



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MONDAY JANUARY 24, 2022**

**7:00 PM**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MONDAY JANUARY 24, 2022**

**MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM.

Chairperson's Welcome (Greg Hummel)

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

*To approve the agenda of the January 24<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting, with two additional items.*

m/ Tanya Thompson

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

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

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

VP Finance Report (George MacDonald)

1. Report submitted.
2. The Ministry has confirmed its funding cycle for the 2022 season.
3. In response to changes in the healthcare landscape, the OLA's insurance provider has increased its rates for the 2022 season. The rate is also affected by the year over year registration from the previous season, and also by the decision to return the organization's liability coverage to pre-pandemic levels. This change will affect the OLA's individual registration rates.

VP Officiating Report (Ian Garrison)

1. Report submitted.
2. The officiating leadership team is currently working to determine the most appropriate way to conduct certification, with consideration given to the ability to provide valuable instruction and education to officials while

recognizing that registration numbers will likely be reduced as the sport emerges from the effects of the pandemic.

3. The loss of officials over the previous two seasons is a significant concern that will need to be addressed in order for events to be adequately covered.

#### VP Promotion Report (Colleen Grimes)

1. Report submitted.
2. Social media templates were provided to club contacts in December, and a number of clubs have begun using them to promote their programs for the upcoming season on their accounts.
3. An interactive recruitment website is in the development stage and will be reported on in detail at the February meeting.
4. Sonya Crosse and Mary Sticca have been added as resources to prepare a membership satisfaction survey for the 2022 season.
5. A proposal to waive soft lacrosse membership fees as a pilot program for the 2022 season was discussed. The intention of this proposal is to allow clubs to offer free soft lacrosse programming which is subsidized by the OLA in order to encourage recruitment of new players at the entry age division.

*To subsidize the OLA registration fee, consistent with the approach to TRY Lacrosse programming, of OLA clubs who operate free soft lacrosse registrations for the 2022 season prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. A post-season evaluation will be required to extend this initiative through future seasons.*

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Marion Ladouceur

**CARRIED**

#### VP Field Report (Mark Schuetzkowski)

1. The OMFLL has elected to turn over all but one of its executive members. Jennifer Price will remain active as the league secretary for the purpose of continuity. The outgoing executive members were commended for their efforts and dedication over the past two seasons to offer field lacrosse programming despite the difficulties of the pandemic. Five members of the OMFLL community have stepped up to form the new executive, with support from Mark as the league prepares for the spring competitive

season. The new OMFLL executive will seek approval from the OLA's Board of Directors at the February meeting.

2. The OWFL, OJMFL and OSMFL have signalled that they intend to operate in their traditional seasons in 2022. Planning is well underway, and the participating clubs have expressed excitement about new opportunities for events this summer.

#### VP Coaching Report (Rick Phillips)

1. Six applications have been received by clubs who wish to host coaching clinics for the 2022 season. Each applicant has been personally contacted and informed that more information is required from the Province of Ontario regarding meeting spaces before any firm commitments will be made. An announcement regarding an extension to the deadline for associations to apply to host coaching clinics has been posted on the OLA's website.
2. Tanya Leafloor asked that Rick connect with Thunder Bay Minor Lacrosse Association about hosting a coaching clinic. Rick responded that options will be examined to support Thunder Bay's program.

#### VP Minor Report (Tanya Leafloor)

1. Minor Council extends its appreciation of the promotional materials prepared by Colleen and Jeramie for distribution to the association contacts.
2. Tanya is in the process of communicating with FCQ teams about participation in the OLA, pending vaccination requirements.
3. Invitational tournaments will be presented to the Board of Directors for review at the February meeting.

#### Chairperson's Report (Greg Hummel)

1. NTR.

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

1. Marion Ladouceur offered to support Greg through the transition as chairperson. Greg thanked Marion for her guidance.

## New Business (Board of Directors)

1. The Board of Directors voted by email on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 on the following motion, which requires ratification:

*To approve the operational action plans as presented.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

2. The proposed schedule for the 2022 Board of Directors and Board of Governors meetings was presented for discussion. This schedule will form the basis for all standing council and committee meeting schedules, which will be brought to the February meeting for approval.

*To adopt and publish the 2022 OLA Board of Directors and Board of Governors meeting schedule as presented.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ George MacDonald

**CARRIED**

3. Initial SAGM planning has resumed in light of the Province of Ontario's commitment to relaxing restrictions. Tentatively, this event is scheduled for the weekend of March 25-27. When more details are available, they will be shared.
4. Major Series Lacrosse has notified the Board of Directors that Doug Luey will continue to serve as the League Commissioner.

*To recognize Doug Luey as the Commissioner of Major Series Lacrosse.*

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Ian Garrison

**CARRIED**

5. Pursuant to that decision, the OLA's Bylaws stipulate that the person serving in the role of first Vice President (OLA VP Junior-Major) is responsible for assuming the responsibility of serving as the OLA President until a special election can be held at the next Annual General Meeting of the members. Greg Hummel, having been elected to the

position in November 2021, accepted the nomination to serve as OLA President. This advancement will create a vacancy of the VP Junior-Major for which the Board of Directors will be responsible for appointing a suitable candidate at the February meeting for the same single-season term. Greg Hummel also agrees to resign from the position of Assistant Commissioner and treasurer of Ontario Series Lacrosse, effective immediately.

