



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
SUNDAY MARCH 4, 2018**

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

ATTENDANCE

In Attendance:	Marion Ladouceur	OLA President
	George MacDonald	VP Finance
	Laurie Hansen	VP Minor
	Joe Hiltz	VP Field
	Frank Lawrence	VP Officiating
	Mike Varanesi	VP Development
	Lynn Orth	VP Promotions
	Dean McLeod	Junior A
	Dave Vernon	Junior B
	Reg Holinshead	Junior C
	Sue Powless	Senior Women's Box
	Shelly Nobile	Zone 4
	Mike McKay	Zone 5
	Sonya Crossey	Zone 6
	Jenn Matheson	Zone 7
	Steve Kelly	Zone 8
	Dave Wilson	Zone 9
	Mary Sticca	Zone 9
	Wendy Bennett-Costante	Zone 10
	Glen Flippance	Senior Men's Field
	Joel Firmin	Senior Men's Field
	Mark Scheutzkowski	Junior Men's Field
	Josh Briscoe	Minor Field
	John Mayo	Women's Field
	Shane Hubbard	OLRA
	Stan Cockerton	Executive Director
	Bruce Codd	Technical Director
	Ron MacSpadyen	Marketing Director
	Jeramie Bailey	Promotions Director
With Regrets:	John Doherty	OLA Past President
	Jim Bomhof	VP Junior - Major
	Rick Phillips	VP Coaching
	Doug Luey	Major Series Lacrosse
	Sharon McKeachnie	Senior B

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SUNDAY MARCH 4, 2018**

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 10:08 AM.

President's Welcome (Marion Ladouceur)

1. Marion welcomed the group, thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a productive and position season. Each person in the room was asked to introduce themselves.
2. An update was provided on the status of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the OLA and the OLRA. Dean McLeod asked for more information on how annual increases to the referees' game fees are determined. Shane said that he would ask Andrew to follow up with more information.

The OLA Board of Governors shall accept the minutes of the November 10th, 2017 meeting, as presented.

m/ Dave Wilson

s/ Josh Briscoe

CARRIED.

2018 Financials and Operating Budget (George MacDonald, Stan Cockerton)

1. George presented the 2018 Ontario Lacrosse Association budget, which is a "break even" budget. This budget is the third part of a three-year trend, which forecasts a positive perspective. Given the relatively flat registration numbers for 2016 and 2017, a conservative budget was prepared for this season. Two copies of the Ontario Lacrosse Magazine are budgeted to be published in 2018 – the Ontario Lacrosse Festival Souvenir Program and the Ontario Lacrosse Year in Review.

The OLA Board of Governors shall accept the 2018 operating budget, as presented.

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Dean McLeod

CARRIED.

2018 Festival Budget (George MacDonald, Ron MacSpadyen)

1. Ron presented the 2018 Ontario Lacrosse Festival budget. Ontario will only host the CLA Pee Wee National Championships this year, with the new Festival format being introduced in 2019.

The OLA Board of Governors shall accept the 2018 Ontario Lacrosse Festival budget, as presented.

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Shelly Nobile

CARRIED.

Zone 4 Report (Shelly Nobile)

1. Report submitted.
2. Zone 4 clubs are disappointed that the SAGM deadlines were not met (120 days deadline to survey the clubs, and 30 days deadline to provide the agenda as per the Bylaws). No one from the staff or the Board of Directors were on hand to welcome the attendees, a luncheon guest speaker had not been arranged and the Zone Directors were required to pay to attend when historically they would be attending to support their clubs. Josh suggested that a constitution calendar be established with each year's dates specifically listed.

Zone 5 Report (Mike McKay)

1. There are two additional clubs participating in Zone 5 from the province of Quebec. Both clubs had representatives present at the SAGM. Mike thanked Marion for finalizing the interprovincial agreement and Ron for assisting each club in setting up their SportzSoft player registration platforms and easing each team through the transition into the OLA.

