



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
WEDNESDAY MARCH 9, 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
	Yvonne Harding	OWFL Commissioner
	Scott Matthews	OJMFL Commissioner
	Joel Firmin	OSMFL Commissioner
	Scott Morrison	Zone 4 Director
	Greg Rampley	Zone 5 Director
	Paul Vivian	Zone 6 Director
	Rory Smith	Zone 7 Director
	Eddy Jack	Zone 8 Director
	Mary Sticca	Zone 9 Director
	Wendy Bennett-Costante	Zone 10 Director
	Reg Holinshead	Junior "C" Commissioner
	Dave Vernon	Junior "B" Commissioner
	Bob Clevely	Junior "A" Deputy Commissioner
	Joe Hiltz	Senior "B" Commissioner
	Sue Finnen	WMSL Commissioner
	Shane Withers	OLOA, Guest
	Chuck Miller	Executive Director
	Ron MacSpadyen	Program Director
	Jeramie Bailey	Promotions Director
	Fiona Clevely	Administration
Regrets:	Kyle Kropman	OLOA President
	Doug Luey	MSL Commissioner
	Ryan Windley	OMFL Commissioner
	Shelly Nobile	Senior "C" Commissioner

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MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:11 PM.

Chairperson's Welcome (Greg Hummel)

1. Welcome to the first meeting of the OLA Board of Governors for the 2022 season, which is called to provide information and finalize discussion on a number of previous agenda items. Respect and teamwork will be key pillars of the OLA's pathway forward at this critical time.
2. Jeramie shared sentiments provided through discussion with Kevin Sandy of the Iroquois Lacrosse Program to guide the Board of Governors ahead of the 2022 season.

The Roles of the Board of Governors

1. There is a discrepancy in the interpretation of the role of the Board of Governors in regard to involvement in hearings. Operating Regulation 11.4 confirms that all hearing panels, including final level, consist of a total of three members. Members to make up the final level of an appeal may be identified from five areas: OLA Life Members, Present OLA Board of Directors, Past OLA Board of Directors, Mr. Lacrosse Award Winners, and OLA Board of Governors.
2. Joe Hiltz accepted that the article allows for a mix of individuals, and proposed utilizing members of the Board of Governors to form the three-person panel more often in the final levels of appeals, or to ensure that relevant governors are consulted by the panel at the final appeals level when appropriate. Greg Hummel responded that determining appeals committees will be easier going forward with the establishment of the OLA's Case Manager, but that all efforts are made to ensure that persons involved in appeals hearings avoid any conflict of interest or prejudice in the matter.
3. Comprehensive amendments to articles which clarify conflicting areas of the Rules and Regulations may be proposed in the future. Both Greg Rampley and Eddy Jack proposed establishing a subcommittee to identify areas and processes which may be simplified to provide guidance.

4. Wendy Bennett-Costante denied that the Rules and Regulations were in conflict, and accused the Board of Directors of purposefully misinterpreting the articles which were being discussed. This comment violated the expected decorum of the meeting which was outlined in the chairperson's introduction.

To oblige Wendy Bennett-Costante to retract her statements and issue a letter of apology to the Board of Directors.

m/ Ian Garrison

s/ Joe Hiltz

CARRIED

Elections at the Annual General Meeting

1. A summary of the 2022 AGM election timeline was provided. When individuals are elected to the Board of Directors, they are expected to be able to assume office immediately following the AGM, as outlined in Bylaw 6.15. In this case, the President was unwilling to relinquish his position as Commissioner of Major Series Lacrosse, despite signaling that he would eventually do so. After six weeks time, he expressed his decision to remain as the Commissioner of Major Series Lacrosse, which caused VP Junior-Major Greg Hummel to assume the office of the President for the remainder of the 2022 term. As a result, a special election will be held at the November 2022 AGM for both this position and the position of VP Junior-Major. Amendments to applicable articles of the Rules and Regulations may also be necessary to provide clear instructions to future candidates.
2. Joe Hiltz asked about an internal email between Doug Luey and Marion Ladouceur during the course of a meeting which implied a resignation was forthcoming. Marion Ladouceur explained that the Board of Directors had reviewed the email and discussed with Doug, during the same meeting in which the email was sent, to express concerns about the email's ambiguity.
3. Greg Rampley stated that the duration in which the situation was allowed to continue following the AGM was disruptive to the OLA and stalled additional planning efforts. Good faith was expected in this situation, but was not followed through. Greg Hummel restated the importance of amending articles to ensure that this situation is not repeated in the future. The Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations' Act (ONCA, 2021) may also provide guidance on best practices related to elections processes.

4. Wendy Bennett-Costante asked about whether past practice would be applicable in this situation, given that there have been governors who have held other positions simultaneously in previous decades. Greg Hummel responded that past practice isn't the sole consideration in complicated matters, and that the OLA is continuously responsible for reviewing whether or not past decisions were appropriate in hindsight. Adherence to ONCA's guidelines will help to provide direction in the future.

Status of VP Minor Portfolio

1. A committee has been established to oversee the minor box lacrosse portfolio during this incredibly important time. The decision to review the portfolio was not reached lightly, but came as a result of an increasingly distracting and untenable situation with legitimate concerns that could not be addressed despite best efforts. Given the impending season and critical timing on a number of issues, the decision was determined to be in the best interest of everyone involved.
2. Greg Hummel clarified that the VP Minor's resignation was supplied upon request, not offered voluntarily as had been previously stated.
3. Multiple Zone Directors questioned why they had not been consulted on the decision, or whether there was more that could have been done to prevent the situation from becoming untenable in the first place. Greg Hummel responded that the Board of Directors had sufficient reasons to take action, and that the primary concern was to provide focus and support for the Zone Directors. These measures began on February 28th, and assistance for Minor Council will continue through the season.
4. Greg Rampley spoke on behalf of the Zone Directors to reiterate that Minor Council wishes to work hand-in-hand with the Board of Directors and the office staff, and that any hints that Minor Council were seeking partition from OLA leadership were false. Fiona Clevely, Marion Ladouceur and Cheryl Laplante were thanked for their efforts to provide for both a smooth transition and increased communication over the previous two weeks.

Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Club

1. The Board of Directors has recognized the Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Club under the authority of Glenn McLelland, as a result of a majority membership club AGM decision. A second executive, under the leadership of Trevor Small, has appealed this decision to the final OLA tribunal. The outcome of that hearing will be communicated to the appropriate parties.

2. This situation is a club issue and should not further distract the Board of Governors from preparing for the critical season ahead.

To adjourn the March 9th Board of Governors' meeting.

m/ Eddy Jack

s/ George MacDonald

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm.