



**President's Report
Submitted by Shawn Williams**

As we look forward to 2024, this past year has been moving in a direction that we as an organization have been pursuing. With the inclusion for the 2028 Olympics comes many changes for Lacrosse Canada. Our members have to embrace change or we will not reach our goals. Countless hours have been put in by staff and volunteers for acceptance by the Olympic Committee, I thank you all for your dedication in all aspects involved in our sport.

The governance model that is now in place was an arduous journey, taking quite a long time with many meetings so all members would understand where the governance will take us. Lacrosse Canada is working towards acceptance as a member of the COC, approximately 1 year to complete the steps. This is also a process that will be a heavy time investment to gain membership. With access to membership will come additional funding and exposure for our national programs.

As in past years, Jane, Paul and myself have made ourselves available for Touchpoint calls with the Member Associations and Sectors. These calls are a valuable communication tool in order to know the concerns of members before they become a larger issue. Please make time for these discussions as they only keep the lines of communication open.

Our marketing relies on demographics of all Member Associations, we can't sell our sport to potential sponsors if we only have partial data. Most MA's have shared this information yet there is still pushback from Ontario which delays and handcuffs our efforts. If we want to grow as a solid organization, the time for political games is over. Lacrosse Canada is working for all Members from coast to coast, recognizing that Members do have needs that are specific to them. As we've turned the corner of the destructive pandemic period, sponsors are hesitant to become involved unless we as an organization can prove that we would be a partner that would be a beneficial alliance.

Internally we have had to spend an inordinate amount of time dealing with appeals. These take away from staff being able to focus on their core tasks. Providing a better product requires focus on giving membership opportunities to showcase talent. In order to do this, staff and volunteers have to utilize their time efficiently. Lacrosse Canada realizes that our National Championships need improvement and will be engaging in dialogue to provide a fitting National Championship experience. There will be costs involved to achieve this, however this was a common theme in feedback from Hosts and Participants. Our budget remains a concern and steps such as continuing to be financially efficient and the new fee structure will help move into a positive position.

Thank you to all members, volunteers, and staff for the dedication put forth to grow our game.



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**Director of Administration Report
Submitted by Paul Magnan**

Since my last report, I have tripled the amount of hours that I have spent learning/volunteering for Lacrosse Canada activities. It has been a lot!

I have asked all board members and sector chairs to submit goals. All of the reports should have a response to the goals that they set out for themselves. Please ask our leaders about them.

Board Members and Sector Chairs positions are voluntary, but people need to put in the hours to these volunteer positions to make Lacrosse Canada successful. Please think if you are putting the time in to do what is required to effectively meet the expectations of your role and responsibilities.

It is exciting that we have heard that Lacrosse is going to be in the Olympics in 2028. However, Lacrosse Canada has an awful lot of work to do to become a Canadian Olympic sport and to be gold medal champions.

In my last report, I referenced that we need to work together. Unfortunately in some areas we are still not there. If you take a position with Lacrosse Canada, you need to set aside your provinces objectives and come and work for Lacrosse Canada for the benefit of Lacrosse Canada, coast to coast.

I am not going to be popular for this next comment. In my opinion, one province in particular is bullying other provinces, is trying to take control of a Team Canada and continues to put up road blocks for Lacrosse Canada. We are never going to grow our game of Lacrosse, if that continues to happen.

I think everyone in Lacrosse needs to be held accountable. We cannot serve on the LC Board or hold Sector Chair positions with hidden agendas. No one province should be able to control what we do with Team Canada. No one province should be able to control what Lacrosse Canada does.



Director of Marketing & Communications Report Submitted by Marisa Di Bari

As this year comes to a close, we have some great things to celebrate and still some work to be done. We have plans in place to help achieve our goals for next year and beyond.

A few things to note from the least year:

- Our social presence has noticeably increased
- Nike is renewing our agreement for 2024 – 2028
- We are in discussions with current partners to revisit our agreements and ensure we are benefitting from these partnerships
- We are working on our recruitment marketing plan to assist MAs with grass roots recruitment
- We have commissioned someone who is dedicated to bringing us suitable partnerships
- Our retail pilot items at events have been successful and we are continuing to work on the relaunch of our retail platform
- We sold merchandise in San Diego and have received inquiries for more items
- We launched Coach Them
- We have had meeting with the CLF and HOF as a group to work on a collaborative plan
- We are once again an Olympic sport
- We are working with the board to support the promotion of the Sixes discipline

We do have things we will continue to work on, as well as new goals:

- Continue to work on the launch of the retail site to generate revenue
- Develop an Alumni newsletter and donor program for Alumni
- We will continue to build our athletes, coaches, and officials data base to be able to share content and celebrate achievements and show their support for the MA clubs
- Continue develop social media assets to generate excitement, interest, recruitment, and sponsorship
- Work with MAs regarding options for social media during National Championships
- We will continue to find ways to honour the traditions and roots of the game and celebrate special people
- We will continue to work with the CLF and HOF to ensure that we are supporting them through marketing
- Work with MAs for LC merch at National Championships
- Work with the Sixes Sector on promotion and marketing
- Continue to work on establishing new partnerships and sponsors

We have been faced with a several challenges:

- We still cannot complete our infographic of our demographics to present to sponsors because of one MA. Ontario refuses to provide me with the details that were agreed upon at not on the SAM (by the former ED and the current President) but also at Board meetings. We were told the information was sent and it never was. Now, the current ED refuses to comply. This is holding up the graphic and details wanted to share with sponsors to make us more desirable and show our diversity. Thank you to all the other MAs who provided info, your help is truly appreciated.
- Our online store with new product is delayed due to supplier issues and we are now working with a new supplier to help move things along
- We are often challenged to provide enough coverage at National and International events; however, we have plans in place to make this process smoother going forward



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- Due to lack of footage, we had not completed our TSN spot, but it is back on the radar now that Kealan has done a great job building our assets

Below are some of our key social stats that we can be very proud of:

Instagram

Followers as of Oct.20 **19,925**
New Followers **5,792 +375.9%**
Instagram reach **165,955 +229%**
Instagram profile visits **115,447 +430.8%**
Highest Post reach 33.9k (Josh Byrne Nike Video)

Facebook

Followers **10,460. 613 gained, 35 lost**
Page Likes **9,491**
New page likes **312 +47.9%**
Facebook Reach **163,644 +103%**
Highest Post Reach 11.2k Women's Box Staff

Twitter/X

1.4 million impressions since May 1
May 1- July 30 **12.1k impressions per day.**
July 31-October 20 **4.6k impressions per day**
452 New Followers

YouTube

Views:**5.2K**
Subscribers : 613 93 NEW
77.5k impressions

These are significant increases since May of 2023, and we owe a huge round of appreciation to Kealan for his hard work and dedication.

Overall, I'm excited for the years ahead and would like to thank the entire office team who have been instrumental in helping make things happen. I would also like to thank the MAs and the Sector Chairs for their continued support.

Let's continue to work together in a positive and respectful way, towards our common goals, as that is the only way we will continue to grow and succeed.



**Director of National Championships Report
Submitted by AJ Jomha**

The 2023 national championships season was full of challenges which identified some concerning trends in our national championship program. I believe that it is time that that we give full consideration as to what the goals and objectives are of our national championships at all ages. My observations are that we have no consistency from individual to individual as to what objectives we are trying to achieve. The result is that from year-to-year we are inconsistent in approaching how to address our national championships and without stated objectives leads to a lack of direction.

MINOR NATIONALS

First of all, lets acknowledge the positive side. There were a number of participating MAs at various levels for the minor nationals in both field and box lacrosse. On the one hand it was encouraging to find that many MAs wishing to participate in the national championships however only after making their initial expression of interest in attending did the problems begin to present themselves. Several MAs realized that they could not attend the event with a full team. The result was the request for several exceptions which violated our policies. To accommodate these requests the system was adopted to seek exemptions by participating MAs. In order to accept an exemption all participating MAs and hosts were required to agree otherwise the request was denied. In retrospect it is clear that several MAs did not have the minimum capacity to attend such national championships. While I understand the interest in attending these championships, I believe that it is misguided to think that attending national championships will encourage the growth of the game in the community. This is part of that expansive discussion which needs to take place. I do know that there are a number of people in our community that believe that the Long Term Athletic Development program which has been adopted by Lacrosse Canada and has a national championship strategy. As a supporter of that program I encourage all of us to reconsider as a group as to how we are going to move forward with national championships in relation to the LTAD.

I also noticed that at this level of national championships that there is a conflation of those who are organizing our events and those that are participants. It is a fine line between organizing and preparing for an event and becoming involved in the outcome of those events. I became aware of situations where organizers had taken their opportunities to prepare events with the added advantages of advancing their MAs position for success. Accordingly, I recommend that we develop a system that segregates those that are organizing and those that are actually participating in the event set. I note that the policy if followed strictly does address several of these issues. The problem arose or arises because we are seeking exemptions of our policies in order to accomplish individual goals which may be anything from fielding a team to obtaining an advantage. I recognize that it may not be the intent in all situations but it is happening.

