



ALA PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2020 AGM

The 2020 year has started like none we have experienced to date. Prior to March the 2020 lacrosse season looked extremely promising with the Team Alberta Field year round program starting in November of 2019 with an increase in registration. ALA created new resources for its' Members in the form of the new Players Handbook and Recruiting Guide. Clubs were looking at great registration numbers and ALA was planning for Alberta Summer Games and Canada Summer Games preparation.

The onset of COVID and the ongoing ramifications is something no one would have predicted or had any experience in coping with ongoing changes in our day to day living. COVID has been every difficult to navigate as the government guidelines and messaging is changing on an ongoing basis. The ALA and its' Members will need to continue to be flexible and inventive to assure lacrosse recuperates from the loss of the regular 2020 season.

The ALA was unfortunate to lose its office in the aftermath of COVID. Many other adjustments were made to cut expenses as well as pursue other avenues of income.

The ALA focused on a social media campaign to engage coaches and players while we were unable to meet in person. The weekly content included Mobility Monday, Tactical Tuesday, Wall Ball Wednesday, Technical Thursday and Fit Friday.

Once the ALA was aware some sort of program would be implemented in 2020, resources were added on LacrosseTV to assist coaches in social distancing drills and remove barriers for coaches and clubs to run programs. During this slower time in lacrosse more coaching resources have been added in all disciplines of lacrosse.

The ALA was inventive in providing alternative programming to keep sticks in kids hands. To date forty four (44) programs have ran since ALA was permitted to operate some form of activity. In box lacrosse, there were 1150 males and 266 female participants. Wood Buffalo was the first to launch a program while Beaumont, Lakeland and Calgary Axemen had great registration numbers. In field, there were 351 males and 106 females participating. Mustangs had the greatest registration for that group. The Team Alberta program continued with cohort groups in Edmonton and Calgary. Team Alberta had 63 male and 70 female players participate in the camps over summer. I would like to thank all the groups who enthusiastically provided programs and the feedback is that these programs created many smiles on our youth and adult players who participated. These alternative programs are a bonus coming out of COVID as they may assist the ALA in providing more inclusive programing.

The ALA held zoom coach mentorship clinics that were well attended and are starting to draw coaches from other provinces. The ALA took the initiative and held Zoom CAC coaching clinics. Easier access to coaching clinics is a priority in the ALA strategic plan. ALA will continue to work on these clinics and push for the CLA acceptance of the delivery of on-line clinics.

The ALA is working hard to continue during these very trying times to ensure that we try to continue to follow through and work on the Strategic Plan. We will continue to do this but it is important for the BOD to ensure they are engaged in what is occurring and sharing with their members what is provided for them to get feedback. It is very frustrating to have groups asking questions of why is the ALA doing new bylaws, regulations and policies when this was specific item in the Strategic Plan and updates had been sent out to the board to get feedback. There was not a lot of feedback and most at the last minute which puts pressure on the office to be able to work through the questions and to have to be answering questions as to why we are doing this is frustrating as the BOD members should be able to answer that by themselves. We have reduced staffing and the pressure that has been put on the office and specifically Lisa is making it very trying for her to complete her job effectively as again she is answering questions that we should not be.

We are also working as a group to try and ensure that we are giving our groups the first opportunity to try and get programs going and get players back playing lacrosse. We need to have the support of the BOD and our members in working to ensure our members are trying to have this happen and that is our priority. If this group feels that we should not be doing this and does not wish to support our members then we have to redirect our efforts and not try to support our members by ensuring that they are being given the opportunity to run their programs before we support other groups. This group must make a decision and then all in the group must stand behind the decisions.

Lastly, I believe that the ALA must also work to look during these changes and what is occurring with the Covid as a opportunity to look at expanding our opportunity to increase our revenue base. With this there is going to have to be work done to try and expand our exposure in the entire province and work toward getting players back to lacrosse and expand our base. This will require strong decisions from this group to support initiatives and bring forward others that will help to do this for the lacrosse community. I believe we have some opportunities in front of us and could do some great things to help all facets of our game.

I will close by saying thank you to Lisa for all the work she has been doing during these very tough times and every changing environment and working hard to keep the ALA current and up to date as to what was happening. Our BOD of must ensure that we continue to support her and our group as we continue to get back to normal and out of this pandemic.

Rob Matsuoka
ALA President



ALA Director of Administration Report to the ALA Board of Directors 2020

This year was a year of adaptation to Administrative matters within the ALA. It has been a challenge to deal with everchanging protocols and messaging from the government as it relates to COVID-19. As well, as adapting the ALA to deal with upcoming issues and moving the organization forward to assure its' viability. The following is my report, as the Director of Administration, for 2019 – 2020 and it is broken into various areas of responsibility.

