



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

**7:00 PM**

**ATTENDANCE**

In Attendance:	Greg Hummel	President & Chairperson
	Marion Ladouceur	Past President
	George MacDonald	VP Finance
	Mark Schuetzkowski	VP Field
	Rick Phillips	VP Coaching
	Ian Garrison	VP Officiating
	Colleen Grimes	VP Promotions
	Sonya Crossey	VP Development
	Ron MacSpadyen	Program Director
	Jeramie Bailey	Promotions Director
Fiona Clevely	Administration	
Absent:	Tanya Leafloor	VP Minor

**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

**MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM.

Chairperson's Welcome (Greg Hummel)

1. Welcome to the February OLA Board of Directors of the 2022 season.
2. Jeramie recited a land and territory acknowledgement.

*To approve the agenda of the February 16<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting, with two additions.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Sonya Crossey

**CARRIED**

*To approve the previous Board of Directors meeting minutes as presented.*

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ George MacDonald

**CARRIED**

VP Junior-Major Candidates

1. Sharon McKeachnie and Sean O'Callaghan were invited to address the Board of Directors, and were thanked for being willing to stand for the position. The commissioners were consulted for their opinion, and all commissioners spoke highly of both candidates' qualifications.

*To appoint Sean O'Callaghan to the position of OLA VP Junior-Major for a term which will conclude with a special election at the 2022 Annual General Meeting.*

m/ Mark Schuetzkowski

s/ Rick Phillips

a/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

### VP Finance Report (George MacDonald)

1. Report submitted.

### VP Coaching Report (Rick Phillips)

1. 2022 Coaching Certification Clinic dates and locations have been confirmed, and will be published for circulation within the week.
2. A house-league coaching clinic option is being examined. This clinic would not provide NCCP certification, but would introduce prospective coaches to the responsibilities and best practices at the local level.
3. Two women and girls Community Development coaching clinics are being planned in consultation with the Gender Equity Committee. One will be held in the east, and one will be held in the west. The goal of these coaching clinics is to increase the number of women involved in coaching lacrosse.

### VP Promotion Report (Colleen Grimes)

1. Reports submitted.
2. Preliminary survey results for Club Digital Platform and OLA Mini-Game Implementation were reviewed and discussed.
3. Alternate formats for Ontario Lacrosse University are being examined. Feedback from 2021's event indicated that there was an overwhelming amount of content presented all at once, and attendees would prefer for the sessions to be spread out over a longer period of time.
4. The OLA is exploring a school accreditation policy to provide benchmark criteria to schools who are leaders in the growth and development of lacrosse players within Ontario; similar to both hockey and basketball's provincial sanctioning policies. More information on this initiative will be provided to the Board of Directors in the future.

### VP Development Report (Sonya Crossey)

1. Report submitted.
2. Team Ontario has provided an update to its programming plans for the 2022 season. This provincial representative team continues to be one of the OLA's many high performance areas where athletes can showcase their talents both within and outside the province.

### VP Officiating Report (Ian Garrison)

1. The ODOC is set to meet on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to finalize its certification pathway for the 2022 season. The committee has 15+ stakeholders who will guide the officiating program through the 2022 season.
2. The OLOA has committed to maintaining officiating costs from previous seasons, on the condition that the three-official mechanic can be introduced where there are enough officials to cover the games.

### VP Field Report (Mark Schuetzkowski)

1. Report submitted.
2. Ryan Windley has been nominated to serve as the OMFLL Commissioner for the 2022 season.

*To appoint Ryan Windley to the OLA's Board of Governors, in the position of OMFLL Commissioner.*

m/ Mark Schuetzkowski

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

3. The OMFLL is exploring options to introduce Olympic Sixes during the fall season. World Lacrosse has a number of materials and resources for associations to introduce the game within their communities. Sonya Crossey volunteered to assist in the implementation process.
4. The OWFL wishes to extend their U19 division for the 2022 season, which has led to a number of questions from clubs within the league. Mark will work with the league to ensure that the structure of this division is within the rules of the OLA, before seeking approval.

### Chairperson's Report (Greg Hummel)

1. NTR.

### Past President's Report (Marion Ladouceur)

1. A small number of directors are still outstanding in terms of their compliance documentation. Marion will follow up with those members.

## New Business (Board of Directors)

1. The Board of Directors put out a call for the volunteer position of OLA Case Manager prior to the 2021 Annual General Meeting. A competent candidate has been identified for appointment. Having a Case Manager in place for this season will help to ensure that proper process is followed.

