



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
SUNDAY MAY 5, 2019**

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

ATTENDANCE

In Attendance:	Marion Ladouceur	OLA President
	George MacDonald	VP Finance
	Jim Bomhof	VP Junior - Major
	Jennifer Matheson	VP Minor
	Andree Davis	VP Field
	Frank Lawrence	VP Officiating
	Mike Varanesi	VP Development
	Sonya Crossey	VP Promotions
	Joe Hiltz	Ontario Series Lacrosse
	Shelly Nobile	Senior Series Lacrosse
	Lindsay Sanderson	Junior A
	Dave Vernon	Junior B
	Reg Holinshead	Junior C
	Sue Finnen	Senior Women's Box
	Scott Morrison	Zone 4
	Beth Pollack	Zone 5
	Danielle Carroll	Zone 6
	Steve Kelly	Zone 8
	Dave Wilson	Zone 9
	Wendy Bennett-Costante	Zone 10
	Mark Scheutzkowski	Junior Men's Field
	Josh Briscoe	Minor Field
	Ryan Wilson	OLOA President
	Stan Cockerton	Executive Director
	Ron MacSpadyen	Marketing Director
	Jeramie Bailey	Promotions Director
With Regrets:	John Doherty	OLA Past President
	Rick Phillips	VP Coaching
	Doug Luey	Major Series Lacrosse
	Rory Smith	Zone 7
	Joel Firmin	Senior Men's Field
	Bruce Codd	Technical Director

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MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 11:12 AM.

President's Welcome (Marion Ladouceur)

1. Marion welcomed everyone and thanked the group for their attendance.
2. Errors and omissions were raised from the March 3, 2019 minutes. Marion reiterated that the submission of concise reports submitted ahead of the meeting improves the accuracy of minutes.

The OLA Board of Governors shall accept the minutes of the March 3rd, 2019 meeting, as amended.

m/ Dave Vernon

s/ Steve Kelly

CARRIED.

Ontario Lacrosse Officials Association Report (Ryan Wilson)

1. Report submitted.
2. The Ontario Lacrosse Referees Association is now called the Ontario Lacrosse Officials Association. This new name is meant to be inclusive of the women's field officials who are not called referees, as well as to align with the province of Ontario's definition of "match officials" as arbiters of sporting events.
3. Timely remuneration of Team Ontario referee payments are being addressed by the OLOA Executive.

Minor Field Report (Josh Briscoe)

1. The Ontario Minor Field Lacrosse League season is nearing its conclusion. There were some initial concerns prior to the season about modifications to the U9 division (smaller goal nets and less players on a shorter field), but the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, specifically in developing goaltenders and players by decreasing the number of players and increasing the number of teams.

2. Bad behaviour by coaches and parents is beginning to creep in. The OMFLL is aware of this problem and working to address it by placing executive members inside the audience areas to diffuse situations. The referees are doing an outstanding job of officiating the games.
3. Josh asked about the status of the OMFLL fall field proposal. Marion responded that the Board of Directors has not received details that were requested in February. Josh indicated that he intended to revise the proposal and submit it to the Board of Directors prior to the scheduled April meeting.

Zone 10 Report (Wendy Bennett-Costante)

1. NTR.

Junior "A" Report (Lindsay Sanderson)

1. The OJALL Executive has concerns about online registration related to the timing of certain players completing their registration. Marion directed Lindsay to work with Ron MacSpadyen to answer these questions.
2. The 2019 playing season will begin in one week. The new penalty coeds are currently being added to the league's Pointstreak software, but all other details are in place for games to begin. The OJALL league is expected to be particularly strong this season.
3. The OJALL Council has raised concerns with the revised discipline policy. Lindsay asked Stan if there would be another opportunity to discuss the fine structure of the Automatic Discipline Policy prior to the beginning of the season. Stan responded that all leagues would be required to comply with the Automatic Discipline Policy for the 2019 season, as the Board of Directors has approved the policy for implementation and all commissioners were given an opportunity to consult and provide feedback. At the conclusion of the 2019 season, the Board of Directors intends to review the policy, and recommendations may be considered at that point ahead of the 2020 season, but the policy is in place for 2019 and will not be modified.

Zone 9 Report (Dave Wilson)

1. The first games of the 2019 Zone 9 season begin tomorrow. Zone 9's executive has discussed the concern of the province's plan to approve the act of tailgating. Dave Wilson explained that the Zone 9 executive will be reaching out to the MPP's of Ontario to explain their concerns. Dave Vernon clarified that the Province of Ontario has explicitly stated that tailgating would require a Special Occasion Permit on behalf of the venue

hosting the event, and that all municipal bylaws related to public alcohol consumption will be otherwise in effect.

