



**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23, 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

Regrets:

**ONTARIO LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2023**

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM.

Chairperson's Welcome (Sean O'Callaghan)

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

To approve the agenda of the February 23rd Board of Directors meeting.
NO OBJECTION

To approve the previous Board of Directors meeting minutes as presented.
m/ Rick Phillips
s/ Mary Sticca
CARRIED

Confirmation of E-Voting:

1. Because of time constraints, one motion was passed by e-vote between the January and February meetings. This e-vote was carried in accordance with the OLA's Electronic Voting Policy.

To approve TOP Sports for OLA membership under the proposal that was presented.
m/ Marion Ladouceur
s/ George MacDonald
DEFEATED

2023 Automatic Discipline Policy:

1. The Junior-Major Operating Council has submitted a proposal to adjust particular areas of the Automatic Discipline Policy. The proposal has been discussed with representatives of the OLOA. The participating commissioners recommended the changes with consideration toward safety and accountability of the participants in their leagues.

To amend the 2023 Junior-Major Automatic Discipline Policy according to the proposal of the Junior-Major Operating Council.

m/ Reg Holinshead

s/ Rick Phillips

CARRIED

WMSL Franchise Expansion:

1. Mississauga has submitted an application to participate in the WMSL for the 2023 season. The franchise will be operated as a team under the Mississauga Minor Lacrosse Association. The WMSL has formally recommended that the franchise be approved.

To approve the application of the Mississauga Badgers Senior Women's Lacrosse Club on a one-year probationary status.

m/ Marion Ladouceur

s/ Mary Sticca

a/ Reg Holinshead, Colleen Grimes, Sean O'Callaghan

CARRIED

2. Mimico has submitted an application to participate in the WMSL for the 2023 season. The franchise will be operated as a team under the Mimico Minor Lacrosse Association. The WMSL has formally recommended that the franchise be approved.

To approve the application of the Mimico Mountaineers Senior Women's Lacrosse Club on a one-year probationary status.

m/ Marion Ladouceur

s/ Sonya Crossey

a/ Reg Holinshead, Colleen Grimes, Sean O'Callaghan

CARRIED

Major Series Lacrosse, 2023 Hiatus Application:

1. The Owen Sound North Stars have submitted a request to exercise their one-year hiatus option. The franchise has indicated that the request will allow them to adequately prepare for the 2024 season. Major Series Lacrosse has unanimously supported the request.

To accept the request of the Owen Sound North Stars to exercise their one-year hiatus option from Major Series Lacrosse. Players who are currently drafted, protected and/or rostered to the team are unconditionally released to the OLA player pool for the 2023 season, but will automatically return to Owen Sound prior to the 2024 season.

m/ Reg Holinshead
s/ Marion Ladouceur

CARRIED

FCQ Request to Participate in Minor Box:

1. Formal requests have been submitted to permit the teams who are members of Fédération de crosse du Québec to enter into an interprovincial agreement with the OLA. The Zone 5 Executive supports the request in order to increase the competition within the zone. These FCQ teams, having previously participated under an interprovincial agreement, failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of membership.

To enter into an interprovincial agreement with FCQ minor box teams for the 2023 season.

m/ Mary Sticca
s/ Colleen Grimes

DEFEATED

Women's Major Series Lacrosse Repayment Plans (WMSL):

1. The Niagara Turtle Islanders have requested permission to extend their repayment plan. Given the circumstances discussed, the OLA is amenable to the extension request, provided all repayment deadlines are met and the entire balance is repaid by the conclusion of the 2023 calendar year.

To accept the terms of the repayment plan as presented, with all outstanding amounts repaid prior to the conclusion of 2023. Should any repayment periods be missed, the Niagara Turtle Islanders team representative will be placed as a Member Not in Good Standing, and the team will be ineligible to participate.

m/ Sonya Crossey
s/ George Macdonald
a/ Reg Holinshead

CARRIED

Team Ontario Coaches:

1. The list of head coaches selected to represent Team Ontario in each of the sectors was presented to the Board of Directors for approval. Of the 17 teams at the various age divisions, there are three spaces where the leadership team is continuing to conduct interviews.

To approve the head coaches of the 2023 Team Ontario program as presented.

m/ Rick Phillips

s/ Sonya Crossey

CARRIED

Ontario Women's Field Lacrosse League:

1. In 2022, the OWFL began a pilot project by introducing the Junior Elite Women's Loop (JEWL division) at U19 which was intended to elevate the level of play. The OLA's Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that all programs, including pilot projects, do not conflict with existing rules and regulations. Through discussion, it was determined that members may not understand that league approval only provides for recommendation of a proposal to the Board of Directors for final approval, which is responsible for acting as the checks and balances for all programs. All Sector VP's have committed to formally notifying the leagues for which they are responsible of the correct pathway for program approval. The Board of Directors also considered whether the JEWL division would be better served by formally placing it under the R section of the OLA's Rules & Regulations, or by expanding EPIC Lacrosse to oversee this division.

To direct the OWFL Commissioner that no further operational actions or promotion may be taken with the JEWL division until a proper proposal is submitted and approved by the Board of Directors, which must include metrics for evaluation. The Board of Directors will review the proposal and identify how to support the spirit of the program while also operating within existing regulations.

m/ Jennifer Price

s/ Mary Sticca

CARRIED

Out of Ontario Participation Policy:

1. Prior to May 1, a revised OLA International Travel Form (ITF) will be issued by the OLA. The ITF will require the signature of the OLA Club President before being submitted to the OLA Office for approval, which must be received at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled departure. The ITF must only include properly registered OLA members in the current season who belong to the requesting club. Once approved by the OLA, the ITF will be submitted to the Insurance Provider, who will issue appropriate documentation to the club.

To approve revisions to the Out of Ontario Participation Policy as discussed.

m/ Sonya Crossey

s/ George MacDonald

CARRIED

OMFLL's U9 Division:

1. The OMFLL's decision to extend the U9 division may impact club automatic release policies. The OMFLL has submitted a request to not include the U9 division in any automatic release regulations. Players who are granted releases because of "no program" at any point in the U9 field lacrosse division must return to their resident club for U11, regardless of any other circumstances.

To adopt the recommendation of the OMFLL's U9 Automatic Release Policy, which will prohibit two consecutive "no program" releases from applying to the U9 division. All players are responsible to return to their resident club annually through to the U11 division.

m/ Jennifer Price

s/ Colleen Grimes

CARRIED

To move the discussion in-camera.

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Rick Phillips

CARRIED

To move the discussion out of camera.

NO OBJECTION

To file a complaint with to address the concerns discussed.

m/ Colleen Grimes

s/ Ian Garrison

TABLED TO E-VOTE

To adjourn the February 23rd Board of Directors' meeting.

m/ Rick Phillips

s/ Mary Sticca

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 9:18pm.