



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY APRIL 10, 2019**

ATTENDANCE

In Attendance:	Marion Ladouceur	President
	George MacDonald	VP Finance
	Jim Bomhof	VP Junior-Major
	Jenn Matheson	VP Minor
	Andree Davis	VP Field
	Frank Lawrence	VP Officiating
	Michael Varanesi	VP Development
	Sonya Crossey	VP Promotions
	Ron MacSpadyen	Marketing Director
	Jeramie Bailey	Promotions Director
With Regrets:	John Doherty	Past President
	Rick Phillips	VP Coaching
	Stan Cockerton	Executive Director

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WEDNESDAY APRIL 10, 2019**

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:24 PM.

Chairperson's Welcome (Marion Ladouceur)

1. Marion welcomed the group and spoke energetically about the upcoming season. April 10th marks the first in-person meeting of the OLA's Board of Directors since January 26th, although conference calls have been utilized to keep in touch in the interim. As members of the Board of Directors communicate with increasing frequency to address sector overlaps, members are reminded that agenda items should be circulated to the President, as opposed to directly to other Board members.

To approve the previous minutes dated January 26th, 2019.

m/ Andree Davis

s/ Jenn Matheson

CARRIED.

VP Finance Report (George MacDonald):

1. No concerns to report.

VP Officiating Report (Frank Lawrence):

1. Report submitted.
2. The Referee Development Team has begun reaching out to additional tournaments beyond what had been previously communicated at the 2019 OLA SAGM. Tournament supervision continues to be a priority for the officiating sector, both to ensure consistency and uniformity, as well as to identify officials who are ready to progress outside of their home association.

VP Junior – Major Report (Jim Bomhof):

1. The OJCLL has moved to suspend the Six Nations Warriors franchise for the balance of the 2019 season due to inadequate planning measures. Marion directed Jim to work with Reg Holinshead to address some of the issues outlined by the OJCLL.

2. Revisions made to the established Automatic Discipline Policy will be a learning process for timekeepers. Marion directed Frank to speak to the referees to remind them of the updated process to ensure a smooth transition.
3. Jim attended the L4-6 box referee certification clinic in February, which was described as a good way to hear feedback directly from the referees prior to the season.
4. Player releases and transfers are ongoing at the typical rate for this point in the season.
5. A proposal is being discussed to eliminate some of the team debt from OWBLL who were affected by the Akwesasne tournament situation.

VP Field Report (Andree Davis):

1. The three field leagues are encouraged by the establishment of the uniform automatic discipline policy, and would like to establish a similar measure for the field sector. Marion asked Jeramie to work with Andree to determine the feasibility of this request.
2. A meeting will be coordinated with all stakeholders for the establishment of the Spring U19 men's field division.
3. The FIL has published a draft set of rules for 6v6 as part of its strategic planning for Olympics inclusion. Andree has forwarded the document to Joel Firmin and Frank Lawrence, because the CLA is considering implementing the proposed rules as part of the CLA Senior Men's National Championships (Ross Cup) to trial the experience for players. Andree asked Marion to ensure that Stan has reviewed the document prior to the CLA Meetings in May in case questions are asked.

VP Promotions Report (Sonya Crossey):

1. The 2019 OLA SAGM received flattering reviews. There were a high number of people in attendance and a lot of positive comments throughout the weekend. The lunch speaker was the highlight of the weekend for many people ahead of the season, but it was suggested that the Hall of Fame module might be even more effective if it is included as part of the AGM based on its proximity to Niagara.
2. Sonya asked whether modules can be held as part of the AGM in November. Marion and Ron said that, with appropriate planning, there could be space allocated for a limited number of professional development opportunities. Sonya volunteered to identify which modules would be best suited for implementation during the November AGM, with a focus on education that allows clubs to begin planning earlier for the upcoming season.

VP Minor Report (Jenn Matheson):

1. Report submitted.
2. While there have been positive changes to the OR sections related to hearings, the current system works better on paper than it does in real life. Most concerning is that the right information isn't being provided to all stakeholders. Discussion took place about some of the ways that the OR section could be tidied up.
3. The Gotcha Volunteer Appreciation program now has multiple people recognized: Michelle Bomberry, Gloucester Griffins, Windsor Warlocks and Danielle Carroll. Jenn encouraged staff and Board members to keep an eye out for great volunteers who deserve recognition.
4. Auditing the 3-on-3 Mini Game program will take place in May and June. This is an important part of ensuring the success of a new program because it provides "quality control" and consistency in application of the program.

