

Alberta Lacrosse Referee Association
Annual General Meeting – Saturday, November 7th, 2020
Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - 12:07pm
2. Roll Call
 - Weston Kendall, Kevin Kohut, Jon Bennett, Raymond McCarthy, Julian Grbich, Tony Reid, Cameron Lafreniere, Kim Smyth
3. Establish Quorum
 - 8 Members in good standing in attendance, quorum established
4. Approval of Agenda
 - motion: Julian G., seconded by Raymond M.
 - Privacy Officer to be removed from Board of Directors list
 - all in favour, none opposed
5. Review and Adoption of Previous AGM Minutes
 - motion: Jon B., seconded by Kim S.
 - all in favour, none opposed
6. Business Arising from Prior Minutes
 - none
7. Financial Report
 - Motion Julian G., seconded by Cameron L.
 - discussion
 - i. Executive Director costs with no revenue
 - ii. pre-season expenditures in respect to inventory
 - iii. need detailed inventory count to ensure values match balance sheet amounts
 - iv. \$23,000.00 in inventory on the books right now
 - v. RMLL jersey were to be covered by the ALRA, however we may need to revisit that decision
 - vi. potential rebate from arbiter as credit from last year
 - vii. internal review was very beneficial this year for cost savings
 - all in favour, none opposed
8. Executive Reports
 - President
 - i. motion Tony R.; seconded Ray M.
 - ii. all in favour, none opposed
 - Past President
 - i. position vacant
 - Vice President Member Services
 - i. motion: Raymond M.; seconded Jon B.
 - ii. all in favour, none opposed
 - Vice President Finance
 - i. motion Tony R.; seconded Julian G.

- ii. all in favour, none opposed
- Vice President Development
 - i. no report submitted
- Vice President Technical
 - i. no report submitted

9. Board of Director Reports

- CALL Referee in Chief
 - i. motion Kevin K.; seconded by Cameron L.
 - ii. all in favour, none opposed
- CDLA Referee in Chief
 - i. no report submitted
- GELC Referee in Chief
 - i. no report submitted
- RMLL Referee in Chief
 - i. motion Raymond M.; seconded Tony R.
 - ii. all in favour, none opposed
- SALA Referee in Chief
 - i. no report submitted
- WLA Referee in Chief
 - i. motion Kevin K.; seconded Tony R.
 - ii. all in favour, none opposed
- Field Referee in Chief (attach report)
 - i. motion Jon B.; seconded Julian G.
 - ii. all in favour, none opposed

10. Review Special Resolutions

- Bylaw Review
 - i. motion Kim S.; seconded Jon B.
 - ii. all in favour, none opposed

11. Notices of Motion

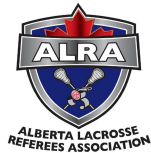
- none

12. Elections

- President
 - i. position not filled
- Vice President Finance
 - i. Jon Bennett acclaimed

13. Adjournment

- 1:41pm



Dear Members of the ALRA/ALA

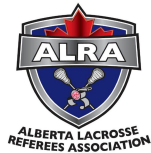
The 2020 season was shaping up to be an exciting year of positive step change growth for the ALRA. Development plans were in full swing, improved cooperation with the ALA, hiring of an executive director, and many other initiatives to be either launched or on their way through the launching process. 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 opportunities, 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 coordinated 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

RE: 2020 ALRA Vice President Member Services Report

Dear Alberta Lacrosse Referees Association Members,

First off, let me thank you by allowing me to serve the Association, and yourselves, as your VP Member Services. I hope that my desire to give back to the organization that has given me so much was shown in my quick response time to email inquiries as well as communicating with you, through our website, and other social media channels, regarding all things ALRA both prior to, and during, the COVID-19 pandemic. I look forward to when we can back on the floor doing what we have a passion to do.

Quickly learning the nuances of the Ramp registration system and the back end of the website were my immediate priorities, and by using some past experience with the system(s), I was able to become quite comfortable in a short amount of time and providing assistance where I could with time sensitive tasks. I would also like to thank our brief, yet diligent, Executive Director Kerri Drennan, for all of her help and hard work in the short time she was with us.

The review, and updating, of our bylaws was one of the main priorities I tasked myself with, outside my more regular day to day tasks. As was evident with the Bylaw Review that was shared with the membership to be voted on today, it was a time consuming process, and by no means do I think they are perfect, but it was a good start to refining them and updating them to our current conventions, policies, and practices.

Leading our Financial Review Committee was also an educational experience, and although we did not have a full season per se, the Committee was able to go through our financials with ease due to the diligent organization of both our VP Finance, Jon Bennett, and Bookkeeper, Jacqueline Van Fossen. Thank you to Cameron Lafreniere and Justin Geisbrecht for their assistance with the review.

I look forward to serving the ALRA as VP Member Services for the remainder my term. This current ALRA BOD has some great initiatives planned in hopes of providing all our members with the best learning, and reference tools, in the country while striving to continue to increase the level of service, and support, you as members expect from your Association.

If any member has any questions or concerns with anything to do with the ALRA, please feel free to reach out to me.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K.J. Kohut', enclosed within a dashed rectangular box.

K.J. (Kevin) Kohut PGA, BMgt, PBCA

Vice President Member Services, Alberta Lacrosse Referees Association
vpmemberservices@albertalacrosserefs.ca

RE: 2020 ALRA Vice President Finance Report

Dear Alberta Lacrosse Referees Association Members,

Given the COVID-19 pandemic, our lives have changed in various ways, and lacrosse is no exception. Our association only saw a small fraction of fiscal activity this year compared to usual.