Financial

Most of my financial report is found under the Annual Financial Review on the agenda and in the package circulated. We did not meet our net budgeted expectations most significantly due to COVID-19.

Staff did what they could to mitigate late fee charges and have been paying numerous bills (source deductions, utilities & credit cards) online once the appropriate approvals were obtained. This has allowed us to reduce our late fees paid as much as possible. Dual approval still slows some items up & is difficult to eliminate all together.

An additional financial aspect, in response to COVID-19, was the research and monitoring that was undertaken by the Executive Director to ensure the organization could benefit from grants and subsidies offered by the government and other agencies.

Registration

The 2020 season looked promising from a registration perspective. The clubs did a great job in this area as numbers looked like they may have increased for 2020 if the season had occurred.

Staffing

Our staff continue to work for our Association very hard and very diligently. The resignation of the Manager of Development provided some challenges as the Return to Activity and Sport had to be drafted. In addition, the 2021 Canada Games requires technical expertise, and we continue to explore ways to provide more grassroots and high performance development opportunities.

Contracts for the Program Coordinator are up for review in December 2020 and the Executive Directors' will be reviewed in 2021.

Office

With the move to give up the office due to Covid-19, working from home has had both pluses and negatives and should be reviewed before the end of the 2021 fiscal year.

Discipline

The Executive currently has no discipline issues before them.

The ALA had zero discipline issues come before it this year.

John Frame, from Edmonton, has been our Discipline Chair this year. I would like to thank John for all his efforts this year & being available should anything arise.

John has agreed to stay on as ALA Discipline Chair for another year.

Legal Proceedings

As of today's date there is one item under legal proceeding.

Policy & Governance

As per the ALA Strategic Plan, the ALA has been working on rewriting the ALA Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations. The ALA Board has been working with Steve Indig from the Sport Law and Strategy Group who has been providing advice and guidance to the Board.

As it relates to the Liability of all Members and Members Executives, we were informed by our Insurance Broker in 2018 that our insurance covers ONLY ALA Sanctioned Events. Notice must be sent out to all Clubs, Officials and Players that are participating in unsanctioned events that they have no coverage through the ALA. This continues to be an issue and the ALA is experiencing insurance rate increases yearly. Some increases are due to the industry as well as a large claim for legal fees ALA incurred.

Strategic Plan

We continued to review our Strategic Plan on an ongoing basis throughout the year and this process needs to be continually reviewed to ensure we receive SPAR Funding.

Since approving the Strategic Plan for 2020, the Board & Staff need to continue to work on key activities and refine the Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Rhodes

Director of Administration

Director of Marketing and Communication Report – Sept. 19 and 20, 2020

Facebook – 2,832 Followers (+60 from June)

Twitter – 2,304 Followers (no change from June)

