

2017 Ontario Lacrosse Association Annual General Meeting Proposed Amendments Package

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DATE: September 24, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Glen Flippance

SIGNATURE OF: Glen Flippance, Criminal Record Checks Committee Chairperson

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: OR4.01(b)

PRESENTLY READS:

A current CRC must be submitted by the prospective Volunteer to the clubs Privacy Officer for the current year. The CRC must be date stamped no later than the previous calendar year. The CRC will be valid for three consecutive years supported by an annual OLA Offense Declaration.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

A current CRC must be submitted by the prospective Volunteer to the clubs Privacy Officer for the current year. The CRC must be date stamped no later than the previous calendar year. The CRC will be valid for consecutive years supported by an annual OLA Offense Declaration.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

Most if not all school boards have the same procedure, and it will allow for each association's privacy officer to follow an easier process. The only people that they will need to get CRC'Ss from are new people and repeat volunteers will not have to worry about paying out money every four years, or that their CRC has become outdated and they didn't know about it.

VOTING OUTCOME			
CARRIED DEFEATED AMENDED WITHDRAWN			



DATE: September 29, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Glen Flippance

SIGNATURE OF: Glen Flippance, Criminal Record Checks Committee Chairperson

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: OR7.04

PRESENTLY READS:

Reference to any appeal within any of the articles or By-Laws shall be made in reference of the following procedure.

- 1. The first level of appeal will be to the league or zone. The cost of the appeal shall not exceed one hundred (\$100.00) dollars.
- 2. The second level of appeal shall be directed to the OLA Appeals Committee. The cost of the second appeal shall be one Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars and shall be non-refundable.
- 3. The Third and final appeal board would be appointed by the OLA to be comprised of individuals independent of the aforementioned groups as well as: the OLA leagues, the OLA Board of Governors, the OLA Board of Directors, the OLA board of referees or anyone involved in the original disciplinary action. The cost of this level of appeal shall be two Hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollars and shall be non-refundable.

NOTE

All appeals must be submitted in writing (with cheque) within 15 days of the previous decision.

The results of the appeal will be made known by word within 24 hours and written notice to the club within 3 days

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

<DELETE>

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

The hearings process is currently being revised. If approved, this section would contradict the revised hearings process.

VOTING OUTCOME			

DATE: September 29, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Glen Flippance

SIGNATURE OF: Glen Flippance, Criminal Record Checks Committee Chairperson

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: OR15.01 - OR15.02

PRESENTLY READS:

<NEW>

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

OR 15 – HEARINGS

OR 15.1 – Discipline Hearings

- a) All matters pertaining to discipline are to be held in person.
- b) All related parties must be invited to attend the hearing.
- c) If the party in question does not attend the hearing, a decision will be made in absentia.

OR 15.2 – Club / Association Hearings

- a) A hearing must be held within 10 business days of the Club / Association receiving the request from the Appellant.
- b) All related parties must be invited to attend the hearing.
- c) The hearing will be heard by a minimum of 3 people, one of whom will act as the Chair.
- d) Within 5 business days of the conclusion of the hearing, all parties must receive a written decision which includes the following:
 - i) Issue in question
 - ii) Statement of the facts
 - iii) Decision
 - iv) Reasons for the decision
 - v) Appeal process information
- e) If the written decision is not received within 5 business days of the conclusion of the hearing, the appellant shall automatically have their request granted and the Club / Association will be considered to have no grounds for an appeal.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

To improve the OLA appeals process and to clarify the required documentation that needs to be submitted with an appeal. To clearly explain acceptable grounds for an appeal and the procedure to submit an appeal. To clearly define the appeals communication process allowing all parties to be aware of the decisions made and the reasons why.