We have continued to use the Plooto payment platform for a second year. The response overall has been positive, and payments this season were processed efficiently. The Board of Directors made the decision to refund all clinic fees this year due to the uncertainty surrounding the lacrosse season. We chose to process refunds through Plooto to save on credit card transaction fees. With Plooto only charging \$0.50/transaction versus a 2% credit card processing fee, the ALRA saved almost \$900. Given the efficiency and reasonable cost of the Plooto platform, we plan to continue using the system moving into the 2021 season.

I have continued to promptly invoice clubs and LGBs for the few games that were played this season, and all invoices have been paid in full. We are also grateful for each LGB's financial assistance to cover the \$10/official ALA Registration Fee charged this season. Various budgeted costs were incurred before COVID-19 cancelled the lacrosse season, including contracting our executive director, running clinics, our Arbiter subscription, and acquiring inventory. This resulted in a significant financial loss for the ALRA that we were unable to regain through expected lacrosse programming. Given our financial losses this season, we completed an internal financial review (per our bylaws) to substantially reduce our accounting fees for the last fiscal year.

The ALRA has continued to contract Jacqueline Van Fossen with Enterprise Office Systems Ltd. for our bookkeeping needs and we are very pleased with her services. Given the uncertainty surrounding 2021, the ALRA BOD will need to seriously consider potential cash flow issues for paying officials, and create a dynamic budget that is dependent on the level of programming next year. Other cost saving measures should be considered by the ALRA BOD moving forward to ensure our association will be successful for any scenario come 2021.

I look forward to serving as ALRA VP Finance for another term. The ALRA BOD continues to work as a team to improve our financial recordkeeping and reduce costs. I will continue my commitment of ensuring our referees are paid accurately and on-time and remain accountable when invoicing LGBs, tournaments and teams for our services moving forward.

As always, I encourage any member with questions, comments or suggestions to attend our AGM and contact myself or any member of the ALRA Board of Directors.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Bennett', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Jonathan Bennett

Vice President Finance, Alberta Lacrosse Referees Association
vpfinance@albertalacrosserefs.ca

RMLL 2020 Season Report

The loss of the 2020 season means two things for the RMLL in terms of officiating. The first, is that the 2019 report still encapsulates the issues and current state of officiating within the RMLL. The second, is that how leagues and provinces intend to deal with COVID, is still very much undecided. I anticipate that due to cohorting and restrictions, should they still exist in the 2021 season, will have our pool of officials shrink. As such, the ALRA will put even more emphasis on recruiting new officials through the fast-track program, and reaching out to officials who may have left a few years ago, for personal reasons. Included below is the 2019 Season report. A few items were addressed, and I am pleased to announce a much more collaborative relationship has been established with the ALA in the selection process for officials to national and international competition. As the RMLL will be operating under a very tight budget, the interprovincial travel funding and Larry Bishop RIC will not be able to be supported at the RMLL level.

RMLL 2019 Season Report

1. Growth and Recruitment

Approximately 75 officials who were assigned RMLL games, or were eligible to be in 2019. With a turnover of retiring officials, or officials who may no longer be interested in the RMLL, I expect this number to stay approximately the same for 2020, which is consistent with the last three years. The officials working their way through Minor Provincials, Summer Games, and Minor Nationals have continued to impress, and should continue to push for the above number to increase. Christine and I had discussed an RMLL Application form, for officials who are interested in starting to work the league, which was published on both the RMLL website, and the ALRA website. We received responses from four individuals, two of which were utilized during the 2019 season. My goal is to have this published more prominently for the 2020 season, so more responses are gained. Currently, all who filled out the form were already officials, but I would like to see more individuals with lacrosse experience who are interested in officiating, but may not be currently registered in the ALRA, filling out the forms, especially retired Sr B players, and Junior graduates who are not continuing on the Senior lacrosse.

2. Season Overview

The approximately 75 RMLL officials all received RMLL jerseys, which was a goal for the 2019 season with the addition of the jersey number line on the RMLL games sheets. There is discussion about a redesign for the RMLL jersey to standardize with Saskatchewan and Manitoba, adopting the WLA/NLL style of black and white stripes. Over 700 games were covered, with one game needing to be canceled due to poor highway conditions and the subsequent road closer, which blocked the official from being able to make the game. Due to the conflicts with clinics and other games, we unfortunately could not find another official to cover this game. Less than 1% of the games needed their start times moved in order to facilitate appropriate officials to be assigned. Mileage costs did not significantly differ from 2019, but were slightly reduced. The inclusion of two BC based Tier III teams, accounts for approximately 14% of the RMLL's total mileage bill, but only represents approximately 3% of the total games

played. In an effort to reduce this cost, I am reaching out to the BCLOA, ALA, and RMLL to host and certify officials in this area to be Level 3 referees, which are required for Junior and Senior level games. This would have two benefits in terms of mileage. The first would be the cost of sending officials to BC to work these games. The second would be allowing the Alberta officials who would have to spend their weekend in BC to be in Alberta to help us cover our games.

