



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**ATTENDANCE**

In Attendance:	Sean O'Callaghan	President & Chairperson
	Marion Ladouceur	Past President
	George MacDonald	VP Finance
	Reg Holinshead	VP Junior-Major
	Mary Sticca	VP Minor
	Jennifer Price	VP Field
	Rick Phillips	VP Coaching
	Ian Garrison	VP Officiating
	Sonya Crossey	VP Development
	Colleen Grimes	VP Promotions
	Chuck Miller	Executive Director
	Jeramie Bailey	Promotions Director
	Ron MacSpadyen	Program Director
	Rachael McKinnon	Technical Director
	Scott Fitchett	Technical Director
	Fiona Clevly	Administration
	Gord Fergusson	Guest

Regrets:

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WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 2023**

**MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM.

Chairperson's Welcome (Sean O'Callaghan)

1. Welcome to the April session of the OLA Board of Directors.
2. Jeramie shared a land and territory acknowledgement.

*To approve the agenda of the April 12<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting.*

**NO OBJECTION**

*To approve the previous Board of Directors meeting minutes, with the proposed additions and declared conflicts.*

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Sonya Crossey

**CARRIED**

Insurance Update (Gord Fergusson, George MacDonald):

1. At the most recent Board of Governors meeting, Jennifer inquired about insurance protection for software/data. Youngs Insurance has proposed coverage based on a risk assessment of the OLA's operations, which is currently rated as "medium-low." With the increased threat to all digital platforms as the adoption of technology within society continues, the Board of Directors discussed the prudence of increasing its coverage.
2. The Board inquired about coverage for non-Ontario residents who participate in the OLA. Youngs Insurance recommends a blanket coverage requirement for non-OHIP players to ensure consistency. Further research and discussion are required, given the first games of the season are quickly approaching. George MacDonald will continue to discuss options with Gord to prepare proposals for the Board's consideration prior to the 2024 season. Until that time, non-Ontario residents will continue to be required to provide proof of out-of-province insurance at their own arrangement at the time of registration. The Board may also consider the future of team participation outside of Ontario.

*To approve the Youngs Insurance cyber coverage proposal to be added to the OLA's portfolio, effective immediately.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Sonya Crossey

**CARRIED**

Officiating Update (Ian Garrison):

1. The largest deficit for officiating registration exists within minor box, both in terms of the number of registrations overall, and specifically, the number of returning registrations. An overwhelming number of entry level officials are certified for the 2023 season, but they will take time to learn and develop into strong officials. Mary Sticca has been incredibly supportive in working with each zone to ensure that clubs understand the need to recruit officials.

Coaching Update (Rick Phillips):

1. Coaching recruitment was increased significantly from the 2022 season, with over 500 coaches entered into community development or competitive introduction sessions. Peter has been helpful in processing coaching clinic registrations.
2. Student athletes from the US will likely require a late clinic to be scheduled in early June. In order for this clinic to be held, all coaches must be registered by the May 15 deadline. The details of this clinic will be confirmed with Fiona.

Minor Club Affiliation Request (Reg Holinshead):

1. West Durham submitted a proposal to allow U22 teams to be able to affiliate with U17 teams from other centres. This proposal did not receive support, as U22 teams are governed under the MR section of the Rules & Regulations.

Minor Box Fun Day Proposal (Mary Sticca):

1. Formerly, Fun Days were only available to U7 and U9 divisions. Minor Council is in favour of a pilot to expand this concept to all divisions, with a report and recommendations to be reviewed by the Board of Directors at the conclusion of the season. The application process will be similar to Non-Zone Games.

*To approve the expansion of OLA Fun Days to all divisions of minor box as a pilot program for the 2023 season, with a recommendation from Minor Council to follow at the conclusion of the season.*

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Mary Sticca

**CARRIED**

Mixed Abilities Proposal (Scott Fitchett):

1. The Mixed Abilities Centre has tendered a proposal to the OLA for partnership. This proposal did not receive immediate support based on both cost and capacity, but may be reconsidered in future seasons.

JEWL Update (Jennifer Price):

1. The OWFL has acknowledged the OLA's concerns regarding the format of the JEWL division. The league will be provided with an action plan to ensure compliance, and Jennifer will be responsible for providing metrics to measure the success of the program for presentation at the Board of Directors at the conclusion of the season. The JEWL division will not be permitted to operate under its current format in 2024, however the OWFL will be invited to work with Jenn Price and Ron MacSpadyen on a format that does not violate the Rules and Regulations. All new initiatives must be balanced against the impact they may have on existing programs.
2. On a global perspective, Sector VP's are responsible for communicating expectations to Governors for the approval of major programming variations in all leagues to ensure that there are not violations of the OLA's Rules and Regulations. This communication must take place prior to the OLA's Annual General Meeting. All leagues will be positively impacted by greater engagement with the Board of Directors, including attendance at all league meetings to offer support.

*To approve the JEWL program with pilot status for the 2023 season, on the condition that a sanctioning agreement is reached which addresses the concerns which have been identified, and includes objective metrics for the Board of Directors to consider following the season.*

m/ Jennifer Price

s/ Marion Ladouceur

**TABLED**

3. Representatives from the OLA's Board of Directors will meet with members of the OWFL Executive to share concerns and reach an agreement on the format for the 2023 season.

Lacrosse Canada Overage Player Request:

1. Member Associations within Lacrosse Canada have applied to permit overage players to participate as part of the Minor National Championships in Saskatchewan. Lacrosse Canada's Minor Council erroneously declared this motion to pass, and is now asking for Ontario's support in order to avoid having to rescind the action. There is legitimate concern about overage player involvement, and how this may affect the safety of athletes who are participating. Overage players does not add stability to teams, particularly at a national championship.

*To approve Lacrosse Canada's request to permit overage players to participate on Minor Nationals teams for the 2023 season.*

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Rick Phillips

**DEFEATED**

Junior-Major Playoff Revenue Proposal (George MacDonald):

1. A fair agreement has been reached with each of the Junior-Major box leagues to revise the playoff revenue formula.

*To approve revisions to the playoff revenue formula, beginning in the 2023 season.*

m/ George MacDonald

s/ Reg Holinshead

**TABLED**

Lacrosse Canada Complaint:

*To move the meeting in-camera.*

m/ Reg Holinshead

s/ Rick Phillips

**CARRIED**

*To move the meeting out of camera.*  
**NO OBJECTION**

*To adjourn the April 12<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors' meeting.*  
m/ Reg Holinshead  
s/ Mary Sticca  
**CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 9:44pm.