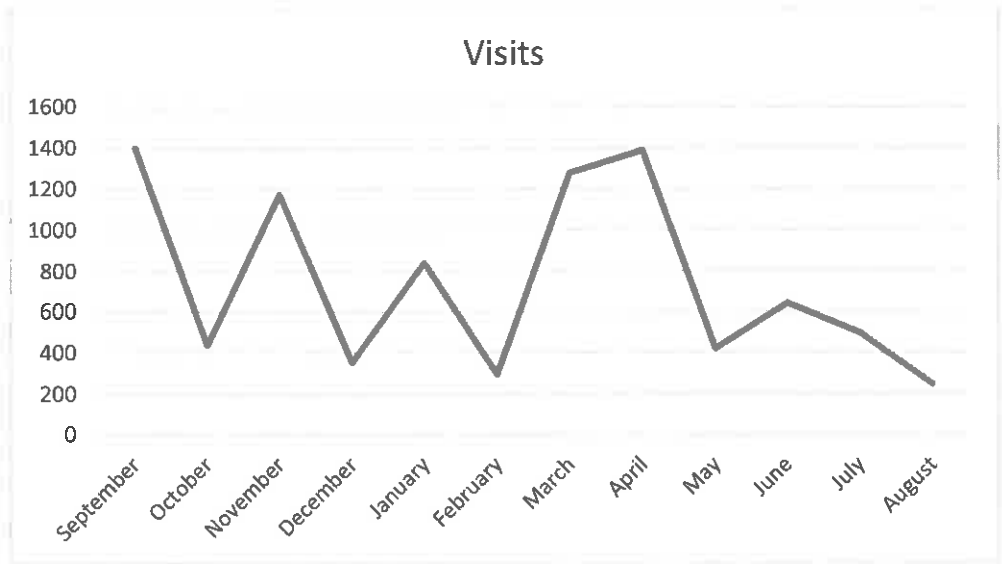
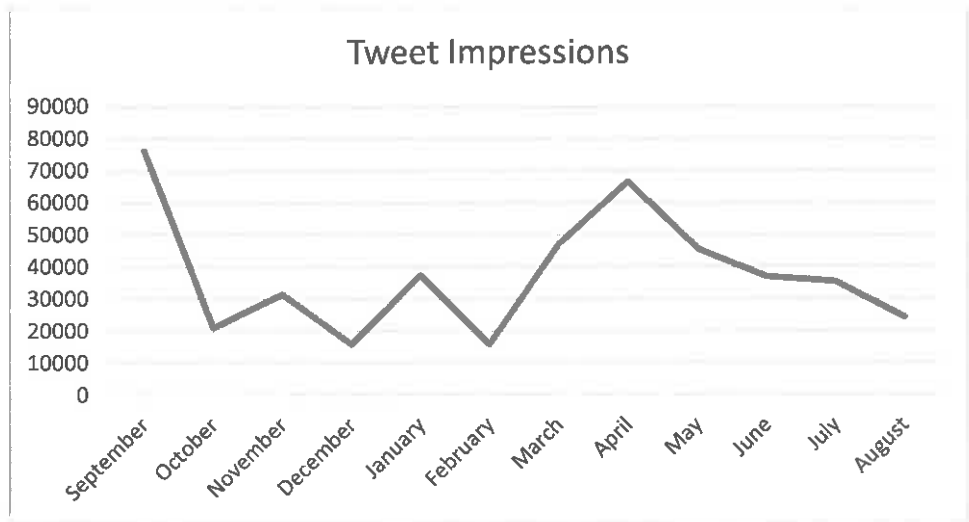
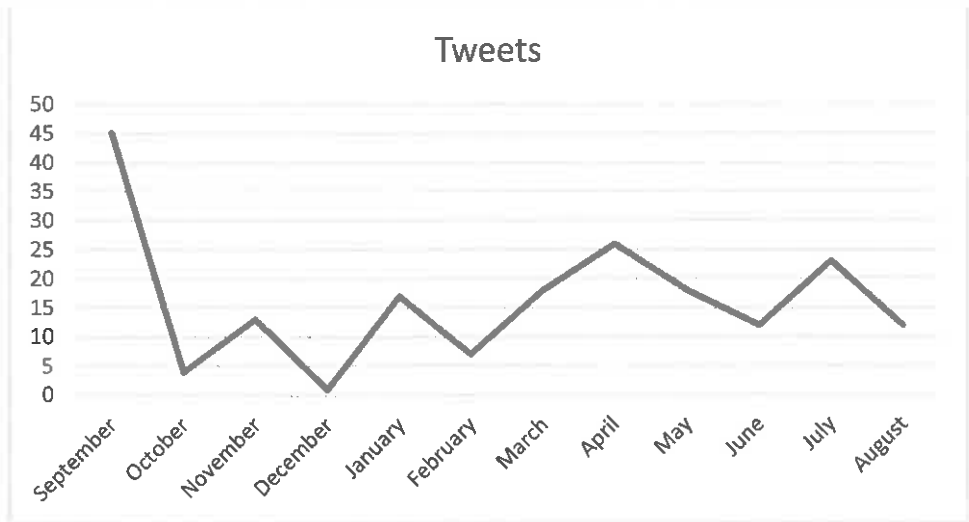
Instagram – 2,034 Followers +103 from June)