3. Season Accomplishments

The 2019 season largely carried on the programs from 2018. These were:

- Tier II Three-Official Mechanic
- Referee Interprovincial Exposure Agreement
- Uber Clinic
- Sr B Three-Official Mechanic
- Jr A Regular Season Shot Clock Official
- Individual Official Achievements

Tier II Three-Official Mechanic

The Three-Official Mechanic was piloted in the Tier II division in 2018 with the goal of having twelve games (six in Wheatland and six in SALA) staffed with one official each that we are preparing to be full-time RMLL officials. The full details of this project's origin and vision can be found in the 2017 RMLL planning meeting minutes. The results for 2019 were a sharp drop from 2018. In 2018, seven games utilized this program, while in 2019, only two were completed, while eight were budgeted for (\$680 total). As such, it is my recommendation that this program not be utilized in 2020, and I will not be submitting the project request. The reason so few games were able to use this was largely due to scheduling conflicts with other games, both minor tournaments, and other RMLL games.

Referee Interprovincial Exposure Agreement

The RMLL is unique as it spans four provincial bodies, allowing for difference in officiating standards to go unnoticed, or accepted. As our league grows and becomes more established at the Tier I and Jr A levels, where out of province teams are the most common, a unified standard becomes more important. We succeeded in having one Alberta officials travel to Saskatchewan to work Jr A playoffs, and one Alberta official travel to Manitoba for Tier I (three regular season games). One official traveled from Saskatchewan to Alberta to assist with covering Jr A playoffs. For the first time, we had a Manitoba official travel to Alberta to officiate two Tier I games, which was a goal for the 2019 season. Saskatchewan official also traveled to Manitoba for their playoff series against the SWAT (two Tier I playoff games). We unfortunately were unable to have Manitoba officials travel to either Alberta or Saskatchewan, but it is a goal for the 2019 season to accomplish both. This will be done likely by lowered the Saskatchewan travel to Alberta, although the demand of the RMLL season did require Saskatchewan officials to travel to Alberta to cover the games with qualified officials. A matching budget of \$7,000 that was allotted in the 2018 and 2019 seasons is requested for the 2020 season.

Uber Clinic

The 2019 edition of the Uber Clinic was one of the best attended in recent years. Primarily attended by officials who currently working in the RMLL, or were about to enter their first year of the league, we also had officials who wish to enter the league. One of the goals of the 2019 Uber Clinic was to expose more officials to the RMLL and what it has to offer. The Friday portion was reinvented, borrowing from the WHL where our new or second year RMLL officials traveled in one day earlier to focus on league specific expectations and rules, in an environment of their peers. This was a goal arising from the 2018 Uber Clinic feedback.

Sr B Three-Official Mechanic

In an effort to deepen the pool of Sr B officials, we borrowed from the Tier II Three-Official Mechanic, and applied this for two home games per Sr B team in the 2019 season. The goals were similar, to utilize officials who we believe to be skilled enough to begin officiating in the 2020 season, or even the end of the 2019 season, as Sr B regulars. We used three officials in the south, and three officials in the north. All teams had their two home games staffed with three officials. We are in need of former players or officials who have taken time off to return continue this program. The officials we currently have were slightly less experienced than was desired, although all will receive either two-man or three-man Senior B assignments next season. The challenges of this division are different from Tier II, as the level of officiating is required to be much higher, as the players are much more skilled, and used to a certain standard of officiating. The commissioner, Norm Shaw, and I were in contact throughout the year discussing the pros and cons of the system. It needs to be communicated to the teams that this is not a system using referees to achieve a higher rate of correct calls and non-calls, but rather to introduce new officials to the level. If the division is interested in pursuing the utilization of a three-man mechanic for performance, then different selection of officials would occur, where they were all very experienced with Sr B, as opposed to just being introduced.

Jr A Regular Season Shot Clock Official

The Jr A Division, through commissioner, Sean Aggus, requested a third RMLL official be provided at the end of the regular season, after issues arose in the application of players leaving the bench at the end of periods/games, and during altercations. This copies the model Saskatchewan has used, where this official runs the shot clock, as well as monitors the benches and the minor officials. I believe this was successful, as the four games it was utilized in before the playoffs had no issues. To make sure this is cost neutral to the teams, I would suggest that this come from fine money for coach feedback forms that were not submitted on time, or through the casino funds (guidelines for casino funds in relation to officials/referee cost can be found here:

[https://aglc.ca/sites/aglc.ca/files/aglc_files/Guidelines%20-%20Sports-Use%20of%20Proceeds%20\(5504\).pdf](https://aglc.ca/sites/aglc.ca/files/aglc_files/Guidelines%20-%20Sports-Use%20of%20Proceeds%20(5504).pdf)

Individual Official Achievements

One of the easiest ways to judge the performance of a program is the number of officials it produces that make their way to the pinnacle of performance. With this in mind, I would like to congratulate Joe Catalano on his recent hire to the NLL, joining Ron Getz, Ray McCarthy, and myself as the four RMLL officials in the league. Additionally, Red Deer resident and social media magnate, Todd Labranche, has giving his years of NLL experience and feedback to RMLL officials he has watched in person. Todd has also taken on the role of WLA (BC Sr A) Referee-in-Chief, which afforded me to travel to the WLA to officiate Sr A lacrosse over the summer. The plan is to open up a pipeline of Alberta officials into BC, to allow for our top end officials to continue to develop over the summer. Joe also attended the Minto Cup, working two games in the final series, and Raymond McCarthy officiated the gold medal game at the Presidents' Cup.

4. Season Setbacks

This 2019 was one of turbulence for the ALRA. The loss of the Manager of Officiating Position at the ALA office, along with international and national referee selection issues highlighted strained relationships. That being said, none of these issues are unsolvable, and open communication and dialogue would solve most of the issues.