VOTING OUTCOME			

DATE: September 29, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Glen Flippance

SIGNATURE OF: Glen Flippance, Criminal Record Checks Committee Chairperson

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: OR16.01 - OR16.05

PRESENTLY READS:

<NEW>

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

OR 16 – APPEAL HEARINGS

OR 16.1 – Zone / League Level Hearings

- a) All appeals must be filed within 5 business days of the receipt, in writing, of the decision being appealed. The fee for the appeal may not exceed \$100.
- b) Payment must be made prior to the start of the hearing.
- c) The hearing will be heard by a minimum of 3 people, one of whom will act as the Chair.
- d) Within 5 business days of the conclusion of the hearing, all parties must receive a written decision which includes the following:
 - i) Issue in question
 - ii) Statement of the facts
 - iii) Decision
 - iv) Reasons for the decision
 - v) Appeal Process information
- e) If the written decision is not received within 5 business days of the conclusion of the hearing, the appellant shall automatically have their request granted and the Zone/League will be considered to have no grounds for an appeal. The Respondent will not lose their right to appeal.

OR 16.2 – OLA Hearings Case Manager

- a) Shall be appointed annually by the Board of Directors
- b) Shall liaise with all parties to clarify the contents of both OR 15 and OR 16
- c) Shall help to ensure timelines are met by all parties and communicate with the President and Executive Director
- d) Shall ensure OR 15 and OR 16 are being followed and recommend amendments, as necessary over time.

OR 16.3 – OLA Appeal Evaluation Process

- a) All appeal documentation must be filed with the President, Executive Director and OLA Hearings Case Manager, within 5 business days of the receipt, in writing, of the decision being appealed.
- b) In an exceptional circumstance, the Appellant may request an extension beyond the 5 business days. To do so, they must submit the request with all supporting documentation to the President, Executive Director and the OLA Hearings Case

Manager, who will then notify the Respondent. The President shall make a final ruling on the extension. This decision is non-appealable.

- c) The President, in consultation with the OLA Hearings Case Manager and/or OLA staff, shall make a determination if the appeal request has the merits to proceed to a hearing. The determination shall be issued in writing and is non-appealable.
- d) In making the determination, the President shall consider the following factors as cause to grant an appeal;
 - i) Making a decision for which the Respondent did not have authority or jurisdiction as set out in the applicable governing documents
 - ii) New facts that were not available when the decision was made
 - iii) Failing to consider the relevant Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, or approved policies of the Ontario Lacrosse Association
 - iv) Failing to follow procedures as laid out in the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, or approved policies of the Ontario Lacrosse Association
 - Making a decision that was influenced by conflict of interest or bias, where bias is defined as a lack of neutrality to such an extent that the decision maker is unable to consider other views, or make a decision that was influenced by factors unrelated to the merits of the decision
 - vi) Making a decision that is grossly unreasonable or unfair
 - vii) Alleged excessive fine, fee penalty or bond
 - viii) Whether an appeal is expressly forbidden by any clause in the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, or approved policies of the Ontario Lacrosse Association
- e) In certain circumstances, an appeal may be held via videoconferencing. This request, and the rationale for it, must be made at the time the appeal is filed. The final decision on videoconference will be made by the President as part of their determination. This decision is not appealable.
- f) The determination must be made within 7 business days of receipt of the appeal request and documentation. If the determination is not made within 7 business days, the hearing will automatically be scheduled.
- g) Players / Bench Personnel may not participate during the 5 business day appeal period. If an appeal is filed, the player may not participate until a final decision is rendered.

OR 16.4 – OLA 1st Level & OLA Final Level Hearings

Where it is determined that a hearing will be scheduled, the following procedure will be utilized;

- a) All hearings will be held within 10 business days of the appeal being granted.
- b) The fee for a 1st level appeal shall be \$100. The fee for a Final level appeal shall be \$250. Payment must be received by the OLA within 5 business days of the appeal being granted. If the appellant is successful in their appeal, the fee shall be refunded.
- c) All parties will be given a minimum of 5 business day's written notice of the date, time and location of the hearing, unless all parties agree in writing to an earlier notification and hearing date.
- d) 5 Business days prior to the hearing, all documentation shall be provided to the Executive Director and OLA Hearing Case Manager by both the Appellant and Respondent. It will then be disbursed to both parties, and to the Committee who will be hearing the appeal. Any information not provided prior to the hearing, will be determined to be inadmissible.
- e) All hearings will consist of a 3 -member panel which may be made up from members of the following categories, provided they have no conflict of interest in the hearing;