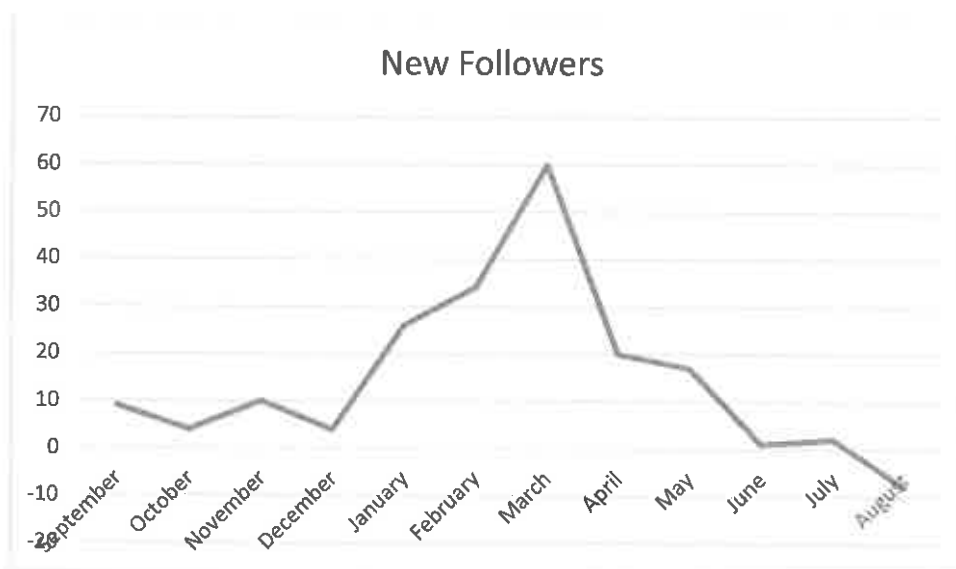
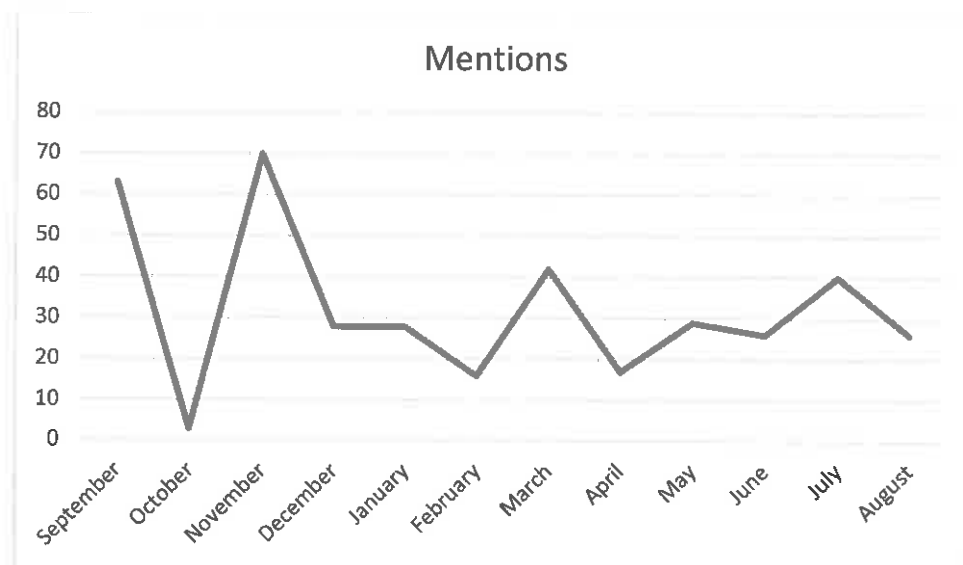
Coaches Clip Board – 4,931 contacts (-1 from 2019)

Social Media campaign continues to keep ALA and our members in front of those looking to get involved in Lacrosse. This is a key medium to share all the excellent programs across Alberta that are affordable and as strong as the for profit offers.

Here are some analytics from Twitter for 2020:

Month	Tweets	Tweet Impressions	Visits	Mentions	New Followers
September	45	76200	1400	63	9
October	4	21100	437	3	4
November	13	31500	1172	70	10
December	1	16000	352	28	4
January	17	37400	840	28	26
February	7	15900	295	16	34
March	18	47100	1278	42	60
April	26	66600	1389	17	20
May	18	45700	421	29	17
June	12	37000	643	26	1
July	23	35500	498	40	2
August	12	24400	247	26	-8





I would suggest that the trends would mimic that of a normal season where the peaks are generally in the same time frame, I would have to look into past years to see what the volumes are in comparison to 2020. An interesting observation would be the data for September, I would suggest that these numbers are as a result of National Championships in 2019, we likely will not see these same trends in 2020.

On Oct. 22 I was invited along with 2 of our athletes to participate by Andrew Greenall of Amateur Sports TV (ASTV) in an interview on Primetime Alberta Sports Show to discuss how COVID has affected lacrosse and our Return to Play. ASTV is a full broadcasting, coverage and media company that reaches over 250,000 per broadcast. The entire interview can be found on their Facebook address at Amateur Sports TV (<https://www.facebook.com/amateursportstv/>) Twitter (@amatuersportstv) and YouTube

Darrel

Director of High Performance Report

2020 has presented some very unique challenges to the high-performance programs of Alberta lacrosse. With no competitive season this year, there were no tournaments or provincials to sanction or report on. However, through all of the chaos, the Team Alberta program returned to activity in July and provided quality programming for both male and female lacrosse athletes.

The male 16u return to play camp had 65 participants from all areas of the province, and the female 14u and 16u programs had 67 participants from different regions throughout the province. Both of these camps received positive reviews from the participants and were a successful initiative from the ALA. Many thanks to the coaches who ran these sessions and made them a success under challenging circumstances.

Moving into the fall of 2020, the ALA will be operating camps in the north and the south in preparation for the 2021 Canada Summer Games. These camps will be the start of the Summer Games teams' selection process but will be focused on player education and development for all participants.

Moving into 2021, the ALA will be developing a plan for a year-round Team Alberta field lacrosse program that will focus on player development, training, recruiting exposure, and team preparation for the Canadian National Championships.