*To appoint Lynn Swindells to the position of OLA Case Manager for the 2022 season, effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.*

m/ Marion Ladouceur

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

2. Drew Girard provided his interpretation as it relates to the positions of President and VP Junior-Major. At the November 2022 Annual General Meeting, a special election for OLA President (a one-year term) and a special election for 1st VP Admin (Major) (also a one-year term) will take place. At the November 2023 Annual General Meeting, regular elections for both President and 1st VP Admin (Major) (both two-year terms) will take place, in accordance with as per B6.15.
3. The Board of Directors reviewed the 2022 meeting schedule of the ODOC. Other standing councils (Minor Council, Major Council, Field Council) will provide their schedules at the next Board of Directors meeting for approval.

*To approve the operating schedule of the Officiating Development and Oversight Committee for the 2022 season.*

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Ian Garrison

**CARRIED**

4. The Board of Directors expressed significant concerns with the Invitational Tournament Listing for the 2022 season, and the overall management of the VP Minor Portfolio, which continues to operate without involvement from any other members of the Board of Directors, including the President. Ian Garrison asked if the Invitational Tournament Committee had been previously approved, and who served on the committee. The committee had not been approved, and none of the Board of Directors were able to answer how the committee was made up for the 2022 season. The number

of tournament spaces which received approval exceeds the number of teams and officials which are anticipated for the 2022 season. This will create significant issues during the season, and could have been addressed if experienced members were consulted. Furthermore, a number of clubs have expressed concerns regarding the mandated rollout of electronic game sheets in 2022, and that they are being forced to take part in this pilot project without their consent. The Board of Directors were also unaware that electronic game sheets had been mandated across all zones in minor lacrosse. Ultimately, the Board of Directors recognizes with unanimous decision that there is little confidence in the current VP Minor to continue in the role at this critical time, given the actions and conduct that have accumulated over time.

*To issue an immediate notice to the invitational tournament convenors to advise them that the tournament list is being reviewed for accuracy, and that tournament applications are on hold until further notice.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Rick Phillips

**CARRIED**

*To approve the OLA Invitational Tournament Committee as Marion Ladouceur, Fiona Clevely, Sonya Crossey, Colleen Grimes and one representative of the officiating leadership team, for the 2022 season, and to empower the committee to make revisions to the tournament listing as necessary.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Rick Phillips

**CARRIED**

*To recognize the standing 2019 motion regarding the piloting of electronic game sheets, which granted approval to the collective clubs of Zone 8 and Zone 9, with a detailed review to be completed following the 2022 season prior to any full implementation. The sole recognized partner for OLA electronic game sheets is Game Sheet, Inc.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

*To suspend the VP Minor's portfolio until the Board of Directors is able to review the actions and responsibilities that have occurred to date. In the meantime, the responsibilities of this portfolio will be assigned to the remaining directors and staff.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Rick Phillips

**CARRIED**

5. The 2019 carry-over suspension list was reviewed. Given the modified seasons in 2020 and 2021, a number of discipline outcomes remain unserved from the 2019 season.

*To recognize the 2019 carry-over suspension list for the upcoming season, which requires disciplined participants to serve their suspensions prior to returning to play.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ George MacDonald

**CARRIED**

6. In the absence of an appointed VP Junior-Major, George MacDonald was contacted by the Ontario Junior "A" Lacrosse League to bring forward requests regarding the 2022 U17 Entry Draft. The Board of Directors was notified that the draft will take place in person on Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.

*To amend the eligibility requirements of the Ontario Junior "A" Entry draft, for the 2022 season only, to remove the clause requiring "players to have participated in U17 minor box lacrosse in the previous two seasons."*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Ian Garrison

**CARRIED**

7. The Board of Directors were provided with a summary update regarding litigation initiated by a competing entity. The OLA remains in a strong position in regards to actions taken to protect its leagues and members, and will continue to do so.
8. The Board of Directors reviewed proposals related to potential expansion of the Senior Series Lacrosse (SSL) League. The proposals were considered separately for approval. The Wellington Aces proposal meets the requirements for entry into the SSL. The Cambridge Khaos application

was submitted on behalf of a group of operators who may have potentially competing interests with the SSL. Until this situation is resolved, the Khaos expansion application cannot be proceed, but may be revisited in future seasons.