- i) OLA Life Members
- ii) Board of Directors
- iii) Past OLA Board of Directors
- iv) Mr. Lacrosse Award Winners
- v) Board of Governors
- f) Should a legal advisor accompany any of the parties, they may not participate. Legal advisors are to be reminded that the hearings are not a legal proceeding and will be conducted per OLA Policies and Procedures.
- g) No voice or video recorders may be used during the hearing.
- h) Failure to attend a hearing without sufficient reason will result in the following;
 - i) An appellant will lose their appeal
 - ii) A respondent will lose the right to argue the decision being appealed. The hearing will proceed based on the documentation pertaining to the respondents' original decision.
- i) Witnesses, who have given written statements as part of the submission, may attend the hearing. Witnesses may only speak if called upon by the Chair of the Hearing.
- j) Any parties under the age of 18 are entitled to bring an adult to act as an advisor.
- k) Recorded evidence is acceptable, provided that it substantiates verbal evidence given by any party. Videotape evidence that shows possible errors in identification by referees/umpires shall be allowed. The use of videotape evidence will not be used for supplemental discipline or to show errors or "missed calls" by officials.
- I) Within 5 business days of the conclusion of the hearing, all parties must receive a written decision which includes the following:
 - i) Issue in question
 - ii) Statement of the facts
 - iii) Decision
 - iv) Reasons for the decision
 - v) Appeal Process information
- m) If the written decision is not rendered within the timeframe specified, the appellant may request an automatic hearing be granted at the next highest level. If the hearing is already at the highest level, they may request a new hearing be set up with a panel consisting of 3 new members. This hearing will be at no additional charge to the appellant.

OR 16.5 – If any information provided by any parties, is determined at a later date to be false, misleading or knowingly inaccurate, it may result in a reversal of decision, suspension and /or fines.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

To improve the OLA appeals process and to clarify the required documentation that needs to be submitted with an appeal. To clearly explain acceptable grounds for an appeal and the procedure to submit an appeal. To clearly define the appeals communication process allowing all parties to be aware of the decisions made and the reasons why.

VOTING OUTCOME			
CARRIED DEFEATED AMENDED WITHDRAWN			

DATE: September 30, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Glen Flippance

SIGNATURE OF: Glen Flippance, Criminal Record Checks Committee Chairperson

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: R16.03

PRESENTLY READS:

The President shall have the right to appoint a suspension hearing committee under article B11.01 whose duty it will be to recommend what disciplinary action is to be taken by the president, who shall have the right to accept, reject or change this recommendation. All suspensions imposed by the President must be announced within ten days of the infraction or be declared invalid.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

The President shall have the right to appoint a suspension hearing committee, whose duty it will be to recommend what disciplinary action is to be taken by the president, who shall have the right to accept, reject or change this recommendation. All suspensions imposed by the President must be announced within ten days of the infraction or be declared invalid.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

B11.01 does not exist.

VOTING OUTCOME			
CARRIED DEFEATED AMENDED WITHDRAWN			

DATE: September 25, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Tina Manning

SIGNATURE OF: Tina Manning, Zone 6 Director

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: MR2.03

PRESENTLY READS:

To facilitate the checking and approval of playing certificates, each club is required to submit an official municipality boundary map, as approved by their Zone/League and the OLA Board of Directors, to the Executive Director. Maps must be resubmitted when a change in municipal boundaries occurs. Playing certificates will not be returned until this has been done.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

<DELETE>

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

There is no submission of maps to the OLA. Player certificates are based on the search engine approved by the OLA yearly.

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DATE: September 28, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Shelly Nobile

SIGNATURE OF: Shelly Nobile, Zone 4 Director

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: MR2.08(a)

PRESENTLY READS:

A player resident in a community represented by a club with house league and/or a team entered in a category for which he is eligible to play, must register with that club except where such player's services are waived by that club subject to the provisions of MR3.11.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

A player resident in a community represented by a club with house league and/or a team entered in a category for which he is eligible to play, must register with that club except where such player's services are waived by that club subject to the provisions of MR3.11.