Jesse Fehr

Alberta Lacrosse Association
BOD Meeting
September 19/20, 2020

ALA Director of Development: Shawn Cable

Year two in this position was obviously interesting considering the worldwide pandemic eliminating the 2020 box season and the majority of the field season.

The main focus was and will continue to be is the start-up of the U17 league. In hindsight having another year to prepare won't be a bad thing considering Paul as well being a big part of it initially and no longer in his position at the office. We have good representation from the North and South and have now adopted a set of bylaws that have buy in from both groups as a framework to work under for year 1

We continue to work on the action plan to address the coaching certification process to hopefully bridge that gap and make the certification process more streamline.

Thirdly working together with ALRA we have continued to understand the challenges the groups face to accomplish our tasks and ability to work together on the framework for evaluations and mentorship. There is still work to be done but feel that we have had productive discussions to date.

I would like to thank my fellow board members for their support and teamwork throughout this challenging time, I believe we have much more positive times ahead.

Yours in Lacrosse,

Shawn Cable
ALA Director of Development



CDLA President's Report – October 2020

New items for 2021:

The season for 2020 obviously started on a bit of a damper as the 2020 season didn't take place due to COVID-19. With that stated the CDLA Winter Camp along with various other lacrosse camps throughout CDLA member clubs are under way.

We had our CDLA Planning Meeting on October 4th where we discussed plans for the upcoming 2021 season where we are looking to bring back the Canada Day Tournament as well as the Girl's Rock another notable tournament within the CDLA.

Kevin introduced the concept of Change Management which focuses on changing behavior to obtain buy-in to new processes to ultimately achieve the required outcome. This presentation was well received by the CDLA Board and all in attendance.

We are looking forward to the 2021 season and very excited about the introduction of the CDLA Recreation Lacrosse League. This will involve low cost registration and consist of one practice as well as one game per week and the league will focus on non-contact games.

We are once again working with the City of Calgary and the Sports Hub to bring lacrosse into the City of Calgary schools. In addition, we are working with the Calgary Roughnecks to obtain funding assistance for various programs within the CDLA.

Last but not least, we continue focus on our positive relationship with the ALRA and provide assistance to them as it relates to Referee Mentorship.

In closing, as always the CDLA thanks the Alberta Lacrosse Association for their continued support and guidance.

Frank Natt

President

Calgary District Lacrosse Association



2020 Season

Obviously, events beyond our control have led to the cancelation of the 2020 season.

The Membership of the GELC has decided for the league to host a 4 on 4 Winter league featuring a Female (developmental) Division and Male (developmental & competitive) Divisions. Details have been placed on our social media, website and broadcast to the members and members of members.

There are some obstacles being faced around playing in multiple sport cohorts and coaching certification with the minimal number of clinics being ran this season.

The goal however is to provide an opportunity to keep the sport top of mind for our participants and increase enrollment for this year.

2021 Season

Coming out of the 2020 season the GELC is in a sound financial position. We will be proceeding planning on a 2021 season as per normal. We will also formulate a contingency plan to take into effect potential restrictions and safeguards that Alberta Health may require.

While these safeguards are unknown at this time, the GELC believes that creating a framework that is flexible to change is an important step in planning that will allow us to adjust and provide some level of programming within short notice.

The budgeting process for 2021 will be a challenge. Currently, the anecdotal estimate is that the GELC will see a reduction of 20-25% in player registrations, primarily due to economic impacts. We will continue to monitor and work with other sport providers to understand how the challenges faced in 2020 impact participation.

Facilities

Access to appropriate facilities continue to present challenges, especially during fall, winter and early spring.

The GELC is happy to have a new facility come on board in Beaumont. The Council has invested \$20K in the Beaumont Sport and Recreation Center to ensure that Lacrosse had an approved playing surface that will be affordable and for our year-round use.

The East & South Soccer Centers have communicated that they will be keeping two concrete floors open this winter and available for us to book with restrictions. Unfortunately, these surfaces do not have glass and the Soccer Centers have not been receptive to putting glass in.

The GELC has invested \$33k into the south Soccer Center expansion that will provide an additional year-round Lacrosse appropriate surface to our members in 2022.

Additional Comments

When making and prioritising investment decisions, the council uses the principles of;

- Access to Facilities
- Improved Client Experience
- Operational Excellence

In 2021 the GELC will be investing in its Board development for both it's Executive and Council using an outside Subject Matter Expert.

Finally, after an unsuccessful attempt to "rebrand" the GELC and update its logo using local coop students from NAIT. The GELC will be outsourcing the design of a new logo, stay tuned.

Sincerely

Sean Aggus

GELC President



Central Alberta Lacrosse League
President's Report - October 2020

Greetings from Central Alberta.

This past season held us to a steep learning curve! Since Covid 19 took over our Lacrosse season, most activity within Central Alberta ceased. But, once Field lacrosse activities were approved and hosted by our club in Red Deer, kids were able to get back into practicing and scrimmaging, using Covid Protocols. Overall, the players had fun, albeit vastly different from years past.