- Scheduling
- Coach Complaints, Process for Rule Interpretations & Perceived Conflicts of Interest
- Larry Bishop Memorial Tournament
- RMLL Interprovincial Assigning
- World Championship and National Selection Issues

Scheduling

Scheduling of appropriately qualified officials continues to be a struggle as the sport of lacrosse is primarily a weekend endeavour. The logistics of the RMLL, in terms of travel, arena availability, and scheduling constraints, demand that it be a weekend league, so more officials or more officials who are primarily dedicated to the RMLL are required. The questionnaire have developed is designed to find officials who may have fallen through the cracks at the LGB level, officials that have taken time off, or those who are new but qualify for the “Fast-Track,” program. As demonstrated in the 2019 season, this silver bullet will not change our fortunes overnight. The RMLL has done a fantastic job of utilizing more weekday games, which has lessened the referee drain, but a significant effort needs to be made to not stretch referee resources thin in our two major centres. Calgary vs Calgary, or Edmonton vs Edmonton games on Friday, Saturday, and Sundays are a significant issue. These are the days we need to focus on travel games, especially in an effort to reduce Tier II’s overall mileage, which typically consist of rural teams. This one change would drastically reduce overall mileage costs, albeit at the cost of a few practices for each team a year.

Additionally, the times that games start at needs to be examined. Not every home team can have the ability to play in “primetime” at 7 pm on a Saturday night. Teams and divisions need to be open to making sure their games do not overlap with the time of games of their geographical neighbours. For example, if there are a group of home games in the Wheatland area, Vermillion, Lloydminster, and Wainwright should not all be playing at the same time. Instead, staggering the games in Vermillion and Lloydminster, so the same officials could work both games, whether they are traveling in or not, would help dramatically lower their mileage bill, and the number of officials the ALRA needs to send to cover games. This is also true in Edmonton, where Tier II teams often play at the same time.

One method that should also be looked at is the scheduling of back-to-back games with the higher division team scheduled first. For example, if there are Sr B and Tier II games to be played on the same day, or Jr A and Sr C, if the officials are “fresh” in the higher

level games, this provides a better product for the higher level teams. Additionally, the second game would then have higher quality officials, who can handle the rigors of back-to-back games, with the second being not as strenuous as the first. This also allows for mileage to be split.

Coach Complaints, Process for Rule Interpretations & Perceived Conflicts of Interest

The RMLL needs to ensure that complaints from coaches are handled correctly, and the forms for feedback are utilized, in addition to conversations with the division commissioners. Without these datapoints, we are unable to track trends, growth, and regression. Any rule interpretations are to include the RMLL Referee-In-Chief, as per RMLL Bylaw 7.08.2. Direct contact with the CLA has been discouraged by the ALA office in the past and occurred again this year. Unfortunately, during an RMLL playoff game, it was reported to me that a member of the ALA Executive, who was affiliated with the team in the game, chased down the division commissioner while carrying a rulebook, shouting obscenities at both the officials in the arena and the commissioner. This type of conflict of interest is prevalent in lacrosse and leaves the RMLL with a blackeye when it occurs. This type of referee abuse must be handled severely.

Larry Bishop Memorial Tournament

Unfortunately, we were not able to have a Referee-in-Chief at the Larry Bishop Memorial Tier I tournament, which took away from the development of five of our RMLL officials who committed to Red Deer under the belief they were going to receive coaching and feedback from one of our top RMLL officials. All officials were appreciative of Mike Fynn, the division commissioner, stepping in to help when needed, but not having an RIC was a negative at the event. We rarely get to have our top officials in the same room for a day, let alone a weekend, so it was disappointing to not have someone with a high-level officiating background to assist the officials in terms of enforcing the RMLL standard and rule interpretations. To correct for this, I have submitted a budget proposal for an Larry Bishop Memorial Tournament to have an RIC.

World Championship and National Selection Issues

At the eleventh hour, the ALA did not endorse the ALRA's Founders Cup, Minto Cup, and Presidents' Cup selections. The blanket blocking was unprecedented, and reasons given actually raised issues with the ALA's Regulations for selection, not the ALRA's process. Fortunately, an amicable resolution was agreed upon, with the original Minto Cup and Presidents' Cup selections, Joe Catalano and Ray McCarthy, attending those tournaments. As mentioned above, Joe worked on-floor in the final Minto Cup series, and Ray McCarthy was the Crew Chief in the Presidents' Cup gold medal game. The level of disconnect in the ALA referee evaluation cannot be understated, and shows the ALRA's efficacy in referee selection for these tournaments. Unfortunately, due to similar reasons as mentioned above, the RMLL will not have any officials attending the 2019 World Indoor Lacrosse Championship in Langley, BC, after Tony Reid officiated the Gold Medal game in 2015.

5. Looking to the Future/Upcoming Season Goals

The 2020 season appears to be one of advancement for our RMLL officials. We will need to promote officials, especially in the Wheatland and CDLA regions to facilitate covering the games with qualified officials. Goals for the 2020 season will be to lower the need of GELC officials travel to Wheatland, and lower the travel for the BC teams, by facilitating a collaborative Level 3 clinic in BC. The Sr B Three-Official mechanic, the Interprovincial Exposure Agreement, and the Uber Clinic are all goals to continue pursuing in the 2020 season.

2020 Wheatland Season Report

The beginning of the year started out fine as there was lots of interest in the referee clinic for the 2020 season. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic our Lacrosse season did not go ahead as planned.