Junior "A" Report (Dean McLeod)

1. The Oakville Junior "B" Buzz have been tentatively accepted into the Ontario Junior "A" Lacrosse League for competition beginning in 2019. An agreement to facilitate the transition has been prepared but is awaiting signatures from each stakeholder before being forwarded to the OLA's Board of Director's for review.

The OLA Board of Governors shall approve the Oakville Buzz's participation in the Ontario Junior "A" Lacrosse League beginning in 2019, subject to review of the agreement between the Ontario Junior "A" Lacrosse Council and the Oakville Buzz franchise by the OLA's Board of Directors.

m/ Dean McLeod

s/ Josh Briscoe

CARRIED.

2. The OJALL is unhappy with Jim Bomhof's inability to attend today's meeting, or any recent meeting of the OJALL. Dean asked Marion to remind Jim not to speak on behalf of the Junior "A" Lacrosse League Council without first speaking to Dean.

Zone 6 Report (Sonya Crossey)

1. Report submitted.
2. Zone 6 is very happy with the communication and knowledge of Cheryl Laplante and the Tournament Committee.

Junior "B" Report (Dave Vernon)

1. The Ontario Junior "B" Lacrosse Council has reinstated the referee equalization payment program.
2. The teams of the Ontario Junior "B" Lacrosse League have requested that the 30-second clock be run during all possessions as a trial during the league's six pre-season tournaments.
3. The teams of the Ontario Junior "B" Lacrosse League are concerned that the CLA's 2018 Founders' Cup has not been properly organized. The league has determined that a May 1st deadline for receipt of detailed logistics must be met, or else the Ontario champions will not participate. Dave has been in touch with the FNLA to resolve the situation. Joel asked if Windsor is prepared to host the 2018 Founders' Cup, should the FNLA be unable to meet the May 1st deadline. Dave responded that Windsor is monitoring the situation and will act quickly if the opportunity arises.

Zone 7 Report (Jenn Matheson)

1. Report submitted.
2. Jenn echoed Sonya's praise; Cheryl is doing a fabulous job with ratings and tournaments.
3. The SAGM modules did not meet the expectations or needs of the clubs in Zone 7.

Junior “C” Report (Reg Holinshead)

1. Marion officially welcomed Reg to the Board of Governors.
2. Report submitted (double spaced).
3. The first version of the OJCLL regular season schedule is complete.

Zone 8 Report (Steve Kelly)

1. Report submitted.
2. Cambridge Minor Lacrosse has stepped in to accept the operations of the Caledon Bob Patching Invitational Tournament.
3. There are preliminary talks for club expansion which include Ron. A more detailed report will be provided at the May Board of Governors meeting.
4. The clubs in Zone 8 have expressed concern about the value of the SAGM.

Ontario Women’s Box Report (Sue Powless)

1. London is in the final stages of their submission as an expansion franchise for competition beginning in 2018. Details of the expansion will be communicated to Jim Bomhof.
2. There is interest from teams in Nova Scotia and Baltimore to participate in OLA tournaments, and the plan is for OLA teams to reciprocate by sending teams out of province. Marion directed Sue to work closely with Jim on all aspects of out-of-province play.
3. The OWBLL’s brand new website will be published during the 2018 season.

Zone 9 Report (Dave Wilson)

1. The Welland Minor Lacrosse Association franchise has relocated to Pelham, where it originated over 50 years ago. The Ontario Lacrosse Association has provided Pelham with its revised boundaries as part of this move.
2. Zone 9 is very happy with the support received from the OLA office staff so far this season.

Senior Men’s Field Report (Glen Flippance)

1. Glen announced his resignation and introduced Joel Firmin as the new commissioner of the Ontario Senior Men’s Field Lacrosse League, effective immediately. Marion welcomed Joel to the Board of Governors.
2. The Six Nations Lacrosse Club has completed their one year of probationary status without any issues.

The OLA Board of Governors shall approve the full member status of the Six Nations Senior Men's Field Lacrosse Club beginning in 2018.

m/ Glen Flippance

s/ Laurie Hansen

CARRIED.