Within our CALL board, regular meetings were held online throughout March and into late September. Our next meeting will be the AGM in October, followed by our regular BOD meeting. To encourage participation from all our member clubs, we actively recruit executive members from all over our Central Alberta region, while also issuing fines to clubs who do not attend. The only way we can be sure of open and clear communication for all our member club boards, is to have high expectations of our CALL Executive, to be present and accountable, and to have that mimicked at our club and team levels. Currently, all clubs are in good standing within CALL, having had representation at all our meetings and with all fees paid to ALA. The CALL Executive put forth a motion this spring, with unanimous support from our members, to pay all player, referee, and club executive fees issued by ALA, in order to maintain the viability of our member club finances, as they were unable to recoup these expenses. CALL also placed a one-year moratorium on all CALL player fees for the 2020 season. By being fiscally responsible as a league, we were able to take on this deficit, and remain sound going into the 2021 box season.

Our CALL AGM will see us vote on our updated Bylaws. The draft of these has been pre-approved by Alberta Liquor and Gaming Corporation (AGLC) to expedite the process of retaining our Casino license requirements. Next, we will be revisiting our Regulations and Policies, which will coincide with those of the ALA.

We have added an Executive Director position within our organization with a clear job description, pay schedule, list of duties and expectations as well as a process for evaluation. It is always our intention to make "kids playing lacrosse" our highest priority, while realizing the amazing commitments that our members hold within their clubs, communities, and families. By having an ED in place to look

after our league's day to day business, we hope it will alleviate many of the club pressures and allow those who volunteer as coaches or board members to do so knowing they are supported by their league. We are grateful to have our ED, Angela Nygaard, and look forward to future success within CALL.

We look toward a positive change for 2021, with the changing of our 16U to a 17U format and the next spring season, which we will begin planning for in early December. We wish all our clubs the very best for this winter season, with various camps ongoing and available for all CALL players. We will continue to promote the Game of Lacrosse throughout Central Alberta within our schools and our community groups, and we are grateful to have many opportunities made available to us to fulfill this. It is a pleasure to serve our Central Alberta membership as their President and I wish you all a very safe and joy-filled winter season and a fast-paced upcoming Lacrosse-filled Spring!

Yours in the Spirit of Lacrosse,

Kimberley Smyth
President-Central Alberta Lacrosse League



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Annual Report of the RMLL President
Duane Bratt
September 2020

On June 1, 2020, the RMLL cancelled their 2020 Season due to COVID-19.. However, of the 40 Alberta Franchise Holders, approximately 14 ran some sort of programming in July-August as part of the ALA's Return to Activity Protocol. Some simply ran practices (such as JrA Mountaineers, JrB Mountaineers, Shamrocks, Sylvan Lake Yetti, and Lethbridge) and others ran 4v4 tournaments (such as JrA Raiders, Miners, and Rebels). It is likely that some Franchise Holders will re-start some sort of programming in Fall and Winter 2020-2021.

As of the beginning of September though, the RMLL is still in limbo. Given many lacrosse players play hockey and other sports, will Franchise Holders have enough players to run the ALA's Return to Activity Protocol in the Fall if a player is still only allowed to participate in one sport cohort? Although the actual games in the RMLL 2021 season do not start until the end of April, the 2021 Season actual starts the Monday after the 2020 AGM and 2021 Planning Meeting. Dr. Henshaw's announcement that a decision re returning to normal sports play will not being made until they have a chance to review a couple of months' worth of data re the COVID-19 impact of return to school means that we may not know by our AGM and Planning Meeting what a 2021 Season will potentially look like.

In addition to challenges around COVID-19, our 2021 Budget is also a huge challenge as the RMLL income comes from Franchise Fees and our Casino. What impact will cancelling the 2020 Season have on our historic RMLL attrition, especially Sr. B, Sr. C and Sr. Ladies? Traditionally, approximately 250 Graduating Midgets were registered annually on RMLL Franchises, 7 Jr. A representing 9% of Jr. A players, 84 Tier I representing 30% of Tier I players, 110 Tier II representing 27% of Tier II players and 49 Jr. Ladies representing 32% of Jr. Ladies players. Depending on the criteria for allowing 17U players to register in Major Lacrosse will Franchises have to fold due to a lack of players? If Tier II was not allowed register 3rd year Midgets, then our current 18 Alberta Tier II Franchises would potentially drop down to 9 Franchises leaving a number of 18 to 21-year olds with no Franchise to play on. Historically, 60% of the players on Jr. Ladies Franchises are 1st and 2nd year players, so if 30% of the 17-year olds did not want or meet the criteria to register in Jr. Ladies, the current 7 Jr. Ladies Franchises would also decrease. With Junior now 18 to 21, our future Casinos are at risk meaning we lose Casino revenue of \$70,000.00.