Fortunately, Lakeland Lacrosse and the Wainwright Wolfpack were able to start a modified box lacrosse season finishing with Lakeland Lacrosse having a day filled with exhibition games from Mini-Tyke all the way up to Junior. 5 Wheatland referees were able to officiate this day of exhibition play; several more expressed interest and it was unfortunate that more games weren't played to further develop rural referees. Wainwright was supposed to join the Lakeland for this day of lacrosse but a COVID outbreak was happening in Wainwright a few days prior to this day of exhibition play and ultimately were asked to isolate from the games.

Other than that, not much else to report from the Wheatland.

Rod Pettigrew

Wheatland RIC

2020 Field Lacrosse Report

Unfortunately, there really isn't much to report with respect to field lacrosse this year. Our first Planning Meeting was scheduled to happen the weekend of March 14th and 15th, but for obvious reasons, this meeting was promptly cancelled as everything was being cancelled leading into the weekend.

I touched base with the Alberta Field Lacrosse Association President early in the summer, and he said there were not going to be any sanctioned games this season. My guess is the individual associations stuck with playing in their own groups, but for the first time since 1988, I did not referee a single lacrosse game.

Looking forward to next year, I'm thinking we might discuss referee fees, as I would like to expand how many games are available for officials, as teams have shied away from games outside of Field Days for this reason. Obviously this will all depend on what happens next year going forward.

Proposed bylaw changes as detailed below:

BYLAW 1 - Interpretation

1.02 TERMS

The terms “Bylaws”, “here of”, “herein”, “hereunder” and similar expressions refer to these Bylaws taken as a whole and not to any particular Bylaw or section and include any document or instrument which amends or is supplementary to these Bylaws. The word “Bylaw” followed by a number shall mean **the** particular Bylaw being part of these Bylaws.

Proposed changes: removal of **the** and addition of **that** and **as**

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Definitions

13 Financial *Statement* – shall mean the financial statement of the ALRA

Proposed changes: replacement of ***Statement*** with **Statements**

13 Financial **Statements** – shall mean the financial statements of the ALRA

17 Member – a membership in the ALRA shall be open to all persons ***officiating*** in Lacrosse in the Province of Alberta

Proposed changes: replacement of ***officiating*** with **refereeing**

17 Member – membership in the ALRA shall be open to all persons **refereeing** Lacrosse in the Province of Alberta

20 Officers – shall be the President, Vice President Finance and Vice President ***Operations***

Proposed changes: replacement of ***Operations*** with **Member Services**; addition of **Vice President Development**, and **Vice President Technical**

20 Officers – shall be the President, Vice President **Member Services**, Vice President Finance, **Vice President Development**, and **Vice President Technical**

21 Officials – shall mean individuals who work as referees, time-keepers, goal judges, penalty-box attendants and other persons who may be required off the floor or field from time to time for the organized conduct of a Game of Lacrosse overseeing the game ensuring the rules are followed

Proposed changes: addition of commas (,) and **and**

21 Officials – shall mean individuals who work as referees, time-keepers, goal judges, penalty-box attendants and other persons who may be required off the floor, or field, from time to time for the organized conduct of a Game of Lacrosse overseeing the game **and** ensuring the rules are followed

27 Respondent – shall mean **that** authority that has made a decision or ruling that the Appellant has appealed

Proposed changes: replacement of **that** with **an**

27 Respondent – shall mean **an** authority that has made a decision, or ruling, that the Appellant has appealed

BYLAW 2 - Membership

2.01 Regular Membership

2.01.1 The members of the ALRA are the subscribers to the Bylaws and shall include **everyother person** who agrees to become a member.

Proposed changes: replacement of **every other** with **all**; replacement of **person** with **persons**

2.01.1 The members of the ALRA are the subscribers to the Bylaws and shall include **all persons** who agree to become a member.

2.01.4 Persons desiring to become members of the ALRA shall **submit an application in writing to the Executive of the ALRA in such form and detail, as may be prescribed by the Executive from time to time, together with** the prescribed annual membership fee. Upon acceptance by the Executive, the applicant **may** become a member of the ALRA. Applicants may be denied membership by the Executive and shall have the right of appeal to a general membership meeting.

Proposed changes: replacement of **submit an application in writing to the Executive of the ALRA in such form and detail, as may be prescribed by the Executive from time to time, together with** with **register for a clinic using the approved registration software and pay**; replacement of **may** with **will**

2.01.4 Persons desiring to become members of the ALRA shall **register for a clinic using the approved registration software and pay** the prescribed annual membership fee. Upon acceptance by the Executive, the applicant **will** become a member of the ALRA. Applicants may be denied membership by the Executive and shall have the right of appeal to a general membership meeting.

2.01.5 A member shall be deemed to be in good standing when **he/she has** paid **his/her** current annual membership fee and any other dues or fees then payable **by him/her**, completed **an NOCP Registration Form** and not be serving any discipline, within the ALRA.

Proposed changes: replacement of **he/she has** with **they have**; replacement of **his/her** with **their**; removal of **by him/her**; replacement of **an NOCP Registration Form** with **the registration procedures as prescribed by the Executive**

2.01.5 A member shall be deemed to be in good standing when **they have** paid **their** current annual membership fee and any other dues or fees payable, completed **the registration procedures as prescribed by the Executive** and not be serving any discipline within the ALRA.

2.02 Resignation

Any Member may resign from membership in the ALRA by submitting his/her resignation in writing to the Vice President of **Operations**. Upon submission such member shall forfeit his/her rights and privileges in the ALRA.

Proposed changes: replacement of **Operations** with **Member Services**

Any Member may resign from membership in the ALRA by submitting his/her resignation in writing to the Vice President of **Member Services**. Upon submission, such member shall forfeit his/her rights and privileges in the ALRA.