MAJOR LACROSSE

I experienced several challenges throughout each of the national championships with the exception of the Minto Cup. Each of the national championships had their own challenges. One could argue that many of the concerns raised at the minor national level also prevail at the major. We need to clarify what our goals and objectives are with respect to national championships at this level. While it may be that that determining which team is the best team in the nation is a more prominent objective at this level than at minor nationals, it also has to be agreed upon as to how that would be



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determined and if that is the only objective that we are trying to achieve. At this level one must evaluate how we are going to apply our policies and rules to our national championships. There are also several matters that are arising that are concerning with respect to competitiveness. We saw this at the Senior B level and perhaps in Senior A as well.

I note that the Mann Cup and the Minto Cup are managed by contracts between the participating MAs and Lacrosse Canada. I suggest that it may be that there is merit in having the same type of contract between participating MAs and Lacrosse Canada for both the Presidents Cup and the Founders Cup. This may be a way to developing consistency of how the rules are applied in each MA and to better prepare those MAs for the upcoming competition. I recommend that we work towards such agreements.

Finally, this will be my last act as the Director National Championship. I thank all of you for the opportunity to allow me to give back to this game for the last several years. While there were many challenges there were also many opportunities to play a small part in helping our game evolve. I wish all the best to the new board and if I can assist in helping the board in the future I would be happy to do so.



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Director of High Performance & International Relations Report

Position vacant. No report submitted.



**Director of Domestic Development Report
Submitted by Bryan Baxter**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the office staff for continued great service to the needs and wants of our members. I especially want to thank Wendy Dobbin for her continued support of all the committees in her portfolio. I would also like to thank those that I work closely with on many of the challenges that face us as we grow. I am talking about the Chairs of the various committees that I oversee in my role as Director of Domestic Development. Thank you Steve O'Shaughnessy, Chair of the Officiating Committee, Roxanne Curtis, Chair of the Coaching Committee, Duane Bratt, Chair of the LTAD Committee and Norm McGuirk, Chair of the FITS Committee. It is through your love of the game and passion for your areas of expertise that I know our sport will continue to prosper and grow. I also wanted to thank Findley Wilson for guiding the Indigenous Development Committee. It is sad that you are leaving. I want to welcome Kevin Sandy as he steps in to fill the role vacated by Findley.

We are headed into uncharted territory now that Sixes is officially in the Olympic Games for 2028. It will be a very exciting time as we prepare to go for gold in 2028.

In my role as Director of Domestic Development, I have attended and participated in the regular bi-monthly and special meetings of the Board of Directors as well as meetings of the various committees that I oversee.

Roxanne continues to work hard at getting the CMD curriculum to a place where we will only require coaches to attend one classroom clinic as they pursue trained status in all disciplines in which they choose to coach. See Roxanne's report for more on this journey. We must continue to implement changes from the Coaching Association of Canada regarding requirements for coaches, especially in the areas of safe sport and mental health.

On the officiating side, we continue to press forward with education and training. The demands of World Lacrosse will only become greater as we move towards the Olympics in 2028. Now that World Lacrosse has restructured into regions, Canada will now have to attend regional events in all disciplines in order to compete on the world stage. This places a much higher demand for officials in Canada to attend. The Officiating Committee will be working on a comprehensive recruitment and retaining campaign in order that we can continue to supply qualified officials to these events in the future as well as being able to satisfy the increasing demand for officials domestically.

The LTAD Committee continued to meet after SAM to draft the rule changes that will be necessary to implement the new minor contact agreement that was reached at the SAM. Work was completed and the rule changes were brought before the Box Sector for ratification at a meeting held Oct 18, 2023. The rule changes will not be implemented for the 2024 box season. See Duane Bratt's report regarding this issue.

The Indigenous Development Committee has a new interim Director. Welcome Kevin Sandy. There has been no formal meetings on the IDC. Looking forward to working with Kevin and the rest of the IDC Committee.

Norm McGuirk of the FITS Committee has been working with Marisa Di Bari in trying to assist Newfoundland in procuring equipment to establish lacrosse programming in several centres in the province. The Committee has not met formally since the SAM.



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There is a real buzz in the air since the announcement of the inclusion of lacrosse in the Olympics. I know that over the coming months and years, our staff, BOD and members will be working extra hard to ensure Canada is ready for the big show.

I hope that Haudenosaunee will be successful in their bid to be included in the Games as well.

Respectfully submitted.



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Indigenous Director Report
Submitted by Kevin Sandy

No report submitted.



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Athlete Director Report
Submitted by Lesley Hawke

No report submitted.



Executive Director Report Submitted by Jane Clapham

The 2023 lacrosse season was back in full swing with a record number of teams attending national championships this summer and our National Teams offering Development Camps and Tryouts across the country for the first time.

The most exciting news is that Lacrosse has been approved, by the IOC, to be in the 2028 Olympics in LA.

This decision by the IOC is one that takes lacrosse to a new era and is not possible without the tireless work from World Lacrosse and all the nations around the world who have continued to show their love and passion for the game of lacrosse. The sport will be able to showcase itself on the biggest stage, which will allow young athletes globally to realize their Olympic dreams can be achieved in lacrosse.

Internally there is much work to be done to ensure Lacrosse Canada becomes a member of the Canadian Olympic Committee so we can represent Canada in lacrosse at the Olympics. Being a member of COC will also open new funding opportunities for our organization.

As we navigate moving lacrosse forward we need to focus inward and make necessary changes within our governance, develop our new Sixes sector, provide support to our MA's, ensure gender equality in all areas of Lacrosse while providing a safe environment for everyone in our sport.

I thank you all for your continued support to the LC office, for your partnership and trust and for your many, many hours of hard work to grow and improve the game.

OFFICE OPERATIONS

It has been a very busy year, for the office staff, with the return of all national championships and international events. Added to the heavy workload are the challenges of navigating struggles with MA's, addressing safe sport discipline and appeals, and providing support to the organization with a volunteer based operational system. Unfortunately staff are not always able to focus on their responsibilities due to MA's competing interests which prevent the staff from moving their portfolios forward.

Office Staff:

Kealan joined LC in a part-time position, in the spring, to assist with communications and transitioned into a full-time role as Communications & Marketing Coordinator November 1st. I am excited for Kealan to continue his work with Lacrosse Canada. His work thus far has demonstrated that he is a great fit for this position and our organization.

Ashley Welock returned from Maternity Leave taking on a new Part-time position with LC, as Finance Manager responsible for High level financials including Sport Canada funding requirements, Audits, Payroll and Safe Sport Administration. Ashley brings valuable experience to this role and I am thrilled to have her back on our team.



Alana accepted a permanent position, in August, in her current role which focuses on administrative duties and day to day financials. Alana has been instrumental in keeping our day to day financials up to date while taking on additional national championship administrative tasks. I am grateful for her continued support.

Wendy is the full-time backbone of our technical support team. The Coaching and officiating committees continue to develop their Programs with the knowledge and valuable experience Wendy brings to this organization. Her attention to detail and work ethic are outstanding.

As High Performance Coordinator, Terry is kept busy managing the portfolios of our National Teams and National championships. This is a hard feat as these events overlap and require his great organizational skills.

The staff continue to work remotely and provide seamless support to everyone in the organization. They are great assets to our organization and their skills, experience and dedication to lacrosse is outstanding. I would like to thank them for all the work they do moving this organization forward.

LC GOVERNANCE:

Governance Working Group: The working group, alongside Steve Indig, held multiple meetings and Town Halls with the Members, over the last year, to take the first steps toward being compliant with the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) Good Governance Code.

While the Members of LC were looking at making changes to LC's governance in preparation to file an application with the COC, The Minister of Sport announced in May 2023 that all National Sport Organizations (NSO's) would have to be compliant with the COC Good Governance Code by March 2025. This mandated requirement affects LC's funding and being recognized by Sport Canada.

The Members at a Special Meeting of the Members in September 2023 approved Bylaw changes to begin the transition to following good governance practices. This was a big step for our organization as it now allows us to begin the application for COC recognition while moving forward to comply with Sport Canada.

The Governance working group will continue to meet to identify the next steps for LC while keeping the Members informed along the way.

Communications:

Communications between all levels of LC and Members continues to improve with the ongoing MA & Sector/Committee Chair Touchpoint calls, updated distribution lists, and the inclusion of ED's on committee communications. Alana has created a shared Google document of LC positions and their contact information, for ED's.

Challenges do occur as volunteers and staff transition in/out of the organization but I ask you to be patient as everyone learns the ropes.

I would like to reiterate that communication goes both ways and LC can only succeed if we all work together on improving communication.



I continue to work on the LC Communication Plan which includes the creation and updating of numerous documents as well as a review of our current communication platforms. This has been significantly delayed and put on hold due to numerous internal challenges within the organization taking my time away from this task.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The 2019-2024 Strategic Plan, approved at the 2019 SAM, consists of the following three Strategic Goals:

· **Goal #1 – HIGH PERFORMANCE:** We have developed a quality HP integrated program for all athletes, coaches and officials
o **Top Objective** - Meet Canada Games criteria by 2021 including coach certification and ACM, male and female Indigenous and non-Indigenous coaches and Indigenous athlete development opportunities across Canada

UPDATE – Goal was met. Detailed information provided in Technical Coordinator's report.