Our 2019 AB Team Payer Age Stats were:

2019 AB Team Player Ages

Summary

Sr. Divisions	Total			1997	1997%	1998	1998%	1995	1995%	1994	1994%	1993	1993%	1992<	1992< %
Total AB Sr. B	160			19	12%	14	9%	18	11%	17	11%	14	9%	78	49%
Total AB Sr. C	248			23	9%	22	9%	21	8%	17	7%	14	6%	151	61%
TOTAL AB Sr. Players	408			42	10%	36	9%	39	10%	34	8%	28	7%	229	56%
Jr. Divisions	Total					2002	2002%	2001	2001%	2000	2000%	1999	1999%	1998	1998%
Total AB Jr. A	74					7	9%	17	23%	20	27%	15	20%	15	20%
Total AB Tier I	281					84	30%	59	21%	52	19%	49	17%	37	13%
Total AB Tier II	412					110	27%	100	24%	101	25%	54	13%	47	11%
Total AB Tier III	0														
TOTAL AB Jr. Players	767					201	26%	176	23%	173	23%	118	15%	99	13%
Sr. Ladies Division	Total	1997 >	1997 >%	1997	1997%	1998	1998%	1995	1995%	1994	1994%	1993	1993%	1992<	1992 < %
Total AB Sr. Ladies	97	5	5%	8	8%	8	8%	11	11%	10	10%	7	7%	48	49%
Jr. Ladies Division	Total					2002	2002%	2001	2001%	2000	2000%	1999	1999%	1998	1998%
Jr. B AB Ladies	151					49	32%	42	28%	22	15%	23	15%	15	10%
Total AB Jr. Ladies	151					49	32%	42	28%	22	15%	23	15%	15	10%

What will these stats look like at the end of the 2021 Season?

The RMLL still has our AGM and planning meeting scheduled for Nov 13-15, 2020. However, we have no idea how it will occur. Will it still be in-person (scheduled for Red Deer) or virtual? Although our Bylaws state: "A majority of the Members in Good Standing must be present in person to form a quorum at the AGM or any General or Special General Meeting." Does present virtually meet the "in-person" criteria? Will it be about wider RMLL issues (such as impact of 17U) or the traditional breakout meetings by division? At this moment, we expect to have a 2021 season, but there is no guarantee. Come November will gatherings of 100 even still be allowed?

We also need to look at revising our regulations based upon the 17U change. What impact will this have on drafts and protected lists?



Presidents Report 2020

COVID

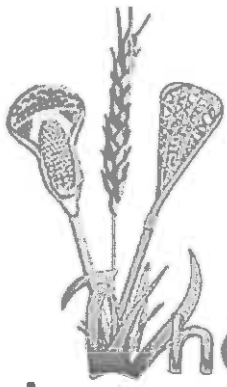
Well 2020 lacrosse sucked. While we had hope to accomplish many things this year, none of them come to fruition.

Hopefully a couple winter options pan out but everything is so wishy washy it is hard for volunteers to plan anything so most just give up. Hopefully we all start to shake our heads and demand that things go back to normal but I feel that critical thinking is a thing of past and the mob rules. So sports and all kids will suffer the conscience.

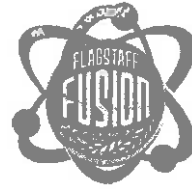
The one positive is everyone of SALA members remained healthy.

Sean Yeaman

SALA President



Wheatland Lacrosse Association



ALA BOD,

The 2020 season was a year of learning for all members of the Wheatland. With no 2020 season the Wheatland and all of our associations ran at a deficit budget, but we are optimistic that there will be a 2021 season to help recoup some of our expenses.

The Wheatland was struggling with low registration numbers at the start of the year. However, we are hoping that it was simply over fears of the unknown and what COVID-19 was going to bring to us during the season. With that being said, we will have to be proactive in the upcoming years in order to try and recruit and retain additional members for the 2021 season.

During the summer months there were two associations within the Wheatland that were able to create cohort recreational box lacrosse programs that seemed to be successful with over 100 players registering and getting a stick in their hands. Winter programming is still yet to be determined.

Wheatland is hopeful and optimistic that we can try to recruit more senior referees for our area, as some have moved away, leaving us short handed for the upcoming 2021 season.

Mike Groves

President – Wheatland Lacrosse Association



Presidents Report – AFLA

As it was with all LGB's and Members of the ALA it was a very trying year. Although the initial seasons for Box were cancelled, we were hopeful that we would still be able to have some sort of a season in field. As we all know it didn't quite turn out as planned.

The Return to sport showed the flexibility of our clubs to rise to the challenge and offer programming that coincided with the governments and the ALAs recommendations.