VP Development Report (Michael Varanesi):

1. Report submitted.

Staff Reports:

1. Bruce reported that the 2019 coaching clinics have been well-attended, and that the Team Ontario program has begun announcing try-out dates.
2. Ron reported that new partnership strategies are in the works, including provincial championship rings for OMFLL Provincials and the Ontario Lacrosse Festival.
3. Jeramie congratulated Sonya as the first of the new Directors to have completed a major portfolio piece successfully (SAGM).
4. The staff discussed the risks associated with clubs transferring funds between peloton accounts, based on the fact that only "one signature" is required for this type of transaction. Marion directed George to speak with Fiona to ensure that the OLA does not accept peloton payments directly from clubs.

Review of Old Business:

1. Ratification of the February 16th conference call motions that required timely decisions ahead of the 2019 season.

Motion 1: CARRIED

Motion 2: CARRIED

Motion 3: CARRIED

Motion 4: CARRIED

Motion 5: CARRIED

Motion 6: CARRIED

Motion 7: CARRIED

2. Ratification of the vote permitting the Ontario Senior “B” Lacrosse League to rebrand as Ontario Series Lacrosse. CARRIED.
3. The OLA Substance Misuse Policy is under review. An updated version will be provided upon its completion.

New Business:

1. Zone 9 is proposing to establish an Abilities-Free Lacrosse Program for the 2019 season. The proposal is based on the Clarington Abilities-Free Lacrosse Program proposal from the 2017 season.

To approve Zone 9’s Executive to operate the Abilities-Free Program as outlined in the submitted proposal in 2019, with a report to review submitted prior to the 2020 season.

m/ Sonya Crossey

s/ Jim Bomhof

CARRIED.

2. The Board of Directors discussed the OMFLL’s proposal for a revised Fall Ball program in detail, outlining a number of concerns with the proposal as it is presented.
3. The Board of Directors discussed the International Player’s Registration policy. The Board of Directors was most concerned with the phrase “a maximum of three imported players per game,” as well as the requirement for the policy to discuss players governed under interprovincial agreements. The policy will be reviewed prior to approval.
4. The Board of Directors reviewed the Minor Box Automatic Discipline Policy to add three missing game misconducts from the first version: attempt to butt-end an opponent, attempt to kick an opponent and attempt to spear an opponent.

To approve additional game misconduct discipline for GM35, GM57 and GM65 for the 2019 season.

m/ Frank Lawrence

s/ Jenn Matheson

CARRIED.

5. The Board of Directors discussed the OLA's Junior – Major Referee Dressing Room Policy. Marion directed Frank to circulate it to the referees, and Jim to circulate it to the league commissioners. Affected leagues are expected to abide by the policy effective immediately.

To approve the establishment of a Junior-Major Referee Dressing Room Policy with the intention to improve the experience for everyone involved.

m/ Jim Bomhof

s/ Frank Lawrence

CARRIED.

6. The Board of Directors discussed the Senior "C" League's name proposal. Beginning in 2019 and until further discussion is required, the Ontario Senior "C" Lacrosse League will be known as Senior Series Lacrosse, in line with Major Series Lacrosse (Senior "A") and Ontario Series Lacrosse (Senior "B").

To approve the establishment of the Senior Series Lacrosse League.

m/ Sonya Crossey

s/ Michael Varanesi

CARRIED.

7. Marion provided a request from Marty Staats to review an ongoing situation involving the Six Nations Arrows. The Board offered unanimous support for Marion to speak directly to Mr. Staats and the Six Nations Arrows to resolve the situation internally.
8. Since the January 29th meeting, several clubs have become financially compliant, but there remain a few outstanding clubs who will be required to settle their accounts prior to the 2019 season.

To establish payment deadlines of April 30th for financial compliance for all teams, with the exception of teams participating in the Ontario Women's Box Lacrosse League, who will be given until May 15th to become financially compliant.

m/ Jim Bomhof

s/ Andree Davis

CARRIED.

9. Marion discussed expected meeting protocol and etiquette in detail. The Board of Directors must comply with these expectations.
10. Jenn received a request from Zone 6 for a goaltender relief program that would pair associations with goaltenders who need a place to play. The Board of Directors discussed how this program might affect registration and release requests. Marion directed Jenn to gather more information for the Board of Directors.

To adjourn the April 10th, 2019 Board of Directors meeting.

m/ Frank Lawrence

s/ George MacDonald

CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 10:59 PM.