· **Goal #2 – TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP:** We have trained and certified coaches and officials at all levels of competition
o **Top Objective** - LC has the ability to certify coaches at Competition Development in all MA's by 2020

UPDATE – All CSG Coaches were Competitive Development certified in time for Canada Summer Games.

· **Goal #3 – PROACTIVE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE:** We have the resources, capacity and structure to lead the sport with effective and efficient policies, marketing and communication
o **Top Objective** - Develop a business plan that will fulfill the needs for proactive management including sustainability and growth opportunities by AGM 2019

BUSINESS PLAN

A Business Plan was developed early in 2020 by Shawn and I and was presented to the Board and Members in the spring of 2020. We received some great feedback which led to Shawn and I meeting with each Member Association in 2020 to answer questions and discuss how the Business Plan would fit with each MA. We continued listening to our Members during MA Touchpoint calls throughout 2021 & 2022 and are happy to announce that Fee increases were approved at the LC Annual Meeting last November.

The following increases have been approved by the Members:

In LC Fiscal Year 2024/2025

- U7 players to not pay LC participant Fee
- Participant Fee \$10
- Coaches Fee \$20
- Officials Fee \$25

In LC Fiscal Year 2025/2026

- U7 players do not pay LC Participant Fee
- Participant Fee \$15



Coaches Fee \$20
Officials Fee \$25

LC made great strides during the pandemic and implemented the following initiatives that were included in the Business Plan

- changing the Corporation name to Lacrosse Canada
- rebranding with a new logo
- hiring a full-time staff member to support high performance including national championships
- electronic resources
- New website & website provider

Separate from the Business Plan, the Board created a small working group consisting of Paul Magnan, Jason Donville, Bryan Baxter, AJ Jomha, Gerry Van Beek and Jane Clapham to review LC's current strategic plan and bring recommendations to the Board for discussion. A Town Hall Meeting occurred at the 2022 & 2023 SAMs in which the Members split into groups and identified what's working and what needs work in the following areas: Coaching, Officiating, National Teams, National Championships and Other.

The LC Strategic working group will be meeting after the LC AGM to review the notes from the Town Hall and look at bringing forward recommendations to the Board of Directors for next steps for LC to create a new strategic plan going forward from 2024.

OPERATIONS MANUAL/POLICIES:

An updated Operations Manual is scheduled to be sent out in early November, before the LC AGM, electronically, and posted on the LC website. Policies are updated through Sector Meetings at the SAM, Board meetings and/or Meetings of the Members.

A summary of revisions from the SAM in May 2023 will be sent to the Members and posted on the LC website at the same time as the updated Ops Manual.

We continue to make formatting changes of the Operations Manual to improve accessibility on mobile devices.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING:

Finance & Audit Committee: The Board is currently looking at the terms of reference for this committee as part of the Business Plan key activity for Goal #3 of the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. At this time Jim Burke and Greg Hartzler are no longer interested in standing for another term.

The Frouin Group has prepared the draft audited statements for 2022-2023 and they will require approval from the Board and the Members at the Annual Meeting. It is my recommendation that LC continue with the Frouin Group as our accountant for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Financials 2022-23: The 2022-2023 audited statements are included in the AGM package.



Financials 2023-2024: A draft Budget for 23/24 was presented and approved by the Members at the 2022 LC AGM with a deficit of \$530,912 to be balanced by retrieving \$530,912 from the CLF to cover the deficit.

Membership Fee revenue is back in place for LC Fiscal year 23/24 after being reduced in 2022/2023 and waived in 2021/2022 and 2020/2021 due to the pandemic.

Draft Budget 2024-2025: Two Draft Budget options for 24/25 have been included in the AGM package for discussion only at this time. These draft budgets will be reviewed with the Board of Directors and Members at the AGM. LC's Sport Canada funding has not been confirmed for 24/25 and without this information it would not be fiducially responsible to approve a Budget without this information.

The increase in Fees should significantly reduce an LC deficit budget in 24/25 and eliminate a continuous budget deficit, in 25/26 going forward allowing LC to begin funding development opportunities within the organization (Based on 2023 membership #'s).

SAFE SPORT:

Lacrosse Canada is fully committed to the principles of safe sport and ensuring safety and well-being of all participants in its sport.

Along with the Independent Third Party Safe Sport Officer and mechanism in place to address allegations of maltreatment in lacrosse, Lacrosse Canada signed an agreement to join the Abuse Free Sport Program for it's national stakeholders and group of UCCMS participants effective March 31, 2023. This is a one year Agreement that will be reviewed and renewed annually with the SDRCC. Currently LC's fee for this Program is \$20,000 (\$25K less \$5000 contribution from Sport Canada). This fee will be reviewed and could increase/decrease based on a review of Safe Sport incidents in our organization.

The Board of Directors approved LC's updated Safe Sport Policies on February 27th, 2023 that align with the Abuse Free Sport Program [HERE](#)

Lacrosse Canada and it's national stakeholders –the group of UCCMS [Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport](#) participants, will have access to the services of the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC) [HERE](#), which serves as the central hub of Abuse-Free Sport.

The primary group of UCCMS Participants comprise National Volunteers (LC Board of Directors, Sector & Committee Chairs), LC Staff, National Team Athletes, National Team Coaches, National Team Staff and National Team Event volunteers. All Primary UCCMS Participants were required to complete, sign and return an Informed Consent form to maintain their privileges as a member of Lacrosse Canada prior to March 31, 2023.

National Championship athletes, Convenors, RIC's and officials will also be considered UCCMS participants for the duration of the respective championship. An Informed Consent form will be sent to the respective MA's once athletes/teams have been identified for the respective championship athletes to complete and return to LC. An Informed Consent form will also be sent to National Championship Convenors, RIC's, and officials once they have been identified for them to complete and return to LC.



A News Release was sent to internal and external stakeholders and posted on social media March 31, 2023.

PARTNERS, FUNDING PARTNERS AND SPONSORSHIP:

Sport Canada: Sport Canada's new Funding Framework that was supposed to be implemented in the summer of 2021 has been delayed twice and is currently being reviewed by the new Sport Minister. LC has been informed that LC's reference level of \$445K will be maintained for 2023/2024. The Gender Equity and Safety in Sport funding will now be separate applications going forward.

With a second review of the Framework it is unclear if SC will make more changes to the Framework. The three key areas that were previously being evaluated in the new Framework were – Olympic sports, carding of athletes, and attending major events (Pan AM Games, Commonwealth Games etc). Should these three areas remain it is expected there will be a significant decrease in our SC funding in the future if we do not become members of the COC (Canadian Olympic Committee).

LC received our SC Report Card Phase 2 results back in the fall of 2021. The Report Card is one component of the modernization of the Sport Funding Accountability Framework, developed to monitor how sport organizations contribute to key Sport Canada and Government of Canada priorities. The Report Card presents a valuable means of monitoring the health of the sport system. It is an accountability tool designed to provide a safe environment for organizations to adapt and grow. The first phase of the Report Card, issued in 2019, evaluated progress on measures to promote sport integrity, diversity and inclusion, and communication and engagement. This has provided great insight on how sport organizations operate, while providing sport organizations with a clear set of expectations and guidance on how to grow and take action to meet them. The second phase of the Report Card, released in 2021, focused on good governance principles. This evaluation of governance focuses on how decision-making is conducted and how internal systems of checks and balances are upheld.

Sport Canada will use the Report Card results to advise senior leadership on system-wide pressures. Organizations are encouraged to use the results of this version of the Report Card to prepare upcoming funding applications to Sport Canada. The Report Card results will not affect the amount of reference level funding sport organizations receive; however, they may lead to the redirection of resources to identified gaps.

NSO's were able to apply for a re-evaluation on areas within Phase 2, of the Report Card, that have changed and LC submitted an update including the Risk Management Policy & Registry approved by the Board of Directors in May 2022 and including LC's Safe Sport Dispute Resolution & Discipline Complaint Policies.

LC has also signed onto the OSIC - Abuse Free Sport Program as mandated by Sport Canada to continue to receive SC Funding. This Program will cost LC \$25,000/year and will be re-evaluated at the end of this term. More information on this Program under Safe Sport section of this report.

Canadian Olympic Committee (COC): With lacrosse having received full recognition by the IOC and inclusion into the 2028 Olympic games, LC is in the process of applying for COC membership. Being a member of the COC can open doors for LC including Own the Podium funding opportunities that we have not had previous access to.



The application process with the COC takes about a year in which a number of criteria, including compliance with the COC Good Governance Code, must be in place or in the process prior to applying.

The approval of the Governance Bylaws in September 2023 is a great first step towards being compliant. LC will need to demonstrate we are compliant with our new bylaws as we continue to make changes to our governance to be fully compliant with the Code by March 2025. This is a critical element of our COC application.

CCES: Terry Rayner is currently the primary contact in the office for any questions related to anti-doping.