*To approve the Wellington Aces Lacrosse Club for the 2022 Senior Series Lacrosse (Senior "C") season, on a one-year probationary term.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Ian Garrison

a/ Sonya Crossey

**CARRIED**

*To approve the Cambridge Khaos Lacrosse Club for the 2022 Senior Series Lacrosse (Senior "C") season, on a one-year probationary term.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Mark Schuetzkowski

a/ Sonya Crossey

**DEFEATED**

9. Wilmot Wild Minor Lacrosse Association has notified the OLA that the club intends to cease operations effective immediately. Funds were provided to the club during the recovery phase on the condition that they be repaid once future registrations allowed for the club to become profitable again. If the club ceases operations, those amounts would become repayable prior to any further involvement by the club's operating officers.

*To provide Wayne Paddick with a summary of outstanding amounts owed to the Ontario Lacrosse Association, to either be repaid in full or to submit an agreeable repayment plan prior to March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Failure to meet this deadline will result in Mr. Paddick being made a Member Not In Good Standing.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Ian Garrison

**CARRIED**

10. Toronto Beaches Lacrosse Club has submitted an application to approve the 2022 Jammer Classic lacrosse tournament, which is scheduled to take place on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in Toronto. Mark Schuetzkowski provided a background summary on the tournament's operation.



*To sanction the 2022 Jammer Classic tournament in accordance with the OLA's invitational tournaments procedures.*

m/ Mark Schuetzkowski

s/ Sonya Crossey

**CARRIED**

11. The Ontario Government, in consultation with regional and territorial public health networks, has announced that it intends to relax restrictions related to minimum vaccination requirements in a number of sectors including sport and recreation. This decision will affect the OLA's vaccination policy by removing provincial support and replacing it with opt-in measures. The OLA is awaiting further guidance in relation to the province's announcement, but is also liaising with medical professionals who participant within the lacrosse community for advice.

*To amend the OLA's vaccination policy to align with the provincial recommendations and measures for amateur provincial sport's organizations.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

12. Having submitted his resignation letter to the Board of Directors for the role of OLA President, Doug Luey is no longer in conflict or violation with the OLA's Rules & Regulations. Therefore, the Board of Directors may now recognize Doug as the Commissioner of Major Series Lacrosse. The Board of Directors may examine the election process at a later meeting to ensure that this situation is not repeated in future years. At the January Board of Directors meeting, a committee was instructed to meet with MSL representatives. However, the appeal committee's decision prevented that meeting from occurring until Mr. Luey removed himself from the conflict. As a result, the Board of Directors determined that the motion to meet with the MSL was voided.

*To reinstate Doug Luey as a Member in Good Standing, in the role of Commissioner of Major Series Lacrosse for the 2022 season.*

m/ Marion Ladouceur

s/ Sonya Crossey

**CARRIED**

13. Sonya Crossey presented the proposed terms of reference for the establishment of the OLA's Gender Equity Committee. The committee will seek to guide the Board of Directors on matters related to the goal of achieving equitable conditions for all participants.

*To approve and sanction the OLA's Gender Equity Committee, to be chaired by Sue Finnen of the Women's Major Series Lacrosse League.*

m/ Marion Ladouceur

s/ Ian Garrison

**CARRIED**

14. The OLA circulated an opportunity for leagues and clubs to submit playing rule changes to the Board of Directors for future seasons. All playing rule changes must be reviewed and approved by each Member Association in order to be received for consideration by Lacrosse Canada. The Ontario Junior "A" Lacrosse League submitted eight playing rule change proposals, which were provided to Lacrosse Canada ahead of the submission deadline on behalf of the OLA. These were the only rule change proposals that were received for consideration.

*To endorse the playing rule changes submitted by the OJLL for assent to Lacrosse Canada.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Rick Phillips

a/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

15. The Ontario Lacrosse Association was awarded Large Member status to Lacrosse Canada's Board, which was then given away without the knowledge or direction of the OLA's Board of Directors.

*To direct Greg Hummel to contact Lacrosse Canada to initiate the process of formally reclaim the status of Large Member representative, which was forfeited without the request of the Board of Directors.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Ian Garrison

**CARRIED**

16. Chuck Miller has reached out to offer his support to the Ontario Lacrosse Association. As a former OLA President, he has years of knowledge and experience with the provincial sports environment. With full knowledge that the OLA will benefit from his leadership, Chuck has offered to serve in the role of interim Executive Director on a volunteer basis until such time as the Board of Directors sees fit to hire a full-time person. The HR Committee has discussed this offer with the OLA President and has provided a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

*To appoint Chuck Miller to serve as the Interim Executive Director of the OLA, solely on a volunteer basis and with any expenses to be approved by the Board of Directors.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Rick Phillips

**CARRIED**

*To adjourn the February 16<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors' meeting.*

m/ Marion Ladouceur

s/ Ian Garrison

**CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 10:16pm.