2.03 Life Membership

Life Membership is the highest honour, which may be bestowed by the ALRA. It is to be awarded to **Individuals** only for very distinctive services to officiating lacrosse in Alberta. Nominations for Life Membership must be forwarded to the Board in writing **twenty one** (21) days prior to the AGM, with the endorsement of at least two (2) Members for each proposed Life Member. Individual Executive Members may also nominate candidates. Life Members shall act in advisory capacity to the Board, exercising all of the privileges of Board Member (except where otherwise restricted in the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations) but shall not be eligible to vote on any issue. The Executive shall appoint Life Members by majority vote on any

nomination for Life Membership. The award of Life Membership shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

Proposed changes: replacement of *Individuals* with **individuals**; addition of commas (,); replacement of *twenty one* with **twenty-one**; addition of **an**; addition of **a**

Life Membership is the highest honour which may be bestowed by the ALRA. It is to be awarded to **individuals** only for very distinctive services to officiating lacrosse in Alberta. Nominations for Life Membership must be forwarded to the Board, in writing, **twenty-one** (21) days prior to the AGM, with the endorsement of at least two (2) Members for each proposed Life Member. Individual Executive Members may also nominate candidates. Life Members shall act in **an** advisory capacity to the Board, exercising all of the privileges of **a** Board Member (except where otherwise restricted in the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations) but shall not be eligible to vote. The Executive shall appoint Life Members by majority vote on any nomination for Life Membership. The award of Life Membership shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

BYLAW 4 – Meetings of Members and Voting

4.01 Annual General Meeting

4.01.1 The *annual general meeting* shall be held within 120 days after the fiscal year end, at such time and place in the Province of Alberta as the Executive shall determine. At the Executive's choice the *annual general meeting* can be held in person or via Web Conference. The Executive shall present *to the annual general meeting* an *annual report* and *a financial statement* covering the preceding fiscal year. This shall be the only required *general meeting* for the Association.

Proposed changes: replacement of *annual general meeting* with **Annual General Meeting**; addition of commas (,); replacement of *annual general meeting* with **Annual General Meeting**; removal of *to the annual general meeting*; replacement of *annual report* with **Annual Report**; replacement of *a financial statement* with **the Financial Statements**; replacement of *general meeting* with **General Meeting**

4.01.1 The **Annual General Meeting** shall be held within 120 days after the fiscal year end, at such time and place in the Province of Alberta as the Executive shall determine. At the Executive's choice, the **Annual General Meeting** can be held in person or via Web Conference. The Executive shall present an **Annual Report** and **the Financial Statements** covering the preceding fiscal year. This shall be the only required **General Meeting** for the Association.

4.01.03 Members will be notified of ***general and special meetings*** by way of ***emails*** indicated in the registration system and website announcement

Proposed changes: removal of 0; replacement of ***general and special meetings*** with **General and Special Meetings**; replacement of ***emails*** with **email as**

4.01.3 Members will be notified of **General and Special Meetings** by way of **email as** indicated in the registration system, and a website announcement.

4.02 Order of Business

At every Annual General Meeting, an order business shall be presented and accepted by those in attendance.

Proposed changes: addition of commas (,)

At every Annual General Meeting, an of order business shall be presented, and accepted, by those in attendance.

4.03 Special Meeting

4.03.1 A ***general meeting*** may be called by the President or the Vice President Finance at any time. A ***special general meeting*** shall forthwith be called by the President or the Vice President Finance on the written request of at least 20% of the Members. If the President or Vice President Finance fails to send out notice for such ***special general meeting*** within five days of receipt of such request, any two of the Members desiring to call such meeting may themselves send out a notice calling such meeting for such time and place as they may decide.

Proposed changes: replacement of ***general meeting*** with **General Meeting**; replacement of ***special general meeting*** with **Special Meeting**; replacement of ***special general meeting*** with **Special Meeting**

4.03.1 A **General Meeting** may be called by the President or the Vice President Finance at any time. A **Special Meeting** shall forthwith be called by the President or the Vice President Finance on the written request of at least 20% of the Members. If the President or Vice President Finance fails to send out notice for such **Special Meeting** within five days of receipt of such request, any two of the Members desiring to call such meeting may themselves send out a notice calling such meeting for such time and place as they may decide.

4.03.2 Except as herein expressly provided to the contrary, Members shall be given at least ***fourteen (14)*** days notice ***of all general meetings or special general meetings***. Notices of all such meetings shall indicate the nature of the business to be transacted.

Proposed changes: replacement of *fourteen (14)* with **twenty-one (21)**; replacement of *of* with **for**; removal of *general meetings or*; replacement of *special general meeting* with **Special Meeting**; replacement of *special general meeting* with **Special Meeting**

4.03.2 Except as herein expressly provided to the contrary, Members shall be given at least **twenty-one (21)** days notice **for** all **Special Meetings**. Notices of all such meetings shall indicate the nature of the business to be transacted.

BYLAW 5 – Executive and Board of Directors

5.01.1 Executive Director

This non-voting position may be appointed by the Executive. The Executive Director shall report to the **VP of Operations**. The duties of the Executive Director will be determined by the Executive.

Proposed changes: replacement of *VP of Operations* with **Vice President Member Services**

5.01.1 Executive Director

This non-voting position may be appointed by the Executive. The Executive Director shall report to the **Vice President Member Services**. The duties of the Executive Director will be determined by the Executive.