As an organization that supports the WADA and CCES Anti-Doping Code (CADP), LC is now required to disclose the identity of High Performance Athlete Support Personnel to these organizations. Furthermore, as part of the 2021 CCES Anti-Doping Code (CADP) our Athlete Support Personnel, for National Teams, must complete education and sign an agreement to expressly confirm they are subject to the CADP. Athlete Support Personnel includes High Performance coaches, trainers and individuals assisting athletes in Canada which would include Katie Ranger, our GM's, their coaching and support staff, and currently myself in the LC office.

CAC: Report as per Technical Coordinator

National Team equipment sponsors: Information located in the Director Marketing/Communications report.

NATIONAL TEAMS PROGRAM:

Report as per High Performance Coordinator.

CANADA GAMES:

Report as per Technical Coordinator

CONCLUSION:

I would like to thank Paul, Shawn, the Board of Directors, Member Council, Sector Chairs, committee volunteers and MAs for your continued support to the LC Office, for your partnership and trust and for your many, many hours of hard work to grow and improve the game.

Yours in sport,

Jane Clapham
Executive Director, LC



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**Finance Manager Report
Submitted by Ashley Welock**

The last 2 fiscal years have seen a significant increase in accounting activity for Lacrosse Canada. The return of participation in both National Championships and for National Teams have nearly tripled the volume of transactions being recorded. Similarly, with Lacrosse in the Olympics and new, accountability-based frameworks in place, we have a tremendous amount of work ahead of us and our volume will only continue to grow.

As we move into a new era for both sport in Canada and Lacrosse all over the world, we are seeing positive changes that require dynamic responses and reactivity, so we are lucky to have the financial infrastructure in place to tackle what is to come.

As with every year, the CLF & Lacrosse Canada's 2022-23 fiscal years were each reviewed in detail with our auditors, resulting in another months-long process. I am happy to report that both are now completed and there were no major issues coming out of the Lacrosse Canada testing or field work. LC's draft audited statements can be found in section 3 of this package.

As a rule, it is my belief that change is always good and with simplifying and thinking about the box, there is almost always a more user-friendly way to do things. For this reason, I am always open to suggestions and welcome any best practices that other organizations or MAs are utilizing to determine whether this would work with existing Lacrosse Canada resources.



**Finance & Administration Coordinator Report
Submitted by Alana White**

I would like to begin by taking the opportunity to thank the Board of Directors, Member Council, Sector Chairs, and Member Associations for their ongoing support, as well as Jane, Ashley, Wendy, Terry and Kealan for the work they all do on a day-to-day basis to make Lacrosse Canada a success. I am very happy to have accepted a permanent position with LC following my 18-month contract, and look forward to the future.

Administration & Finance

Administration and financial responsibilities continue to be very demanding, but we continue to work on streamlining processes.

The submission of expense reports has increased exponentially over the past six months for officials, players, etc. due to a busy summer and fall with National Championships and many national team events. A positive change we have made is moving away from cheque processing, and transitioning solely to EFT payments for CAD bills and expense claims.

In May 2023, Lacrosse Canada entered into an agreement with the House of Sport to lease a desk/coworking space alongside other NSO's. This allows us to maintain a "physical" location and mailing address, while staff continue to work remote. This partnership has allowed LC to decrease rent costs significantly – the office at Louisa Street in Ottawa cost approx. \$45,000 annually, while the House of Sport license costs only approx. \$4,500 annually.

SAM & AM

It was fantastic to see everyone at the SAM in New Westminster, BC this past May, and I look forward to seeing the Board, MA Presidents, and MA Executive Directors again in Toronto! The organization of both the SAM and AM, and bringing everyone together, continues to be an exciting challenge that I thoroughly enjoy.

Quebec has offered to host the 2024 SAM next May, so I will have the opportunity to work with Philip in organizing this event. The exact location is still yet to be determined, but will either be in Quebec City or Montreal, depending on venue cost and availability. We plan to release confirmed details to everyone at the beginning of 2024.



Technical Coordinator Report Submitted by Wendy Dobbin

The technical coordinator portfolio is broad and there is much work to be completed in all areas as outlined below.

Canada Games

After the fantastic announcement that Lacrosse would be in the 2025 and 2029 Canada Summer Games the work began.

Throughout the past few months, one of the main priorities of the technical coordinator portfolio was to work on the Technical Package and some foundational tasks in preparation for the 2025 Canada Summer Games in Newfoundland.

After a very successful 2022 Games and picking up on the great work that James Buhlman, Ron McQuarrie and Chris Gallop completed prior to the 2022 Games, the focus was to be tweaking of the technical package to prepare for Newfoundland. There have been a number of delays in finalizing the technical package as the committee is continuing to make recommendations in various areas of the package.

A site visit to St John's was completed in early October to work through some of the venue, logistics and equipment requirements for the Lacrosse tournament. Following the site visit in late October, Canada Games Council hosted the first technical (TI) session with all sports reviewing everything confirmed to date. The Council and the Hosts are working hard to put together a great event in 2025 and there is no doubt Newfoundland will be a fantastic host.

Coaching

Under the coaching umbrella, there is continued work on the simplification and streamlining of the coaching program. While the initial focus is in the community stream, this is not being done in isolation and will link to the Competition Introduction context to meet the needs of developing lacrosse coaches while removing redundancy.

Part of the streamlining was the removal of the workbook submission and evaluation from the training process for Competition Introduction. The competencies assessed as part of the workbook completion are now being evaluated within the portfolio at the time of certification.

Additional redundancies are being removed from the workshop packaging and delivery as well as the technology supporting the coaches and coaching program. More information on both of these items will be shared in the near future.

Lacrosse Canada will be hosting a Master Coach Developer (MCD) meeting in early December to start building capacity of MCD's to train and support Learning Facilitators across the country and to ensure consistency in the delivery of the minimum standards within the coaching development programs. When we zoom out and look at trends within the sport sector, much attention at the federal level is on the coaching certification process and it is expected that action will be necessary in the near future



to move more coaches to full 'certified' status and engaging in ongoing learning and development. Over the coming months, additional information and evidence will be shared with all MA's regarding current state and desired state for coaches within the sport of Lacrosse as current policies do not support the emerging trends.

Maintenance of Certification Reports are being shared with all Coaching leads at the MA's to proactively advise all MA's which coaches require professional development to remain active and in good standing. As LC and the provinces work on professional development events and opportunities, the MOC reports can be used to target events and communications to the needs of the MA's.

Additional work within the coaching portfolio includes:

- Working on a delivery calendar seeking out opportunities to host regional NCCP workshops and professional development events
- Quality assurance associated with both delivery and evaluation within the NCCP
- Developing an education strategy aligned with the hosting of domestic events

Officials

The focus for the officials committee is to recruit, develop and support new and existing officials. To aid in development of officials, the committee is continuing work on a virtual hub for the officials from across the country. The hub would include a learning platform that will allow for exemplar video and resources, a registration/tracking system for officials, certifications, and assignments as well as a place to house professional development opportunities.

Indigenous Development Committee

IDC has not met. A new Chair is now in place

Long Term Development committee

The focus of the LTD committee as outlined in Duane's report was to work on the application of the recommendation to remove contact. Work was completed with the rules and recommendations put forward to the Minor Box Committee. At this time, the recommended rules have been tabled for future discussion.

FITS Committee

Little activity with the FITS Committee in the development of a school and introductory program over the summer. Meetings are resuming this month.



High Performance and National Championships Coordinator Report Submitted by Terry Rayner

Olympic Inclusion

World Lacrosse's decades-long vision to return the sport to the Olympic stage has been realized, with the International Olympic Committee approving lacrosse's inclusion in the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. The approving vote today by the IOC Session - which includes 99 international sport leaders - was the last step of a formal process initiated by the LA28 Organizing Committee last year to add new sports to the Games in Los Angeles. LA28 will mark the third Olympic appearance for North America's first sport that is now played in nearly 100 countries around the world, after it was contested in 1904 (St. Louis) and 1908 (London). Lacrosse was later featured as a demonstration sport in three Olympics: Amsterdam 1928, Los Angeles 1932 and London 1948.

To celebrate the inclusion of lacrosse in the Olympics and recognize the magnitude of the moment, World Lacrosse will launch A New Era, a campaign aimed at propelling the sport into its next generation via pivotal growth in participation, popularity and sustainability.

In 2028, men's and women's lacrosse will be competed in sixes, an incredibly fast-paced, compact version of the sport at the intersection of field and box lacrosse. It offers an inclusionary opportunity to all lacrosse athletes and an easier entry point for new players, and is characterized by an accelerated, open style of play with quick transitions and non-stop, high-scoring action.

Developed in 2018, sixes has advanced global growth, increased accessibility and approachability, created greater competitive balance, and reduced cost and complexity of participation and event staging. It is the next generation version of the game.

Women's Sixes Fall Event

Oshawa, Ontario hosted this year's Super Sixes International for the second straight year. This year, Haudenosaunee returned with USA and Kenya for the first time. This three-day event produced exposure once again to the sixes game in preparation for the Olympic inclusion for 2028 in Los Angeles. Canada went undefeated in the round robin and met with the USA in the final. Canada lost a heartbreaker 8-7 to the USA after being up 6-3.

This team was led by GM Tami Rayner, Head Coach Shawn Williams, Asst Coaches Jessica Markew, Katie Ranger and Ashley Bull. The roster was Dana Dobbie, Erica Evans, Megan Kinna, Brooklyn Walker-Welch, Hannah Morris, Skylar McArthur, Jordan Dean, Shonly Wallace, Alex Matsuoka, Bella Gaspar, Gigi Gaspar and Lauren Spence

Men's Senior Field Events

This summer opened with Canada competing at the Men's World Championships in San Diego, CA from June 21st to July 1st, 2022. The Men's team battled the USA in the gold medal matching earning a silver medal finish.

This team was led by Head Coach Matt Brown and Dan Carey as the General Manager

In October the Men's team attended the Fall Classic in Sparks, MD to compete vs the USA and Penn State of the NCAA. In an epic comeback Dyson Williams scored with less than a minute on the clock to tie the USA and then in overtime sealed the victory with an amazing pass on the goal mouth to



avenge the loss to the USA from the World Championships. The roster was comprised of athletes from under the age of 25.

Women's U20 Tryouts

Head Coach Allison Dailey and her staff attended 3 different locations across Canada to hold tryouts for the team that will be attending Hong Kong in 2024 for the World Championships.

There were 24 women that attended the camp in Alberta, 49 in British Columbia and 79 in Ontario for a total of 152 athletes.

Following stage one of tryouts there were 45 athletes selected to continue the process and competed vs the USA and Northwestern in October at the Fall Classic. This is the final tryout stage, and the team will be selected in the Spring of 2024 to attend Hong Kong August 15th-25th, 2024.

Men's U20 Field National Development Program camp for 2025

In July the Men's U20 staff held a National Development Program camp in Oshawa, Ontario which brought in 245 players from around the country for this three-day event. National Team coaches and players were from the present U20 staff, Gary Gait, John Grant Jr, Shawn Wilkins, Mark Miyashita, Andrew Dowdell, Senior Men's staff from San Diego, Matt Brown, Merrick Thomson, Taylor Wray, Dan Coates, Dan Carey (GM) and former players Kevin Crowley, Tracey Kelusky, Brodie Merrill, Caleb Creaser along with members of Provincial High performance staff, Jason Rudge (Ontario), Greg Bradley (Alberta) and referees were brought in from other provinces.

There were also a large number of attendees from NCAA schools that sent coaches from the following schools, Denver, Syracuse, Virginia, John Hopkins, Rutgers, Albany, Brown, Utah, RIT, Marquette, Vermont, Robert Morris, Canisius, St.Joe's, Cleveland St, Umass Lowell and many more.
Ontario Lacrosse Association declined to provide referees for the event in Ontario.

National Championships

In 2023 we returned with all National Championships but the Ross Cup. The Minor Nationals, Founders Cup, Jenny Kyle Cup, Minto Cup, President's Cup, Alumni and First Nations Cup and the Mann Cup covered the Nation from coast to coast this past summer.

Minor Nationals

This event was held in Regina, Sask from August 14th-19th and they hosted 7 divisions for the Minor Nationals, U13 Box, U15 Box, U17 Box, U15 Box Girls, U17 Box Girls, U22 Box Junior Women and the U13 Festival Girls.

The convenors of the event were Jody Schmeltzer and Marcus Fischer and the OIC's for the event were Matt Khalaf, Brendon Boyel and Dallas Lister. The host representative from Saskatchewan for the event was Bridget Pottle. Notables from the convenors report having all the age groups together in one location was a huge benefit. This created a certain buzz around the rinks, dorms, and hotels. It also allowed players to watch other age categories and learn from their experiences.

The opening ceremonies were excellent and there was a well-known lacrosse emcee announcing the dignitaries who were there to give welcoming speeches. Overall, the officiating was exceptional, the OIC's were phenomenal, and this allowed the convenors to deal with other issues that were brought



to their attention. We had a total of 38 officials, during the event every one of these officials conducted themselves professionally both off and on the floor

The level of competition varied through all divisions. The perennial contenders (BC, ON, and to a lesser extent SK) were dominant. This resulted in some lopsided games. Even in those games the play was still comparable, with the winner usually having slightly more refined skillsets. We ended up with a few ties in the standings. The tie breaker was applied to determine playoff potential. A recommendation was made. We would also love to see FNLA as a participant in next year's event.

Founders Cup

This Founders Cup Jr. B Box National Championship event was held from August 13th-20th in Port Coquitlam, BC with 6 teams in attendance. The event itself was very well attended with several of the games having close to sold out seating capacity attendance. Games were well officiated, and the overall experience was very positive. The Convenor for the event was Terry Mosdell and the OIC was Andy Watson.

Convenor Report prepared by Terry Mosdell

PoCo Saints were the Host Association and Randy Clough was the Tournament Director. The Media Coverage was excellent. Can't say enough!

The games were covered by BC Sports TV and the top notch game coverage by play by play commentators Tino Fera and Jake Elliot. They also had a camera man walking around the outside of the playing surface recording game footage that was showed on the internet. Players and spectators enjoyed this immensely especially the play by play comments.

Photos were available from Bold Shelly Photography.

Awards

1st Team All Stars

Carson Wells Edmonton Warriors
Jared Maznik PoCo Saints
Hawi Francis Awkwesasne Thunder
Vance Adams Awkwesasne Thunder
Sebastian Simonson Edmonton Warriors
Rioux Johnson Onondaga Redhawks

2nd Team All Stars

Lynden Hill Onondaga Redhawks
Jaxon Lenz Queen City Kings
Ryan Oakes Akwesasne Thunder
Ryan Lowe Victoria Shamrocks
Nolan Ross PoCo Saints
Ben Royer Edmonton Warriors
Top Goalie Carson Wells Edmonton Warriors
Top Defensive Player Vance Adams Akwesasne
Top Offensive Player Hawi Francis
MVP Sebastian Simonson Edmonton Warriors



First and foremost – It became a very difficult task for the Convenor when all of the illegal participants issue arose and the LC Director in charge of National Tournaments had decided to take time off during the time that this tournament was occurring. The LC Director of Tournaments should be readily available for immediate contact and direction so that I could resolve all matters immediately. AJ was very helpful in his absence, and I very much appreciated his immediate responses.

The board needs to deal with eligibility so that no other Convenor runs into this problem. I am sure that this will be a topic of discussion at the AGM or SAGM.

OIC Report prepared by Andy Watson

The OIC Andy Watson reported At a Glance - Executive Summary I am proud of the crew that came together and excelled on and off the floor. I was so happy with the referees who all exceeded my expectations; every official left as a better referee and a better person. It made selections for the final day very challenging but that is a nice problem for an OIC to have. All told, the final games on the final day all went very well and the pairings of the officials on floor - all three-ref mechanics with a standby - performed above the standard. As an aside, of the eight referees in attendance, four were hired by the National Lacrosse League (Director of Officiating Don Koharski was present), and two were already on staff. The other two are on the radar for the development league.

Recommendations

1. Every national championship at the senior level should utilize a three-referee mechanic and every referee clinic held at the senior level (L3 and up) should include three-ref mechanics. A prerequisite for application should be experience in a three-referee system. The game is too fast, physical and challenging to officiate in a two-referee mechanic. There is no reason we cannot move to this and build in year-round training to be successful. Accordingly, this should be budgeted to ensure three referees are on floor and a fourth is in the box as standby. Ultimately, it comes down to player safety, accuracy of calls, and the need for long-term official development to ensure our top officials leave a national championship with something that can help to take them to the next level at semi-professional, professional, or international events (at which a threereferee mechanic is the norm).
2. Every coaches meeting should start with a territorial acknowledgement - I included one in my update but the host should have started with one. That needs to be a prerequisite for national championship coach and manager meetings moving forward.
3. We utilized a team feedback form to allow coaches and team representatives to provide feedback to the official in charge throughout the week. This proved to be an effective tool for two-way communication and built trust between the teams and the OIC for the week. It also facilitated discussion between teams.
4. One official, from the FNLA, was unable to attend the event because his travel documentation did not meet Transport Canada requirements (e.g. it was not an enhanced ID). Moving forward, every national championship application needs to confirm sources of ID required for officials and officials must acknowledge they have appropriate documentation. It was very unfortunate for Trent who would have fit in well with this crew - we were able to bring in an alternate the day before the tournament (Nathan Chiasson) but only because we were organized and were able to bring in another local-area official. Trent is Indigenous and resides in Upstate New York; he had no issue



crossing the Canada-U.S. border with his paper ID, but the airlines would not honour it to board his flight. Unfortunately, this is systemic racism in its truest form.

5. Lacrosse Canada staff availability should be communicated out to OICs and other reps. The unavailability of both the director of national championships and the travel lead at the same time in a week of a national championship beginning is a recipe for problems. If they are off - and they do deserve time off when they need it - there should be a clear back-up contact who can perform those duties. I did not find out they were both away until Terry (director of national championships) sent an email the day before he was off. When we needed after-hours support with the travel issue noted above, I was unable to reach an appropriate Lacrosse Canada contact in a timely manner, forcing us to make best-informed decisions (which, thankfully, worked out for the best). This is not an individual's fault, per se, but a systemic issue which should be considered for future national events.

6. Jerseys were great, but a second jersey for each official should be made available and extra back-up sizing should also be available on site. We had one referee get blood on their jersey and needed to be creative in rotating and then washing to make sure we had the referees on floor in uniform. This is especially important in LC national championship events when two-a-day assignments are a reality.

7. Per diems for officials do not factor in time away from work; I think a review of the per diem for officials is overdue. On top of that, when officials are spending the day at the arena, it helps to cover other costs that come up with that.

8. In all national championships, every effort should be made to avoid having officials stay at the same hotels as teams; when this is not possible (e.g. in smaller host cities), there needs to be a clear protocol developed for officials and teams (coaches, players, parents, management etc...) to mitigate potential issues. Especially hotels with bars or adjacent facilities where alcohol is served.

9. I believe a couple of templates can be developed for future OICs and I would offer the documents that both myself and Dale Sett (President's Cup OIC) drafted this year to serve as templates. I would be most honoured to create a minimum standards templated document for updating each national championship by the OIC. This could be used at both the minor and senior level. Along with this, a template on things to address at coaches meetings should also be provided to future OICs.

10. I would like to applaud both the host committee (led by Randy Clough) and the Lacrosse Canada convenor (Terry Mosdell) for their professionalism and organization. They made my experience as an OIC at the event seamless and enjoyable. They are both consummate professionals and should be considered for future events. The minor timekeepers, generally, did a fantastic job, in particular Ashley da Silva.

11. The streaming of the games by BC Sports TV is the new standard that all national championships should aspire to. From a refereeing standpoint, the ability to watch games for officials across the country - without having to pay the fees we see with Mann and Minto Cup - and learn and watch is so crucial to our long-term development. Hosts should be encouraged to make streaming accessible and available for all - but if charging, officials at the event must have access to film for assessment purposes. We built in self-assessments for the week and it was a useful tool for the officials to complement their written evaluations. Hats off to the platform also being hosted on YouTube which allowed me as the OIC to clip things live and send to officials immediately after games for review.



12. Food and water/granola bars were available for grazing throughout the day which saved officials the effort of having to leave the site for nutrition. This should be the norm and standard for future national championships - including a fridge in a dedicated ref locker room.

13. Recognition is lacking for officials who reach this level of their officiating career; while players, coaches and administrators are honoured for reaching these events, I often find it hard to determine which officials are selected for national events. I think we need to start publishing this to the Lacrosse Canada web site; I would be happy to work with the LC communications department to develop a template and simple strategy to make this easy.

14. Building on the point above, it would be useful to have a historic record of referees who officiating national championship; not only for recognition of those officials who have done multiple events but to support applications for higher-level tournaments and to support historic efforts for things like applications for halls of fame, sport awards and lifetime achievements

Jenny Kyle Cup

The Jenny Kyle Cup was held from August 1-3rd in Montreal Quebec. The Convenor for the event was Paul Magnan and the OIC was Hanna Burnett and Norman Cedillotte was the host of the event.

Convenor Report prepared by Paul Magnan

The Convenor reported that the OIC Hanna Burnett held a pre-tournament rules meeting on zoom on July 26th. Hanna was very informative, responded to many questions. It was awesome! Great way to grow the game! We played the first three games of the day outside on Day 3 due to impending weather and a Tornado watch. We moved inside for the last three games of the day.

All teams on the field after the Gold Medal game.

Norman Cedillotte was the host of the event and gave a number of thank you's. I did as well.

We jointly handed out the medals:

Bronze - Alberta

Silver - Ontario

Gold - BC

The convenor presented the Jenny Kyle Cup and banner to the captains from Team BC

Recommendations

1. I never did get a signed official roster from the host FCQ. The Host MA needs to be involved in the planning and execution of a National Tournament!
2. Transportation needs to be improved.
3. If hotels could be closer to the fields that would be better.
4. Individual awards and all-star teams need to be presented at National Tournaments
5. We need to do a better job with Social Media at Minor Nationals. Unfortunately, when the host does not do this, it looks bad on LC.
6. LC needs to consider how to get a staff member at each National tournament.

OIC Report prepared by Hanna Burnett



Hanna Burnett the OIC reported

The biggest issue was the distance between the hotel/accommodations and the field (25 minutes plus traffic at some peak travel times). It resulted in transportation issues that translated to very long days for the officials, and frustrating bus rides between two teams set to compete against each other, or who had just competed against each other.

I understand that provinces pay for things like transportation, but from an optics standpoint for a Lacrosse Canada event, there are often lots of things to be said about what (we assume) “the boys” experience vs. what the girls side experiences. 7 Teams and officials having to share a single bus at the U19 level, that was rarely on-time, was an unfortunate talking point throughout the week.

Women’s cut uniforms would be appreciated in future years. Swag is one way in which women officials are often left feeling like an afterthought when it comes to these events. I am not aware of any women’s officials receiving any Lacrosse Canada swag for having participated in a Jenny Kyle Cup previously but have seen other officials get gear for working in lesser events (meaning less prestigious), so that is often also a tough pill to swallow. The only event that I am aware Women’s officials were given any swag was at World Cup 2022 (because I was one of the lucky few!).

Minto Cup

The Minto Cup was held in Edmonton from August 18th-27th. The host contact for the event was Jamey Bowen and the convenor was Paul Magnan.

Convenor Report prepared by Paul Magnan

The convenor reported that the Miners organization did an excellent job headed by Jamey and Clara. They had more than enough volunteers. They provided game day hosts who were at the pre-tournament meeting and catered to all the teams. They sold Minto Cup swag, held 50/50’s, did Frisbee tosses and held a Beer Garden just outside the area.

HBN Live steamed the games. I was very impressed with the coverage, play by play, multiple cameras, etc the complaint I heard was that it cost too much! The **RIC/OIC** was Dave Westwood I found Dave to great! He listened attentively at the post game meetings and he also tried to give explanations and feedback. Dave was consultative with me and I think we worked very well together. Dave held regular meetings with his crew of six officials. The officials were not the reason for any team winning or losing a game. Good job!

The host had arranged for a committee (the Press) to pick the All-Stars and two league awards. These awards were presented by Jamey (Host), myself and AJ (Director of National Championships). Our two League Commissioner’s were invited onto the floor but not involved in the awards presentations.

Recommendations

- 1) League personnel should not approach the OIC during a game.
- 2) That post-game meetings continue with the expectation of clarification
- 3) That pre-game meetings occur with head coaches. Head coaches do not attend post game meetings and messages do not get forwarded on. Head coaches before the game are very receptive to a conversation. (not so much afterward)
- 4) If at all possible an LC staff member should attend to help with Social Media.



OIC report prepared by Dave Westwood

The 2023 Minto Cup, hosted by the Edmonton Miners at the Bill Hunter area in Edmonton, was largely a great success and an excellent advertisement of the highest level of Junior Box Lacrosse in Canada, and the world. Issues that arose included: standardized rules, standard of play, understanding of feedback processes, and referee reimbursement - both by the host committee and by the MA's. During the event, the host committee was extremely attentive, cooperative, and accommodating, and they should be commended on their successful implementation of the tournament.

Timelines & Communication The reason for the timing of this report being much later than the event is that I was waiting until the officials had been fully paid for their games, time, and expenses.

Unfortunately, not all officials have been paid at this point; over two months after the conclusion of the tournament. My recommendation for future Minto tournaments is to have the Lacrosse Canada office handle payments to officials, booking of hotels, and flights, and then invoice the respective leagues/MA's. Receiving the flight/travel and hotel information from the three individual leagues was a difficult process that took until days before to complete and would be streamlined by using the LC office to coordinate. I was also not booked a hotel room and was advised a subsidy would be provided in lieu of the room, which LC denied after the event. Clear expectations need to be reviewed with the host committee on what they are responsible for.

1) FACILITY REPORT: For Each arena: Bill Hunter Arena 1) Team Dressing Rooms / Visitor and Home Bench Areas including access to the floor - Teams had some concerns about the location of rooms in relation to one another. The tournament committee elected to keep the four participating teams on the south-side of the arena, in designated rooms, which were much newer, in better condition, and provided easier access from the main entrance. 2) Referee Dressing Room including access to the floor - The referee room was away from the teams (west side of the building, approximately halfway from the hallway beginning to the south-side player's bench). No issues, as there were four methods to get to the room from the main entrance to playing-level 3) Arena Markings and dimensions; ie. back of crease area. - The arena used the old Calgary Roughnecks turf, which did not include the dotted 24-foot line, and caused us to treat cutting through the crease by an offensive player differently than how officials would in a facility that had the 24-foot circle. The face-off restraining lines, face-off dot, and centre-line matched what the teams had played with all year Nets ie standard size and appropriate mesh - Standard size, appropriate mesh, no goal or potential goal/safety issues Boards, Doors, Glass, Mesh or netting Padding on Glass Corners - No issues Location of the Benches - Benches were located on the same side (west) with a minor difference between the two doors closest to the centre, where one team was approximately 6-8 inches closer to the centre-line. - Both benches had equal-sized exchange boxes, both larger than typically used in non-NLL marked facilities. Location of the Penalty Box Area Timing Equipment: Main Clock, 30 sec Clock, Back up two stop watches. - Penalty bench was located across from the players' benches, enclosed by glass. Minor issues with the 30-second shot clock resetting the south and north shot clocks simultaneously (under 10 in the tournament). On-floor officials were aware, and the 30-second operator was able to indicate which clock was correct by pointing at it.

2) PRE-COMPETITION MEETING: 1) Team Representative List and Officials List – inc. address and telephone #: - Unrecorded by OIC. Due to air travel issues, I was the MC at my sister's wedding during the meeting, as the meeting was moved so all teams could attend. 2) Introduction of Officials - Not needed



3) Introduction of Team Representatives - Facilitated as questions began

4) Lines of Communication: Team Representative - LC Convenor - RIC - Officials - Our conveyor, Pual Magnan, was an expert communicator and set the expectations clearly, so they could not be misunderstood. Complaining about where an official was from was not tolerated, and all conversations were to be on the floor pre-game between the coaching staff, Paul, and myself. All post-game conversations, set to be 15-20 minutes after the conclusion of the game, included no more than two representatives on behalf of each team. In almost all of the meetings, this was the league representative and the manager or assistant manager of each team. On two occasions, a league representative needed to be reminded that yelling at the OIC from the stands, or walking from the stands, was not appropriate. On one occasion, a head coach needed to be reminded of the same thing.

5) Emphasis on Rules and Interpretations: List of Rules Discussed and Interpretation Explained Other Issues brought up by team or officials - An amalgamation and adaptation of rules from the three leagues was required prior to the tournament, and I took it upon myself to create this document, based on the resources sent to me through contacts in the various leagues. - The lack of a single authority on Jr A lacrosse rules makes the jobs of the officials much more difficult than required, and causes confusion and frustration by the participants, coaches, and fans - both in person and watching online - when situations are handled differently. - The LC rulebook needs to be improved to allow for a clear understanding for all participants to have the same expectations of situations that need to be addressed within the rulebook. With the level of sophistication, the players play with, and the unambiguous rules the NLL and WL play with, the rulebook continues to be an embarrassment to the sport. A full review is required to eliminate contradictory points - This causes frustration on the teams' part, when they are used to one league creating a set of rules that are not addressed in the LC rulebook, and another league uses another. The box committee needs to seriously consider the rule changes that were presented to them by the NOCP in 2015, or commit to not being the only member nation that does not primarily play with the WL or NLL rulebook for box lacrosse.

3) OFFICIALS MEETINGS: PRE-TOURNAMENT: - Issues discussed. - As indicated in the above-linked document - Risk reward play of crease-dives congruent with LC rules - Off-ball slashing - The directive that violent fouls are not optional and fouls on scoring chances must be called was given DURING TOURNAMENT: Issues discussed. - A leniency on the exchange box was requested by teams, and denied, as it was significantly larger than LC guidelines - Contact with the goalie/goal posts on "dunk" or "wrap" plays - A request from a team during the tournament to disregard the "fast restart" point of emphasis in the Jr A/Sr A playing rules agreement - A request from a team during the tournament to tighten the off-ball slashing standard - A request from a team to call embellishment penalties - An error was made in granting a team without possession of the ball, or in a dead-ball situation a timeout. The rulebook proved to be ambiguous in language to allow this and needs to be changed.

4) TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE: 1) Games and officials assigned to the game. - No issues, all referees met or exceeded the expectations of the convenor and OIC 2) Daily Game Assessments - Completed via a Google Keep document, which was then sent to the officials in the shared WhatsApp group message. Additionally, conversations were had by phone, in person, and text messages with individuals during the tournament, as needed. All participants were receptive to the conversations. a) The complexity for each of the games. - All games were highly intense, reflecting the stakes of the tournament. Games were very competitive, with one notable exception on Day 1. Games presented as physical and the officials did an excellent job of keeping the standard of play within the acceptable parameters. Players were allowed to compete but were not entitled to cheat by inflicting more



damage or injury on their opponents than is permitted by the rules. - The message sent to the teams from the very beginning was that violent penalties and penalties on scoring chances were going to be adjudicated appropriately at all times. The score of the game and time of the game would be irrelevant in assessing penalties that were violent or on scoring chances, and the teams needed to be prepared for this. b) Officials Assigned, Evaluations / Assessment - The officials for the event were: - BCJALL - Cam Comeau - OJLL - Jon van der Geissen - RMLL - Tanner Fetch, Lane Hartung, Wes Kendall, Sean Reid c) Minor Officials Assessment - Shot Clock Operator - Very few issues with the shot clock operation. Throughout the entire tournament, there were three errors where the shot clock was reset incorrectly, through 1000's of resets. The operator is a high-level ALRA and RMLL official. - Mechanically, the Shot Clock wireless remote needed to have new batteries inserted each day of competition. The receivers for the individual clocks, which were set to the same frequency, were at the limit of what the remote could consistently broadcast to. Recommendation passed onto the RMLL and host to revamp the system or find a way to enhance the receivers/remote's capabilities. d) Major Game issues that resulted as part of the games. - Inconsistencies in the rulebook and a lack of a completely unified set of Jr A rules throughout the country necessitated a separate document be created for all teams and official reference. - The rulebook itself does not adequately use consistent language, which resulted in a time-out being granted where the defensive team, who was not going to be given possession of the ball, was able to use this time to change players, at a pivotal point in the game - As the tournament progressed, the officiating staff could have assessed embellishment penalties and were asked to do so, when players made the contact look much more significant e) Any and all injuries to officials must be reported. - None to report - Host committee offered use of their trainer, as did all home teams for each game of the tournament.

5) PAY SUMMARY SHEET: 1) For individual officials: - All officials were paid their game fees at the rink. There is an outstanding pay discrepancy of the semi-final game that while the committee has receipts for, I do not have the signatures of the officials, or my copy of the receipts. This is the only game-fee-related issue, and is still being evaluated. This impacts Cam Comeau, Sean Reid, Wes Kendall, and Tanner Fetch (SCO) for a total of \$350. - Officials from the RMLL being reimbursed for non-game fees has been a continuous and ongoing issue. At the time of the final report editing (October 31, 2023), the four RMLL officials are yet to be paid totally by the host committee. At last communication, the Ontario and BC officials were also waiting on expense reimbursement. 5) INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION OF OFFICIALS 1) Official game evaluations. - Officials were given notes and evaluations throughout the tournament with timestamps for clips to be reviewed after the game - The exceptionally high-level quality of the broadcast, which I was mostly able to steam as the event was on, gave me the opportunity to watch and rewatch game events just after they happened, and again upon the review of each game. - Before game evaluation notes were sent to the officials (both in a public group chat and private messaging), I was able to rewatch the games the next morning. Viewing the game live, with instant replay, and then again the next day, allowing for very thorough and detailed feedback. 2) Summary evaluation of official performance through the tournament. - All six officials met or exceeded the level of performance required through the event. The top 5 separately themselves in terms of athletic ability, and of that group, the top three were very close. In the final series, I had no issue using the top 5 in Games 1 and 2, and the top 3 were primed for the deciding Game 3, if it were to have occurred. - Final evaluations have been informally sent to the home MA's of the officials, and formal ones will be sent soon.

President's Cup

On August 27th to September 3rd the Presidents Cup was hosted in Oakville Rock and Mike Hancock was the host, the convenor was Frank Lawrence and Dale Sett was the OIC.



Convenor Report prepared by Frank Lawrence

The convenor reported that a total of seven teams attended the Presidents Cup from CanAm – Tuscarora Tomahawks, Alberta – Edmonton Miners, FNLA – Snake Island Muskies , OLA – Six Nation’s Rivermen, and the Oakville Rock FCQ – Kahnawake Mohawks and BCLA – Ladner Pioneers. The skill level was phenomenal, the speed of the players could not be better and truly the best conditioned teams were winning their games as long as the goalie held his own. This event showcased lacrosse nationally.

Officiating, was good and handled well by the OIC Dale Sett. Dale had set firm guidelines and insisted the Referee’s follow them. All the teams had daily input regarding the Officials that had refereed their games.

Fortunately, because of the location being so close to Lacrosse Communities and the local radio stations CHWO 1250, CJMR 1320, JVI broadcasting with Brian Shanahan (winner of 5 Mann Cups during his Lacrosse career) broadcasting the games, along with poster advertising distributed and posted, the crowds were consistently good from day one.

The Presidents Cup 2023 Committee was led Mike Hancock. The working relationship with the group started more than two months before the event with many questions being asked and direction provided by both myself as LC Convenor and Lacrosse Canada Staff personnel. This communication provided great relief. Direction was received by LC in several matters, response from the MA’s and their respective representatives to any concerns were dealt with.

The enthusiasm of the host committee and the great numbers of reliable volunteers made this group successful in their bid to host any future national events.

