

MINUTES

Winnipeg Box Lacrosse Commission

Monday January 29th, 2024

6:00pm via Zoom

1. Call to Order / Establishment of Quorum
 - a. Attendees: Jason Isfjord, Rayce Funk, Greg Paige, Kris Maranchuk (left at 8:00pm), Matt Girardin, Kyle Breen, Christine Laarveld, Stacey McIvor, Kim Winzoski, Richard DeLaRonde joined at 6:53pm
 - b. Absent:
 - c. Called to order @ 6:03pm
2. Opening Remarks – Report on Action Items from Last Meeting - Murray
3. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting (Jan 16, 2024 @ Sport MB and WBLC Jan 22)

MOTION: Matt G. To approve both sets of minutes as presented.

Secunder: Jason Isfjord

Vote: Passed, Unanimous

4. Identify Candidates for Vice-Commissioner, Secretary, Registrar, Referee Assignor, u9/Tyke Convenor

Nobody new was offered up.

5. Financial Report Update – Surplus Funds Available for Capital Purchases
 - a. Oakbank Invoice Payment Status – Stacey

Roughly \$200 is left outstanding to Oakbank. Greg P. to send Kim/Murray the invoice.

- b. Shot Clock Purchase Report - Christine
 - *Harris Time, Ontario based, \$2400/set plus \$50 shipping, no discounts*
 - *Urban Supply Inc., New York based, \$4165.00/set USD*
 - *Forum Athletic Products, Ontario based, awaiting quote*
 - *Checked with Ringette MB but have not received a response yet.*

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Matt G. mentioned he applied to his local community for funding, along with Lacrosse Alumni for support.

Kim W. mentioned there may be government grants for starting a new sports program in a community.

Manitoba Lotteries is offering funding for sports programs, and it is listed under Sport Manitoba Resources.

It was agreed that we need 2 sets, but we will wait to hear from the MLA about grants and for the final quote to come in.

Clubs outside of the Winnipeg Commission can borrow shot clocks and other equipment but must sign a 'rental' agreement

MOTION: Matt G – To order 2 sets of shot clocks from Harris Time.

Secunder- Christine Laarveld

Discussion – How will payment be made for the clocks – Kim W. asked for payment options from Harris, Christine will look into and get back to us.

Vote: Passed, Unanimous

Discussion around a 'ship to' address for the shot clocks and Murray offered his business address because it is within Winnipeg and someone is available to receive shipments during the week, clubs agreed.

c. Black Mesh Purchase Report - Richard

- *Asked Donna at Sports Xpress for a quote, have not received a response yet.*
- *Xhockeyproducts.ca are \$200 CAD per net*
- *Crankshooters.com website shows black 4x4 mesh but when clicked on, it only lists white*

Discussion was around who owns the nets and who is responsible for replacing mesh, needs to be revisited.

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Falcons need 1 set, Notre Dame needs 1 set, Gryphons need a black mesh replaced because their nets are being used at Gateway for the winter program. It was recommended to have a spare set of mesh in case there are issues with mesh during the season or playoffs.

The Commission is looking to purchase 4 sets of black mesh for this current season. It was agreed we would wait for all quotes to come in and feedback from MLA on grants.

6. Club Report – Interlake Storm (Anticipated Numbers, Board, Facility, Etc.) – Kyle Breen

1x u11 team, 1x u9 team, possible 1x u7 team, there is interest from hockey players. U13 and u15 players from the Interlake will probably choose to remain in their grandfathered clause. President, VP, Treasurer, Equipment and Program Director have been established in the club. Both rinks will be available to use, Ice Palace will be available about a week after March 28th but the big rink (VMSC) will be available about a week after April 28th. They will need nets and shot clocks. They are open to suggestions but are looking into getting nets made. Xhockeyproducts offers fully strung nets for \$810/ea plus shipping. Team colors being considered are blue, with yellow as secondary color. Orange was offered as good color option due to high contrast with other clubs. Question asked about game nights – u11 & u13 are Tuesday & Thursday with Saturday where needed, u9, u15 & u17 are Monday & Wednesday with Saturday where needed. It was suggested to check with Harv-al for some cost effective pro-mesh jerseys. Currently using Facebook and social media for advertising.

ACTION: RAMP is available to the Commission to sort registrations but there was an issue with addresses that needs to be corrected before they can be plotted on a map. Greg Paige offered to help create a map showing exactly how many players registered from what geographical area.

7. Establish 2024 Season Timelines

Timeline proposal was discussed, and it was agreed that the Commission should follow this timeline as closely as possible. The deadlines for Team Declaration and Facility Usage need to be adhered to because they are crucial for the season schedule creation. There needs to be a minimum of 1 week from schedule creation to the start date because games need to be loaded

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into the RAMP gamesheet app and game officials need to be assigned. Even with a full week, getting everything done will be tight.

The only agreed upon change was moving the Roster Submission Deadline to April 15th, instead of the 12th to allow clubs the extra weekend to form teams. These rosters also need to be loaded into the RAMP online gamesheet app.

8. Scheduling Report (Needs/Wants/Issues) – Greg

Greg said the timeline is achievable however, with the number of u15 teams could pose a challenge based on the number of games required. The u15 and u17 teams will play 3 game series amongst top 4 teams and remainder of teams play a double knockout. Greg needs to know what will happen with u17 if there are 5 teams in the league and how play-offs will work if a 3 game series is chosen. Sunday will be used for makeup games. Based on the projected number of teams, the facilities will have roughly an 80% utilization rate every night. It will probably be necessary to schedule three games in a row for u11 and u13, which will mean that some clubs will play home games away from their home clubs. It may also require games to be played at 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30. Shamrocks will require 2 facilities to host all home games because of the number of teams they will have, otherwise home games will be sent to other facilities.