5.01.2 The Executive to be elected is as follows: President, Vice President **Operations**, Vice President Finance, Vice President Development, and Vice President Technical

Proposed changes: replacement of *Operations* with **Member Services**

5.01.2 The Executive to be elected is as follows: President, Vice President **Member Services**, Vice President Finance, Vice President Development, and Vice President Technical

5.01.4 The RIC(s) shall be selected by the Executive of the ALRA, in consultation with the respective LGB(s). An RIC(**s**) shall not hold an ALA Board Position, LGB board position or a Club board position. In extenuating circumstances the ALRA Executive may temporarily select an RIC(**s**) outside of these parameters, but shall not proceed with an exception past the next ALRAAGM.

Proposed changes: removal of (**s**); removal of (**s**)

5.01.4 The RIC(s) shall be selected by the Executive of the ALRA, in consultation with the respective LGB(s). An RIC shall not hold an ALA Board Position, LGB board position or a Club board position. In extenuating circumstances, the ALRA Executive may temporarily select an RIC outside of these parameters, but shall not proceed with an exception past the next ALRAAGM.

5.01.12 Any member of the Executive or Board of Directors who fails to attend Board Meetings (either in person or via teleconference) on two (2) consecutive occasions,

without just cause (which shall be determined by the Board of Directors), on a motion passed by a majority of the Board of Directors, may be removed from the Executive or Board of Directors.

Proposed changes: addition of commas (,)

5.01.12 Any member of the Executive, or Board of Directors, who fails to attend Board Meetings (either in person or via teleconference) on two (2) consecutive occasions, without just cause (which shall be determined by the Board of Directors), on a motion passed by a majority of the Board of Directors, may be removed from the Executive or Board of Directors.

5.02 Powers and Duties of Officers

5.02.01 President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association. He/she shall exercise a general supervision over all of the affairs of the Executive, and perform such duties as maybe assigned to him/her by the Executive. The President shall also be responsible as the primary liaison to the ALA **and ALA Manager of Officiating**. After each meeting or formal conversation with the ALA **and/or Manager of Officiating**, the **president** must submit a written report to the ALRA Board of Directors within **(7) seven** days.

Proposed changes: removal of **0**; removal of **and ALA Manager of Officiating**; removal of **and/or ALA Manager of Officiating**; replacement of **president** with **President**; replacement of **(7) seven** with **seven (7)**

5.02.1 President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association. He/she shall exercise a general supervision over all of the affairs of the Executive, and perform such duties as maybe assigned to him/her by the Executive. The President shall also be responsible as the primary liaison to the ALA. After each meeting or formal conversation with the ALA, the **President** must submit a written report to the ALRA Board of Directors within **seven (7)** days.

5.02.02 Past President

The Past President shall act in any capacity as may be required by the President. The Past President shall be a non-voting member of the Executive, whose term extends as long as the President who/e followed them holds office.

Proposed changes: removal of **0**

5.02.2 Past President

The Past President shall act in any capacity as may be required by the President. The Past President shall be a non-voting member of the Executive, whose term extends as long as the President who followed them holds office.

5.02.03 Vice President Member Services

Proposed changes: removal of *0*

5.02.3 Vice President Member Services

- shall be responsible for fielding all ***requested*** from an LGB RIC to have an official nominated for the RMLL.

Proposed changes: replacement of ***requested*** with **requests**

- shall be responsible for fielding all **requests** from an LGB RIC to have an official nominated for the RMLL.

- shall be responsible ***to oversee the ALA Manager of Officiating*** taking minutes of all meetings and circulate as required. The Vice President of Member Services shall be responsible for keeping all Bylaws and Regulations ***Current, with the assistance of the ALA Manager of Officiating.***

Proposed changes: removal of ***to oversee the ALA Manager of Officiating***; addition of **for**; replacement of ***Current*** with **current**

- shall be responsible **for** taking minutes of all meetings and circulate as required. The Vice President of Member Services shall be responsible for keeping all Bylaws and Regulations **current.**

5.02.06 Vice President Technical

Proposed changes: removal of *0*

5.02.6 Vice President Technical

- shall be responsible for the assigning of ***instructors*** to deliver ALRA clinics, ***and in conjunction with the ALA Manager of Officiating***

Proposed changes: replacement of ***instructors*** with **facilitators**; removal of ***, and in conjunction with the ALA Manager of Officiating***

- shall be responsible for the assigning of **facilitators** to deliver ALRA clinics

- is responsible for all continuing education and training as required, including maintaining a list of new and prospective ***“Fast Track” Officials***

Proposed changes: addition of commas (,); replacement of ***Fast Track*** with **fast track**; replacement of ***Officials*** with **referees**

- is responsible for all continuing education and training as required, including maintaining a list of new, and prospective, “fast track” referees

5.03 Expenses

All Members of the Board or Committees may be reimbursed for any reasonable expenses incurred while engaged in business approved by the Board. An Officer, Director or Member may be reimbursed for any reasonable out-of-pocket expenditure incurred on behalf of the ALRA. Two Members of the Executive shall **countersign** all expense claims to ensure their validity.

Proposed changes: addition of commas (,); replacement of **countersign** with **approve**

All Members of the Board, or Committees, may be reimbursed for any reasonable expenses incurred while engaged in business approved by the Board. An Officer, Director or Member may be reimbursed for any reasonable out-of-pocket expenditure incurred on behalf of the ALRA. Two Members of the Executive shall **approve** all expense claims to ensure their validity.

6.02 Qualifications

Each of the Executive Members or Board Members shall be at least 18 years of age and must **r eside** in the Province of Alberta.

