

## ALA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes– March 24, 2020 – Teleconference

Attendance – Don, Mike, Darrel, Kevin, Sean A, Frank, Shawn, Sean Y, Rob, Duane, Wes, Jesse, Deb, Kim, Lisa

1. Call to Order at 7:03 pm
2. Adoption of Prior Minutes

**MOTION** by Sean A; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don

To accept the February 29 minutes as presented

**SO CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Don; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike

To accept the March 24 minutes as presented

**SO CARRIED**

3. COVID 19

Rob – facilities are closed to end of April and May in some areas; unlikely there will be a regular box season; the ALA needs to look at alternative programming such as 4 on 4, house league, camps, and other programs that utilizes officials; there are different constraints in various LGB's but we need similar structures; office is working on the return to play protocol; RMLL is a sperate discussion as National competitions are a factor.

Deb – agrees with Rob's suggestions of alternative programming; health professionals are saying July or August until things return to normal.

Darrel – LGB input is required; box lacrosse has to continue in some fashion for 2020.

Jesse – support modified programs; the ALA has to hold off as long as possible in cancelling the 2020 season.

Shawn – this situation is hard to navigate with so many unknowns; support alternative programming.

Frank – does not support cancelling the season

Kevin – similar ideas as Rob in alternative programming; there needs to be flexibility so the programs can start quickly; possibly extend the season.

Sean A – Edmonton arenas are closed until May 31; GELC is looking at modified programming

Kim – CALL is carrying forward; CALL is okay with a modified program; CALL will cover CC fees for their clubs; refunds need to be determined.

Lisa – hybrid box/field may be an option.

Duane – divisions with National Championship need to have different consideration; medical officials are talking months not days until things return to normal; there are cost issues in major lacrosse as it is more money to play and unemployment will be a factor; different challenges and different needs.

Sean Y – committed to having a season; possibly push season to August and September; issue with refunds and economic constraints; numbers may decrease; haven't started planning 2020 season.

Mike – similar to SALA; need to wait for access to facilities; need to communicate 2020 season will continue in some fashion; Box/Field hybrid will work for Wheatland; players are still eager to play; support alternative programming.

Wes – ALRA is continuing with on line clinics and the feedback is positive; affordable house league; facilities will dictate when lacrosse can resume; good time to build field lacrosse.

Don – Field lacrosse is a 2 month season; field would have concerns with an extended box season; this is a months problem not weeks; there are conflicts with other activities as well; refund structure needs to be determined and there needs to be a unified approach.

Rob – Update will be emailed to ALA BOD for comments from ALA BOD; there will not be a comment of cancellation of box season; LGB's to contact clubs to obtain ideas on alternative programming and format for refunds.

Kevin – CDLA clubs are discussing \$50-\$100 administration fee; ALA fee needs to be determined; Shawn – day cares are not providing full refunds as cost are incurred; the ALA needs to exist to get through this and move forward.

Kim – if season does not occur, CALL is not charging members.

Sean Y – Clubs have a refund policy to follow less costs.

Lisa – other sports are looking at standardize refunds.

Don – Some clubs have evaluations complete and some have not stepped on the floor; what the membership has received needs to be considered.

Duane – RMLL has a different payment structure; Intent to play will need to be addressed; City of Calgary employees are now staying home until the end of June.

Shawn – everyone has hardships; the BOD needs to assure the ALA moves forward and exists; a small administrative fee may be required.

Darrel – has government been contacted for assistances.

**TASK** – ALA BOD to contact their members to discuss alternative programming ideas and refund structure. The cost of running clubs and the ALA needs to be considered. The value of the ALA portion of the refund needs to be included. ALA BOD's are to respond to the ALA office by April 1.

Kim- what is the ALA doing to cut back on expenses.

Rob – ALA is looking at reducing the cost of the office; getting out of the lease; government tax break of 10%; looking into government funding; on line coach clinics for revenue; social media to keep everyone engaged; executive is monitoring the financials. Executive and ALA office will work through this crisis.

Deb – Nothing further.

Darrel – mental health of athletes needs to be considered if season cancelled; would like to see more social media.

Jesse – hold off on cancellation as late as possible to keep people engaged.

Shawn – ALA BOD need to assure there is something to come back to and be positive in their messaging.

Frank – hybrid box/field should be considered to keep kids playing.

Kevin – it is important to provide updates as it is a fluid situation and show ALA is working and not just waiting; contingency plan for June and July; CDLA clubs are looking at refunds as per their policies but are trying to hold off as long as possible;

Sean A – nothing further.

Kim – CALL will respond as requested by April 1; CALL clubs are committed to keeping season going; CALL will be restricted from using Red Deer; clubs have paid for referees to attend clinics therefore if they do not officiate, refunds have to be considered.

Duane – Commissioners were to provide modified schedules by April 9, Duane will request for April 1; hosting of Presidents Cup needs to be considered.

Sean Y – season needs to be salvaged if the facilities are opened; ALA needs to continue.

Mike – need to move forward in some fashion.

Wes – ALRA will provide refunds if officials do not officiate.

Rob – LGB's to provide information on alternative programming and refunds structure to include some ALA portion by April 1.

**TASK** – March 25 update will be sent tonight, ALA BOD to respond with comments by 10 am March 25.

Don – AFLA and ALA are hosting U19 Women's Field in August and needs to be considered; will CLA sector meetings in May be held; appreciates ALA office Social Media campaign and should be ramped up as kids need to see more; what is CLA's position ?; should increase field promotion.

Rob – CLA teleconference on Monday on a COVID update; U19 Worlds are cancelled; there has not been a lot from CLA to date.

**REMINDER** – all communication from ALA Members needs to be approved by ALA office. ALA BOD to remind all their Members.

Rob – thank you to everyone for their support and help during this situation; thank you to Lisa for her work on this; Duane we will have a separate discussion for the RMLL.

Shawn – ALA is being proactive on social media; CLA has been inactive and has not shown leadership; it is hard for an AM to make decisions with governing body has not made any decisions

**TASK** – Rob to address the CLA on their lack of social media presence and direction in this critical situation.

**Everyone needs to be proactive and keep moving forward**

Adjourned