not as quickly as the membership would prefer. Based on this discussion, online registration will be tabled for further discussion between Ron and Marion to identify a registration solution that will be beneficial to the membership.

Proposed Amendments Review:

1. Thirty-one (31) amendments were submitted by the membership for review. An additional four amendments which were previously approved but required ratification were also reviewed. Each amendment was reviewed to ensure that it adhered to the published guidelines.

2. Two (2) amendments were excluded because they lacked appropriate signatures.
3. Two (2) amendments were excluded because they were not submitted on or before the published deadline.

To approve the twenty-seven (27) submitted amendments that adhere to the published guidelines for dissemination and discussion at the 2015 Ontario Lacrosse Association's Annual General Meeting.

M/ Marion Ladouceur
S/ George MacDonald

CARRIED.

To adjourn the meeting.

M/ Joe Hiltz
S/ Frank Lawrence

CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17PM.