*To appoint Greg Hummel to serve as the OLA President until the 2022 Ontario Lacrosse Annual General Meeting, in accordance with Bylaw 6.13.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

*To consult and determine the 2022 AGM election parameters of the VP Junior-Major position's single-season appointment, prior to the February meeting.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

6. Three candidates accepted nominations for the position of OLA VP Junior-Major at the 2021 AGM. Sean O'Callaghan and Sharon McKeachnie have confirmed their interest in assuming the position, and input will be requested from the seven league commissioners who will report to this person. The Board of Directors will make this appointment at the February meeting, and both candidates will be invited to speak to their qualifications prior to a final decision being made.
7. The Board of Directors has reviewed documentation which was provided over the previous two months related to the ongoing situation involving the Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Club. Based upon the available documentation, and in order to provide resolution ahead of the 2022 season, the Board of Directors is committed to finalizing this pathway forward through the following motions:

*To recognize Glenn McClelland, as well as the members of the executive contact list which was provided to the OLA on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as the representatives of the Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Club, who are solely charged with the responsibility of operating and overseeing the women's field, junior and senior men's field, Junior "B" and Junior "A" box lacrosse programs in the City of Brampton, effective immediately.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Rick Phillips

**CARRIED**

*To require the delegates of the previous motion to establish individual and independent executives consistent with the established structure of all other OLA clubs, and to communicate the contact information of those representatives to the OLA office no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Rick Phillips

**CARRIED**

*To direct Greg Hummel to communicate in writing with the representatives of the Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association to ensure that both its box lacrosse program and its minor field lacrosse program continue to be operated and overseen independently of the Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Club, as defined in the first motion.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

*To direct Ian Garrison, Marion Ladouceur, Rick Phillips, Ron MacSpadyen and Jeramie Bailey to meet with the MSL Chairperson, MSL Commissioner, and no more than one governor of the Brooklin, Cobourg, Oakville, Peterborough and Six Nations MSL Clubs in order to communicate the OLA's published direction regarding the Major Excelsiors franchise, as well as the parameters for compliance with the OLA's direction.*

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

8. The Huntsville Minor Lacrosse Association has submitted a proposal for OLA sanctioning of a one-day modified lacrosse event which is intended to promote recruitment efforts prior to the 2022 season. The Board of

Directors discussed the proposed format and rule modifications. The event is a unique combination of OLA Mini Game and Olympic Sixes, and could be exported to other associations if the event is evaluated to be a success. Registration will operate through Sportzsoft, and all participants must be registered through their resident association in order to participate.

*To sanction the Huntsville Minor Lacrosse Association's event proposal, as amended.*

m/ Marion Ladouceur

s/ Rick Phillips

**CARRIED**

9. An increase in the cost of providing comprehensive insurance coverage will affect the OLA's registration fee, which has been historically static prior to the pandemic. To ensure the financial sustainability of Ontario Lacrosse, and despite a number of cost-cutting measures that have been undertaken over the past two seasons, it is necessary to examine the costs of registration and the services that the OLA wishes to provide to its members.

*To approve a registration fee of \$30/player for the 2022 season, to be applied through Peloton, in order to support the rising costs of operation, service delivery and the OLA's re-emergence from the pandemic.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

10. The Ontario Government, in support of regional and territorial public health campaigns, has introduced minimum vaccination requirements in a number of sectors including sport and recreation. Currently, Provincial regulations require that patrons 12 years and older show proof of identification and proof of being fully vaccinated to enter some indoor and outdoor settings, including indoor areas of facilities used for sports and recreational fitness activities. Prior to permitting access to registration, the Ontario Lacrosse Association has prepared and will publish its vaccination policy, which is consistent with other Provincial Sports Organizations, municipal recreational facilities, and events like Canada Summer Games. By all measures, the OLA's vaccination policy is consistent with the

provincial standard without overstepping the requirements.

*To approve the OLA's vaccination policy as presented.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

11. George MacDonald provided an update on the hiring process for the OLA Technical Director position. The application period closed on January 7th, and the HR Committee is currently reviewing the applications. The next step will be to form a panel to conduct interviews of suitable candidates who will be recommended to the Board of Directors for hiring in accordance with OLA Bylaw 6.12.

*To approve the OLA's 2022 employee interview panel as George MacDonald, Shelly Nobile, Rick Phillips and Sue Finnen.*

m/ Mark Schuetzkowski

s/ Colleen Grimes

**CARRIED**

12. Tanya Leafloor asked why the 2021 AGM minutes weren't approved at this meeting. The Board of Directors explained that all meeting minutes are approved by the assembly for which the minutes took place. The 2021 AGM minutes will be approved at the 2022 AGM. Jeramie offered to link to previous editions of The Inside Feed to the OLA's website.

*To adjourn the January 24th Board of Directors' meeting.*

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Tanya Leafloor

**CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 10:17pm.