Junior “B” Report (Dave Vernon)

1. Player and bench personnel registration is underway, and the OJBLL season is underway. There are approximately 1,100 players registered for the OJBLL, but the available teams can only support about 600 spots. Ron MacSpadyen responded that the excess (inactive) players will be purged and reconciled following the closure of registration.

Zone 8 Report (Steve Kelly)

1. Report submitted.
2. Games began one week ago, and coaches have already been disciplined under the revised Automatic Minor Discipline Policy for GM28 – Abuse of Officials. The Zone 8 Executive has discussed ways to track repeat offenders to issue supplementary discipline.

Junior “C” Report (Reg Holinshead)

1. Report submitted.
2. Six Nations has been removed from the OJCLL playing schedule. Jim and Marion will be included in discussions to determine the appropriate course of action for the 2020 season.
3. Reg offered thanks to Dave Vernon, Jim Bomhof and Jeramie Bailey for their assistance ahead of the 2019 season.

Zone 6 Report (Danielle Carroll)

1. Report submitted by Paula Kearnan.

Ontario Series Report (Joe Hiltz)

1. The Ontario Senior “B” Lacrosse League is now called Ontario Series Lacrosse. The first game of the 2019 season was held last week.
2. Online registration has progressed smoothly; the only challenge is that clubs are unaware to track who is registered for their team (or for their opponent’s teams) because all registered names are placed in a league pool. Ron MacSpadyen responded that Sportzsoft is considering adding a “team tryout” field as part of the league’s registration to resolve this issue.

Zone 5 Report (Beth Pollack)

1. Report submitted by Mike McKay.

Zone 4 Report (Scott Morrison)

1. Report submitted.
2. Registration numbers are on par year-over-year.
3. Zone 4 is in its third week of regular season play, and it has become apparent that more experienced referees are needed in order to ensure a successful season of play.

Women's Field Report (John Mayo)

1. The OWFL has registered a league-record 92 teams for the 2019 season. The growth of women's field lacrosse continues to be a source of pride for the OWFL Executive. Rachel Johnston has done a commendable job on getting the officials prepared for the upcoming season.

Director's Reports:

1. Michael Varanesi asked Jenn Matheson if Donalyn Dredge would be willing to provide a report to the September Board of Governors meeting on the state of girls box lacrosse in Ontario.
2. Frank Lawrence spoke about the seriousness of coach's unsportsmanlike conduct and the negative effect that it has on the sport of lacrosse. Ahead of this meeting, Frank spoke to both Rick Phillips and Bruce Codd to ensure that there is appropriate follow-up to problematic bench personnel. Josh Briscoe also offered to forward OMFL data on bench ejections to Rick, Bruce and Ryan Wilson. Wendy asked about "repeat offender" status for coaches who continue to abuse referees. Stan asked Wendy if she would be willing to forward a proposal to Rick and Bruce for consideration at the September Board of Governor's meeting. Jenn Matheson indicated that she would discuss the idea of tracking suspensions with the representatives of Minor Box Council to gauge their feedback.

Staff Reports:

1. Fraudulent emails have been circulated to directors and governors using the *@ontariolacrosse.com* domain name. Everyone is encouraged to look closely at emails that include financial requests, and to report any suspicious emails to Jeramie.

Review of Old Business:

1. NTR.

New Business:

1. The FIL has rebranded itself as World Lacrosse. This is a marketable name that has created new excitement for the sport of lacrosse around the world. The first international championships under the new brand are to be held in August in Peterborough, Ontario: the World Lacrosse U-19 Women's Lacrosse Championships. Stan asked Jeramie Bailey to reach out to World Lacrosse to offer the OLA's support for this event.
2. Modifications to MR 2.11 have been tabled to Minor Council.
3. A list of approved Trainer's Certification Credentials was circulated at the beginning of May. This list is short and does not include approximately 25 of the organizations that are recognized by WSIB. Ron MacSpadyen is reviewing the criteria to ensure that obvious professions, like paramedics or other emergency first responders, are included in future versions of the OLA-approved Trainer's Certification Credentials.

The OLA Board of Governors adjourns its May 5th, 2019 meeting.

m/ Dave Vernon

s/ Joe Hiltz

CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 1:19 PM.