It would great to see Lacrosse in some fashion on the fields!

This was to be our initial year of Centralized League play with all of our games taking place in Red Deer. With the Season cancelled we look forward to the possibility of starting up next year and giving it a go.

It is my belief that non-Sanctioned Clubs continue to be the largest issue the ALA is facing in regard to registration numbers and is taking up quite a bit of time to deal with them. The ALA needs to continue to work on their programming and offer programming for both Grass Roots and high-level Players. We also need to make a strong stance against supporting these clubs and work towards bringing them into the ALA, if and when possible.





Registrations 2020

Not worth mentioning as there was no Actual Season

Ross Cup (Senior Men's Field Nationals)

- All Clubs to looking to start Senior Men's Teams for 2020 Season so Alberta can attend. – Clubs were ready to move forward and had reached out to existing teams about becoming ALA members.

Coaching

- Had a few Online Coaching programs, my belief is they were very successful and should continue to evolve in the years to come

Team Alberta

- Very excited to start year-round Tryouts and training for higher level players and coaches.

Female Lacrosse initiative

- All Clubs were working towards increasing their Female lacrosse numbers, focusing on Grass Roots and making the Game more enjoyable and meaning full for all ages and skill levels.

U19

- We were working with all Clubs to Start up the U19 League again and had full commitment. The Numbers we were expecting would have allowed us to have initially 3 Teams between all clubs.

Don Payne

President

Alberta Field Lacrosse Association

E-mail - president@albertafieldlacrosse.net

Web: <https://albertafieldlacrosse.net/>

Field Lacrosse – Play OUTSIDE the Box!





Dear Members of the ALRA/ALA

The 2020 season was shaping up to be an exciting year of positive step change growth for the ALRA. Development plans were in full swing, improved cooperation with the ALA, hiring of an executive director, and many other initiatives to be either launched or on their way through the launching process. Then global pandemic happened which ultimately led to the cancellation of the season. The ALRA executive took advantage of this opportunity to launch online zoom-based training sessions to ensure that whatever form lacrosse had in 2020, we would be ready to support it. The future looks to be bright for the ALRA due to the commitment of senior officials, national recognition of our program, and the strong leadership team in place.

Working with the Jr A league and provincial midget A league to provide a mentorship opportunity, having the midget A games before the Jr A games would allow for senior officials who due to commitments outside of our game have limited opportunities to evaluate and help mentor younger officials. Throughout the province the ALRA Development Committee identified up and coming officials to work the Midget A league as well as our top talented officials working the Jr A league. We would also like to thank the Jr A league for adding a paid shot clock position which we can then slot in these up and coming officials to shadow Jr A level officials bettering their eventual transition to the RMLL as well as building a strong culture of officials throughout the province. Having these leagues coordinate their schedules is exactly the steps that the ALRA recommends and is full support of to grow the skill and depth of officials throughout the province. A special thanks to Sean Aggus who was key in pushing this initiative forward.

A revamped national selection process in conjunction with the ALA has greatly improved the cooperation and communication between the groups. Unfortunately, due to the global pandemic we were unable to fully implement and evaluate the process but look forward to the continued work on this front with the ALA. A special thanks to Shawn Cable for his leadership and cooperation in working toward this solution which both groups feel will send highly skilled and competent officials to national championships with the goal of those officials working the final games/series.

We also hired an Executive Director for this season, due to the cancellation of the season we had to end the contract early but look forward to the 2021 season where we hope that this becomes a financially viable option for the ALRA again. There was tremendous value coming out of the investment we made in this position which allowed us to work on high impact projects and programs for our members while being kept organized, on task, and having the administrative tasks taken care of by our ED. A special thanks goes out to Keri Drennan for her contributions to the ALRA.

The global pandemic although led to the canceling of our season gave the ALRA the opportunity for online clinics. Our clinician team quickly came together and developed and implemented an online format using the Zoom platform for our clinics. The ALRA was recognized by the CLA as having a very progressive and top-quality format which was ahead of all other MAs. We were also asked to provide online training for other MAs to support any sort of lacrosse which would be played in 2020. These clinics provided a huge advantage in terms of accessibility and reduced cost for the rural LGBs (Wheatland/SALA). Having qualified clinicians travel to and support the more remote areas of the ALA



comes at a high cost which eventually finds its way to the players/parents' pockets of these associations. By doing it online it improved accessibility by allowing officials in those areas to attend one of the multiple weekend sessions which fit their schedule as well as helped to work towards a standardization of officiating across the province (having officials from all LGBs on the same session as well as a smaller pool of clinicians teaching the same message). These savings then are available to plan more hands on/on floor training sessions which have a higher return of investment vs in class clinics.

Our team is ready and excited for the 2021 season, building on the groundwork of this year.

Weston Kendall

ALRA President