Rayce asked if we could an early 'jamboree' day for u11 mainly and supplemented with u13 games so we could have mentorships scheduled for refs. Greg mentioned possibly April 27th, hosted by the club that has the most teams at u11 and u13.

Gryphons are planning to host a u11 and u15 tournament on May 10, 11 and 12th. Gryphons have tried to host a u17 tournament but have not had the interest from teams. Sidewinders are hosting a u13 tournament, just waiting on Blizzard schedule.

For out of town teams that have less than 3 teams, they may need to play 2 games in a night to justify sending out referees, using altered game times, possibly a 6:30-7:30 and 8:00-9:00 so the home team can have a rest. If out of town clubs can recruit their own refs, it will make

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scheduling much easier for them to get all their home games. Kyle is waiting to hear what the hourly rate for floor time will be and they would be willing to host games at their big rink.

It was discussed that the CLA has released the latest version of the LTAD and the Commission should take some time and review the recommendations. However, with our limitations in Manitoba, it will be difficult to adopt all the recommendations based on facilities and referees.

U9 games would be scheduled by Greg P. prior to u15/u17 games on Monday and Wednesday nights.

Rayce stated that 2 facilities per night would be threshold for u15/u17 games and 3 facilities for u11/u13. Referees should be ok to ref games on weekends but not on weekends where the Blizzard have home games. Blizzard schedule may not come out until March.

Rescheduled games will be attempted to be moved into open slots in the schedule, if they are not available, Friday nights at the nearest facility will be utilized.

9. Timekeeper Report (Needs/Wants/Issues) – Sherilyn

Sherilyn's report to be attached to these minutes.

Matt G. mentioned timekeepers may be hard to find outside the city and asked for ideas on how to address recruitment and training. He asked if he could be trained as a trainer for other timekeepers.

Timekeeper should have some paper copies of game sheets for times where the online system cannot be used. It may also be easier to have out of town timekeepers use paper but the games must be updated immediately once the game is completed by the timekeeper.

ACTION: Murray to discuss developing a timekeeper training seminar to make sure it is consistent, and the information can be used to share with other clubs. Can we create a uniform paper game sheet to be used a backup.

10. Referee Report (Needs/Wants/Issues) – Rayce

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On timekeeper report, a gap between games was requested but Rayce suggested to not add more time to schedule. No clinic fees for referees this year. MLA membership fees will be back and are due from the referees. Officials pathways are being updated, more to come. Mileage fees were submitted to Murray and will need to be reviewed.

11. Advertising Requests – To be posted on Commission Website

Registration opening dates, due to increase in teams, the odd weekend day may be used to allow all games to be played, links to clubs, 'interested in reffing' links, 'interested in timekeeping' links, Discover lacrosse sessions. Need dates, details and links to where the clubs want the clicks to go.

ACTION: Murray to organize media information development and website updating between Stacey (who offered to manage Commission website) and Matt Mason. Murray will come up with a plan to get the Commission website managed properly.

Stacey asked if the Winnipeg Commission can have and manage their own social media, such as Instagram.

Christine asked if Matt Mason could update the Commission website with the new logo for the Shamrocks. Christine to send it to Murray. Matt G. and Kyle B. will need to send their logos to Murray.

12. Club Boundary Discussion

- a. Review player registration distribution from last season

TABLED – Murray is still working on a full package of information to help the Commission make boundary decisions.

13. Questions for the MLA – Give to Matt G and Rayce for Jan 31 MLA Meeting

- List of grants available to clubs from MLA (Shot clocks, mesh)
- Will the MLA purchase a replacement set of mesh for the nets being used at Gateway for the TMADP? Rental for nets should be ½ the cost of mesh replacement.
- What support can the MLA offer a new club starting up for nets, shot clocks, line painting.

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- Travel Permit request for u15 to Canada Day Tournament
- Can we get an update on Field lacrosse playoff schedule – last year we had many conflicts with refs based on conflicts with high school field games
- What is the plan for the A program – What ages, nights, etc. Will the location of the program be rotated around the city?
- Can the Commission get more email addresses? Or a list of what emails are available right now?
- Can we get the dates for the referee clinics? Even just an idea would be helpful

14. Set Next Meeting Date

Monday, February 12th, 6pm via Zoom

15. New Business

- a. Please share prior to meeting if possible
- b. Grandfather Clause Review:

This rule only applies when new clubs are starting up and should not be confused with player transfers that were done because a players home club did not have enough players to host a team.

Players who have registered and played with another club, will be allowed to play with that same club, even though they now have a home club. Any new players who register will be required to play in their home club. A players 'grandfathering' status will remain for the duration of their playing career, however, should they choose to play with their home club, their 'grandfathering' status will no longer be valid. In the scenario where a club does not have room for players with 'grandfathering' status, they shall be returned to their home clubs.

Commission Registrar is needed to verify players are registering from their proper clubs. RAMP can apparently do geofencing but it is allegedly not reliable.

ACTION: Murray to prepare a document to be added to registrations for everyone to read and receive a consistent message. Also to follow up with Matt Mason about adding geofencing to RAMP.

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16. Adjournment

MOTION: Richard D. - To adjourn meeting at 9:07pm

Seconder: Christine L.

Vote: Passed, Unanimous