Zone 10 Report (Wendy Bennett-Costante)

1. Considering the Caledon Village Minor Lacrosse situation, Zone 10 wishes to establish an OLA exit process for clubs who cease operations. Currently, there is no process in place to address the dissolution of a club; in this case, that process may have included some way for all of the relevant Board of Governors, staff and stakeholders to meet in one room and ensure the success of a club's program prior to its closure.

Junior Men's Field Report (Mark Schuetzkowski)

1. Many changes are being made at the league level to build the U-19 field lacrosse program.
2. The Burlington Lacrosse Club has completed their one year of probationary status without any issues.

The OLA Board of Governors shall approve the full member status of the Burlington Junior Men's Field Lacrosse Club beginning in 2018.

m/ Mark Schuetzkowski

s/ Glen Flippance

CARRIED.

Minor Field Report (Josh Briscoe)

1. The OMFLL thanked everyone for their presence during the SAGM luncheon's award presentation of the Tucker Williams Braver than Brave Award. The family was very appreciative of the support from the Ontario Lacrosse Association.
2. Zone 8 is interested in hosting a Turkey Shoot style invitational tournament for OLA field lacrosse teams. A proposal is in process; when finalized, it will be sent to Joe Hiltz to be presented to the Board of Directors.
3. The You Can Play project has a finalized proposal that is ready for submission to the Board of Directors. The OMFLL is disappointed that

action hasn't been taken on this issue yet. Marion asked Josh to resubmit the proposal directly to her.

4. The OMFLL believes it necessary to revisit the purpose and scope of each of the established councils, which were established at a time when the game was different from the way it is administered today. Josh recommended that cross-sector councils meet together going forward to counteract the box-centric nature of the sport.

The OLA Board of Governors shall approve the modification of the current Minor Council to include the commissioner (or their representative) of Minor Field, Women's Field and the VP of Field.

m/ Lynn Orth

s/ Glen Flippance

CARRIED.

Ontario Women's Field Lacrosse League (John Mayo)

1. The OWFL met yesterday for a positive pre-season discussion about the logistics and direction of the league. London is registering a U-13 team for the first time, and Ottawa plans to enter teams to play in exhibition games during OWFL tournaments.
2. The 2018 Provincial Championships will be held in Kitchener, and the Summer Games will be played in the U-17 All Star format in London.

Ontario Lacrosse Referees Association Report (Shane Hubbard)

1. Contract talks are ongoing. The OLRA membership feels that what has been submitted so far is fair. Sonya reminded Shane that the success of the referee program relies on the idea of senior/experienced officials giving back to the minor lacrosse program in the same way that the previous generation gave their time and energy to ensure that the current group will be successful. The Board of Governors expressed concern that the OLRA members negotiating the contract are all highly-paid officials with expectations that may exceed the majority of leagues ability to pay. Marion explained that she has consulted with all stakeholders to determine the appropriate parameters for discussion with the OLRA, and will work to approve an agreement that is fair and respectful to both the leagues and the referees.

Review of Old Business:

1. Ron announced that Regional Registrars have been hired for 2018 (Mena Briscoe, Lynn Withers) and are currently in the process of completing their training for the 2018 season.

New Business:

1. Michael Varanesi said that there needs to be a better way to measure the health of each organization so that the OLA isn't blindsided by a situation where a club ceases operation. An quarterly SWOT analysis should be presented by each Zone Director/commissioner should be required as part of the Board of Governors reports.
2. Glen spoke about the revised appeals process and encouraged the Board of Governors to visit the OLA's website to familiarize themselves with the amendments to the policy because it has severe implications including paperwork and timeline requirements that are expected to be met. Marion announced that Glen Flippance had been appointed to serve as the Case Manager for all leagues and disciplines for 2018.

The OLA Board of Governors adjourns its March 4th, 2018 meeting.

m/ Glen Flippance

s/ John Mayo

CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 12:41 PM.