Proposed changes: replacement of **r side** with **reside**;

Each of the Executive Members or Board Members shall be at least 18 years of age and must **reside** in the Province of Alberta.

6.02.01 President

Proposed changes: removal of **0**

6.02.1 President

6.02.02 Vice President Member Services

Proposed changes: removal of **0**

6.02.2 Vice President Member Services

6.02.03 Vice President of Finance

The candidate for Vice President of Finance must **be a minimum of a Level III Referee**, have officiated for at least 5 **year** and have a strong financial and accounting background,.

Proposed changes: removal of **0**; removal of **be a minimum of a Level III Referee**,; replacement of **year** with **years**; removal of ,; addition of commas (,)

6.02.3 Vice President of Finance

The candidate for Vice President of Finance must have officiated for at least 5 **years** and have a strong financial, and accounting, background.

6.02.04 Vice President of Development

The candidate for Vice President of Development must be minimum Level IV Referee with at least 5 years experience and ***have officiated to a minimum level of senior level***

Proposed changes: removal of **0**; addition of commas (,); replacement of ***have officiated to a minimum level of senior level*** with **has officiated both minor and major lacrosse**

6.02.4 Vice President of Development

The candidate for Vice President of Development must be minimum Level IV Referee, with at least 5 years experience, and **has officiated both minor and major lacrosse**

6.02.05 Vice President of Technical

The candidate for Vice President of Technical must be a minimum Level IV Referee with 5 years experience and have officiated to a minimum level of Senior

Proposed changes: removal of **0**; addition of commas (,); replacement of ***have officiated to a minimum level of senior level*** with **has officiated both minor and major lacrosse**

6.02.5 Vice President of Technical

The candidate for Vice President of Technical must be a minimum Level IV Referee, with 5 years experience, and **has officiated both minor and major lacrosse**

BYLAW 7 – Books and Records

7.01 The ALRA's books and records shall be available for inspection ***at the registered office of the Alberta Lacrosse Association***, Members may request, in writing to inspect the books and records with **10** days notice to the VP Finance.

Proposed changes: addition of commas (,); removal of ***at the registered office of the Alberta Lacrosse Association***,; addition of commas (,); replacement of **10** with **twenty-one (21)**

7.01 The ALRA's books, and records, shall be available for inspection. Members may request, in writing, to inspect the books and records with **twenty-one (21)** days notice to the Vice President Finance.

BYLAW 8 – Financial Audit

8.07 A copy of the ***year end financial report*** shall be provided to the ALA for their files.

Proposed changes: replacement of *year end financial report* with **year-end financial reports**

8.07 A copy of the **year-end financial reports** shall be provided to the ALA for their files.

BYLAW 9 – Custody and Use of the Seal

9.01 The common seal of the **ALA** shall be under the control of the Board and the person(s) responsible for its custody and use from time to time shall be determined by the Board.

Proposed changes: replacement of **ALA** with **ALRA**

9.01 The common seal of the **ALRA** shall be under the control of the Board and the person(s) responsible for its custody and use from time to time shall be determined by the Board.

BYLAW 10 – Referees Privileges

BYLAW 10 – Referees' Privileges

10.03 No Member of the **Association** shall knowingly referee with a suspended Member

Proposed changes: replacement of **Association** with **ALRA**

10.03 No Member of the **ALRA** shall knowingly referee with a suspended Member

10.04 Where a Member violates any regulations of the ALRA, a fine or suspension, or both, maybe imposed by the Executive.

Proposed changes: addition of commas (,)

10.04 Where a Member violates any regulations of the ALRA, a fine, or suspension, or both, maybe imposed by the Executive.

BYLAW 11 – Violations of Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations

11.01.1 VIOLATION AND DISCIPLINE

Any **Official** who violates or breaches a Bylaw, Rule and/or a Regulation is subject to discipline as set out herein.

Proposed changes: replacement of **Official** with **referee**

11.01.1 Violation and Discipline

Any **referee** who violates or breaches a Bylaw, Rule and/or a Regulation is subject to discipline as set out herein.

11.01.2 Code of Conduct

All Officials shall:

- a) ***attempt at all times*** to work toward the goals and objectives of the ALRA ***and*** the game of Lacrosse, and towards the betterment of its members;
- b) strive to heighten the image and dignity of the ALRA and the sport of Lacrosse as a whole, ***and to refrain*** from behavior which may discredit or embarrass the ALRA or the Game;
- c) always be courteous and objective in dealings with others;
- d) except when made through proper channels, refrain from unfavorable criticism of others;
- e) strive to achieve excellence in the sport while supporting the concepts of ***Fair Play*** and a ***Drug-Free*** sport;
- f) show respect for the cultural, social and political values of all participants in the sport; and
- g) as a guest in a foreign country or other province abide by the laws of the host and adhere to any social customs concerning conduct.

All **referees** shall:

- a) **at all times, attempt** to work toward the goals and objectives of the **ALRA**, the game of Lacrosse, and towards the betterment of its members;
- b) strive to heighten the image, and dignity, of the ALRA and the sport of Lacrosse as a whole, **while refraining** from behavior which may discredit, or embarrass, the ALRA or the Game;
- c) always be courteous and objective in dealing with others;
- d) except when made through proper channels, refrain from unfavorable criticism of others;
- e) strive to achieve excellence in the sport while supporting the concepts of **fair play** and a **drug-free** sport;
- f) show respect for the cultural, social and political values of all participants in the sport; and
- g) as a guest in a foreign country, or other province, abide by the laws of the host and adhere to any social customs concerning conduct.