

## CDLA Meeting March 26, 2020 – Conference Call

This meeting was called to discuss the follow up task from the ALA Conference call of the week before. This task was as follows:

**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<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

To assist with the discussion, a pre-meeting survey was circulated and completed by all clubs. The results of that survey will be sent out as a separate document along with this report.

### 1. ALA Board Meeting – Conference Call – March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Frank reviewed the contents of this meeting. There were a few comments raised:

- Sabrecats concern – look at budget from ALA AGM – most is generated from player fees, what is the thought process? Are they charging a player fee if the season doesn't happen?
- How much is the ALA asking for?
- Have put all the clubs in a hard situation with no answers
- Need to reimburse fees and do a re-registration if we run a modified season

### 2. Survey Questions

- a) When do you think we should plan to start our season?
  - a. May 15, June 1 and June 15<sup>th</sup> were the primary responses
- b) If we run a modified season, what format do you see working?
  - a. Integrated club house league programs and 4v4 league run by CDLA were most popular responses.
  - b. There was support for clubs to run house programs and then enter teams into a CDLA hosted tournament
  - c. Running a regular season (ie: 6 games) was also discussed and agreed to
  - d. It was also suggested that the season should probably be run from June 15 to July 15, or to the end of July. We could look at running into August as well, but floor time would become limited.
- c) Should the CDLA vote to cancel the 2020 season (as we know it) ahead of direction from the ALA?
  - a. Strong support to do this with 8 of 9 votes.
- d) How many requests for refunds has your club received to date?
  - a. 6 were 5 or less; 3 were 10 – 12; 1 was 15

- e) Most clubs have a refund policy that specifies an administration fee hold back from \$50 to \$100. If the administration fee was set to a maximum of \$100, would that be acceptable for your club?
  - a. 9 – yes; 1 no
  
- f) Should we consider another refund format, perhaps one that uses percentages?
  - a. 4-yes; 3-no; 1-not sure; 2-other
  - b. 1 comment suggested that they prefer a flat rate otherwise 10-15% for everyone
  - c. 1 comment stated that the amount depends on who has started evaluations.
  
- g) If the ALA were to charge you the same amount as they charged you last year for ALA fees (for players and volunteers), could your club cover this amount without recovering these funds in a refund administration fee?
  - a. 5-yes; 2-no; 2-unsure; 2-comments
  - b. One comment was yes but it would be ridiculous if not reduced
  - c. One comments suggesting that clubs need to know the ALA amount before they process refunds
  
- h) The CDLA is working on a formula for its team fees. Like clubs, the CDLA needs to hold back a portion of this year’s team fees to cover administrative costs. Please indicate what percentage of these fees your club could handle.
  - a. 4-100%; 3-25%; 1-10%; 2-comments
  - b. Comment 1 was “depends on how much we are refunding”
  - c. Comment 2 was “should be the same as club refund policy”
  
- i) Should Canada Day tournament be cancelled?
  - a. 5-yes; 3-not sure; 3-other
  - b. 1 comment stating that all team travel needs to be cancelled now; could be run as an all ‘Alberta’ tournament
  - c. Another comment “not as of right now”.
  
- j) Should all CDLA tournaments be cancelled?
  - a. 8-yes; 1-no; 1-not sure;
  - b. Comment of “not as of right now”

### **3. ALA Task – Alternative programming ideas and refund structure**

#### **Programming Options**

The CDLA supports a variety of programming ideas should a ‘modified season’ be organized. These programs would be run as house league programs with most being organized and run by the clubs, but there was support for running some ‘interclub’ programs. In addition, some of these programs could make use of a LGB organized event that club teams would sign up for (ie: tournament or league).

All formats were supported (house league run camps; 4on4 events; modified regular season) and the exact format selected is going to depend on the date a modified season can start, and how many players are available for it.

### **Refund Policy**

All clubs agreed that a base 'administration fee' to a maximum rate of \$100 was most preferred. This way, clubs can set their own fee, and even set different fees for different divisions or for players who have completed evaluations.

**Recommendation:** ALA refunds should be processed for all 2020 season registrations with an administration fee of no more than \$100 per registration.

## **4. Other Comments**

### **ALA Communication Process**

CDLA Board Members would like the opportunity to review ALA Communications before they are sent out to all parents. The issue is that CDLA Board members are seeing the same message at the same time as the parents, and then are expected to answer questions and support the content they have just learned about themselves. This puts CDLA Board members in a difficult position, especially when the communication doesn't answer the key questions the parents are asking (ie: is the season cancelled?).

**Recommendation:** LGB presidents should receive an advanced copy of major communications in advance to review.

### **ALA Fees for 2020**

LGB's need to know how much the ALA is intending to charge clubs so they can maintain operations for 2020. This information should be contained in an updated operating budget for 2020 and approved by the ALA Board of Directors.

### **ALA Communications and Strategy for 2020 Season**

The CDLA is in favor of the following communication strategy for the 2020 season:

- The ALA should immediately announce that the 2020 regular season is CANCELLED.
- All player registrations should be refunded less any applicable administration fees to a maximum of \$100.
- The ALA will continue to monitor the situation and if a 'modified season' can be organized, then players will be asked to re-register for these programs.
- Modified season programs will be organized and run by the LGBs.
- ALA Provincials should be cancelled.