NOTE: Any player who has not registered with their resident association by the following dates will be ineligible for a rep release. If a club folds a team for which the player would have been eligible, the player will not be eligible for a release under MR2.08(b).

Box: 3rd Sunday in March Field: March 1st Women's Field: 3rd Sunday in March Fall Field: August 15th

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

The note under MR2.10 should be relocated to MR2.08(a) where it makes sense and it's clear that the expectation to register is before a team folds.

VOTING OUTCOME			
□ CARRIED □ DEFEATED □ AMENDED □ WITHDRAWN			

DATE: September 28, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Shelly Nobile

SIGNATURE OF: Shelly Nobile, Zone 4 Director

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: MR2.08(c)

PRESENTLY READS:

Having made his choice, such player shall remain a member of the club for which he has signed until properly released, or until the municipality in which he lives operates a team for which he is eligible, at which time he shall have the choice of signing with the new team in his own municipality or remaining with the club with which he originally signed.

NOTE: Paperweight players **MUST** return to their own resident association once attaining Tyke age. Soft lacrosse players **MUST** return to their own resident association once attaining Tyke age.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

Having made his choice, such player shall remain a member of the club for which he has signed until properly released, or until the municipality in which he lives operates a team for which he is eligible, at which time he shall have the choice of signing with the new team in his own municipality or remaining with the club with which he originally signed.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

The note under MR2.08(c) should be removed as MR2.08(b) already explains the process, no distinction of age division needs to be given. The note was put into the constitution many years ago when many clubs did not offer paperweight divisions, this is no longer the case which makes this note no longer necessary.

VOTING OUTCOME			
CARRIED DEFEATED AMENDED WITHDRAWN			

DATE: September 28, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Shelly Nobile

SIGNATURE OF: Shelly Nobile, Zone 4 Director

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: MR2.10

PRESENTLY READS:

In the event a club signs a player from a city, town or village that does not have an entry in box by May 1st, in Field by March 1st, in Women's Field by May 1st, and in Fall Field by August 15th, and at a later date, city, town or village so affected enters a team, the player will remain with the team holding his signed certificate until released.

NOTE: Any player who has not registered with their resident association by the following dates will be ineligible for a rep release.

Box: 3rd Sunday in March Field: March 1st Women's Field: 3rd Sunday in March Fall Field: August 15th

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

In the event a club signs a player from a city, town or village that does not have an entry in box by May 1st, in Field by March 1st, in Women's Field by May 1st, and in Fall Field by August 15th, and at a later date, city, town or village so affected enters a team, the player will remain with the team holding his signed certificate until released.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

This note under should be relocated to MR2.08(a) where it makes sense.

VOTING OUTCOME			
CARRIED DEFEATED AMENDED WITHDRAWN			

DATE: September 20, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Dave Vernon

SIGNATURE OF: Dave Vernon, Junior "B" Commissioner

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: MR7.02(a)

PRESENTLY READS:

Prior to the OLA Provincial Championships, the Corporation shall rank all clubs and place them into ratings (A, B, C, etc.) using the rankings that are calculated by the system agreed to at the AGM prior to the season (currently <u>MyLaxRankings.com</u>). In order to receive an accurate ranking, all teams must play a minimum of ten (10) games, which must include one (1) tournament, by the following:

- Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget 'A' Qualifier teams 11 days prior to the 1st day of Qualifier play; and
- Teams competing in the Provincial Festival (Tyke through Intermediate) 17 days prior to the 1st day of the Ontario Lacrosse Festival.

If a team has not met this requirement, the team may not be eligible to participate in the Provincial Championship unless granted approval through the OLA. These games may be a combination of Zone play, tournament games and/or approved non-zone games, (house league games not included). Additionally, all teams must fulfill their Zone commitment, and be in good standing.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

Prior to the OLA Provincial Championships, the Corporation shall rank all clubs and place them into ratings (A, B, C, etc.) using the rankings that are calculated by the system agreed to at the AGM prior to the season (currently <u>MyLaxRankings.com</u>). In order to receive an accurate ranking, all teams must play a minimum of ten (10) games, which must include one (1) tournament, by the following:

- 1. Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget 'A' Qualifier teams 11 days prior to the 1st day of Qualifier play; and
- 2. Teams competing in the Provincial Festival (Tyke through Intermediate) the 2nd Wednesday in July

If a team has not met this requirement, the team may not be eligible to participate in the Provincial Championship unless granted approval through the OLA. These games may be a combination of Zone play, tournament games and/or approved non-zone games, (house league games not included). Additionally, all teams must fulfill their Zone commitment, and be in good standing.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

To allow for the completion of tournament scores from the first two weekends of July, and also allow time to schedule the games using the appropriate team names rather than numbers. This

would reduce the incidence of games being too close together and reduce the chance of error in transferring games from the division schedules to the Master schedule.

VOTING OUTCOME			
CARRIED DEFEATED AMENDED WITHDRAWN			

DATE: September 28, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Shelly Nobile

SIGNATURE OF: Shelly Nobile, Zone 4 Director

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: MR7.02(a)

PRESENTLY READS:

MR7.02 (a) Prior to the OLA Provincial Championships, the Corporation shall rank all clubs and place them into ratings (A, B, C, etc.) using the rankings that are calculated by the system agreed to at the AGM prior to the season (currently *MyLaxRankings.com*) which must include one (1) tournament, by the following:

1. Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget 'A' Qualifier teams – 11 days prior to the 1st day of Qualifier play; and

2. Teams competing in the Provincial Festival (Tyke through Intermediate) – 17 days prior to the 1st day of the Ontario Lacrosse Festival.

If a team has not met this requirement, the team may not be eligible to participate in the Provincial Championship unless granted approval through the OLA. These games may be a combination of Zone play, tournament games and/or approved non-zone games, (house league games not included). Additionally, all teams must fulfill their Zone commitment, and be in good standing.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

Prior to the OLA Provincial Championships, the Corporation shall rank all clubs and place them into ratings (A, B, C, etc.) using the rankings that are calculated by the system agreed to at the AGM prior to the season (currently *MyLaxRankings.com*). In order to receive an accurate ranking, all teams must play a minimum of ten (10) games, which must include one (1) tournament, by the following:

1. Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget 'A' Qualifier teams – 11 days prior to the 1st day of Qualifier play; and

2. Teams competing in the Provincial Festival (Tyke through Intermediate) – 17 days prior to the 1st day of the Ontario Lacrosse Festival.

Any team who has played less than 6 games will not be eligible to participate in the Provincial Championship, any team who has played 6-10 games may be considered for approval to participate in the Provincial Championships. These games may be a combination of Zone play, tournament games and/or approved non-zone games, (house league games not included). Additionally, all teams must fulfill their Zone commitment, and be in good standing.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

This note under should be relocated to MR2.08(a) where it makes sense.

VOTING OUTCOME				
CARRIED DEFEATED AMENDED WITHDRAWN				

DATE: September 27, 2017

PROPOSED BY: Dave Vernon

SIGNATURE OF: Dave Vernon, Junior "B" Commissioner

ARTICLE TO BE AMENDED: MR11.07(g) – MR11.07(i)

PRESENTLY READS:

Presented to OLA members who have given 30 years of service to the sport of lacrosse.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

An engraved plaque shall be presented to OLA members who have given 30 years of volunteer service to the sport of lacrosse, in recognition of their dedication and commitment.

PRESENTLY READS:

Presented to OLA members who have given 40 years of service to the sport of lacrosse.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

A plaque mounted CLA Lacrosse poster shall be presented to OLA members who have given 40 years of volunteer service to the sport of lacrosse, in recognition of their dedication and commitment.

PRESENTLY READS:

Presented to OLA members who have given 50 years of service to the sport of lacrosse.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO READ (EXACT WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLE):

A gold lapel pin (with a rhinestone to symbolize the ball) shall be presented to OLA members who have given 50 years of volunteer service to the sport of lacrosse, in recognition of their dedication and commitment.

REASON FOR SUGGESTING CHANGE:

To identify the actual award that is being presented, and to clarify that each award is for volunteer years, as opposed to years of involvement.

VOTING OUTCOME			
	DEFEATED		

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