All Star Teams: An All Star team was selected by the host committee:

FIRST TEAM ALL STARS

#61 Chris Attwood	Snake Island Muskies
#91 Justin Scott	Kahnawake
#29 Mike Triolo	Edmonton Miners
#21 Nick Miller	Tuscarora
#00 Cam McLeod (G)	Edmonton Miners
#17 Ryan Benesch	Ladner

SECOND TEAM ALL STARS

#67 Wayne Hill	Six Nations Rivermen
#16 Dan Litner	Oakville Rock
#84 Anthony Patterson	Tuscarora
#14 Joe Resetarits	Snake Island Muskies
#11 Layne Smith	Six Nations Rivermen
#97 Christian Del Bianco (G)	Ladner

Tournament MVP: #29 Edmonton Miners – Mike Triolo



Again, lots of talk by the public of teams having pro lacrosse players within their roster. The public feel that players from the respective teams should have priority of playing for their home team and if the team were allowed to pickup additional players, those players should not be pro but amateurs. In some provinces players must be registered by July 1st and play x number of games during the season. That x number of games varies depending on the province; thus it makes it unfair to have a pro player registered but never play during the season for that team and then attend a national championship. Ontario are unable to pickup any players due to their level of play within their province. Public perception is who ever has money will buy the best team. **Policies should be reviewed** to satisfy an equal balance.

OIC Report prepared by Dale Sett

Dale Sett-OIC reported This Presidents Cup was one of the best I have ever been involved with, from the host, LC Convenor, officiating crew, coaching staffs and players.

Recommendations

1. Per diem given to the officials, this was reduced by \$15 each day due to the fact the hotel offered a free buffet breakfast. Officials communicated their concerns to me directly, this meal is offered to every guest at this hotel, and they felt if they wanted to go elsewhere (i.e. Cora's) that they should have had the per diem to do so. Therefore, for this recommendation would be directed at Lacrosse Canada, not allowing hosts to reduce per diem based on hotels providing a buffet breakfast.
2. Per diem fee, should emulate or come close to the Government of Canada's rate, per diems currently @ 52% of this rate, this rate set as of April 1, 2021
3. Allowing 1 pass per official for family member, friend or so forth
4. The officials' dressing room to be large enough to host the entire officiating staff.
5. Separate broadcasting crews from LC representatives' office
6. Assistant RIC a. In Training at a reduced rate (14 hours in arenas makes for long days)

Alumni and First Nations Cup

The First Nations Trophy (U18) and Alumni Cup (U15) field lacrosse nationals were held September 1-3, 2023 in Cornwall, PEI. The Convenor was Marisa Di Bari, hosts were, Ryan Casey, Norm McQuirck, Brad Bissett and the OIC's were Ian Wilson, and Lawrence Zdrill.

Convenor Report prepared by Marisa DiBari

Overall, a great event. The hosts outdid themselves. They ensured that the event ran well, was on time and without major issues. They communicated information prior to the event and made sure that they were present for our group call and ready to answer any questions.



The games were good. Some scores were very one-sided, however, the teams continued to demonstrate their competitive nature. The pools seem to have been well matched in terms of where teams netted out in the end.

One thing that was an issue were the lack of TRFs brought to me at the coaches meeting and lack of communication from the groups that did not submit them in advance.

One negative thing that happened and needs to be addressed, is the email regarding social media and photography. The rude behaviour on behalf of an MA representative is disrespectful and needs to be addressed. I have provided the email to the LC office. Using an email regarding TRFs to personally vent on something is not the forum, nor the means to get anyone to work with that person to solve a concern. If an MA representative has a concern, the professional and respectful way to discuss this is to go to the host and the convenor first and not include all other MAs and cause chaos for no reason. A few MAs reached out to tell me they felt the behaviour and use of a very specific email to gain an audience for the purpose of making people look incompetent was inappropriate.

The Host committee was well organized and had numerous volunteers. They communicated with both me and the OICs throughout the day. The fields were in good condition, plenty of seating for fans, changerooms for teams as well as amenities – water, ice, drinks and medical.

A few teams were concerned about the pools and the over or underage exemptions, as they were not aware, but that is on their MA to educate them on those allowances.

A few things to note regarding who is/ is not permitted on the bench needs to be highlighted as some teams had “snack moms” and managers on the bench and were asked to return to the fan side.

Officiating was very good. The very experienced OICs worked with the crew throughout to ensure they had the right combination of officials on the games. They ensured that the games were under control and safe even when teams were looking like it could get a bit out of hand. The leadership demonstrated by the OICs, and coaches was very well received by the officials and many complimented having excellent feedback to work with and help improve their game.

They could have used maybe 4 extra officials to assist with a few injuries and the multiple games they had per day. The OICs communicated with me throughout the day, and we had meetings at the end of the day to discuss the next day schedule after pool play and going into the finals.

The OICs were great to work with. We did not have any complaints brought to me regarding officiating, rather compliments from several teams.

There was streaming at the Terry Fox fields, but not at East Royalty. This didn't come up as an issue but may need to be considered for future events.

The photographer onsite was great and provided excellent action shots of the event. I provided images to LC for posting, the host should have one designated person that could support social updates.

I provided updates to LC office for the scores, but believe the host was not aware that they could do this themselves.



PEI used their social networks to promote the event and provide scores and update:

http://lacrossepei.ca/page.php?page_id=129174

<https://www.facebook.com/LacrossePei/>

https://twitter.com/Team_PEI

The local news also featured the event:

<https://panow.com/2023/08/24/p-a-athletes-coaches-ready-to-compete-at-national-field-lacrosse-championships-in-pei/>

A few TV stations came out to film as well.

Recommendations

A few recommendations for next year:

- Have the MAs provide a contact that will communicate with the team and ensure that any schedule changes are confirmed
- Have an email address specifically for form submission – example – minornationals@lacrosse.ca – this way forms are submitted to one location as teams claimed things were sent and some of us did not receive the forms until minutes before the first games
- Ensure that teams have their TRFs submitted no later than one week prior to arriving onsite
- Although teams should know the requirements for bench personnel, ensure there is a document for them to know exactly who is permitted on the bench and what requirements they must have
- Require one representative from each MA to be at the coaches meeting, this will allow at least one person from the team to be aware of any changes or important information
- Provide the officials with a few more to their staff to account for any injuries and especially given the number of games throughout the weekend.
- The host not having a banquet was a great idea, the more social and less formal type event served this age group well and allowed teams to enjoy a more casual environment while still having the necessary presentations
- Try to not allow changes that create a domino effect to the other teams, although accommodations are sometimes necessary, making sure that the others are not drastically affected is more important
- The 3rd field was very useful for this event and the proximity to the main location was key, something to keep in mind for future events

OIC Report prepared by Ian Wilson

The OIC reported, overall, the facilities were excellent. The only real concern was the distance between Main fields (Terry Fox) and East Royalty field which made it challenging to shuttle officials back and forth. All other features of the facilities (nets, cones, balls, ball retrievers etc.) was excellent.

Summary and Recommendations

Overall, the tournament was a great success from the official's standpoint. There were fewer officials with World Championship experience than usual, and only a few officials had been to one National



Championships. Despite the relative lack of experience, the officials rose to the challenge and provided a high level of expertise and professionalism throughout the tournament. They responded well to the coaching provided and improved through the weekend. The following is some recommendations moving forward:

A) We need to change the Operations Manual to reflect the stature of the U17 tournament. At present it states only 3 officials per game while the U19 tournament gets the proper 4. We went ahead with 4 for all games at the host's request but it also meant that many officials had to do more games in a day than they should have.

B) Pay for games should be increased significantly. \$35/game it is not high enough for the calibre of game and the level of officials we need to attract. Neither of us can remember the last time the game fee was increased but suspect it has been well over 10 years.

C) Having no Per Diems for officials also should be changed. The fact that officials are expected to pay for meals out of pocket is not acceptable at National Championships

D) More officials are needed in the future. Clear guidelines should be developed for how many officials are needed based on the number of teams attending. MA's are allowed to send up to 2 officials per team but should be expected to provide at least 1 per team and then other MA's can send additional officials if needed. No official should have to ref more than 2 games in a day at a National Championship to maintain optimal physical and mental performance. At this tournament we had many officials who had to ref 3-4 games a day. We had 21 officials and should have 25. As well, we needed more officials coaches. It is very difficult to critique 6 games in a day and we were only able to provide overall feedback rather than official assessments. The officials welcome the coaching with enthusiasm and thus improve dramatically in a very short time. We only had 5 coaches but needed a minimum 7.

E) More clarity for teams on uniform colours may be needed. This was primarily an issue with some teams having shorts that are the same colour as the opponent's jersey. We are aware that each province has a primary colour that they are assigned but more direction might need to be given to address this issue as it can be confusing for players, coaches and officials.

F) In future, a tournament of this size should have either 3 very good fields at the same facility or, if only 2 fields, run an extra day. The games ran in 1 hour and 45 minute time slots. The first game started at 8:00am, Friday's last game ended at 9:15pm. Although we never fell too far behind, it could easily have been an issue. As it was, we had to ask for 2 teams willing to play a game on Thursday just so we could make the schedule to fit.

Mann Cup

The Mann Cup began on September 8th in New Westminister, BC. between the New Westminister Salmonbellies and Six Nations Chiefs. The convenor for this event was Dan Richardson and the OIC was Pat Differ.

Convenor Report prepared by Dan Richardson

The convenor reported being a first-time convenor I started to prepare immediately, reviewing the Lacrosse Canada Convenor Guide and the 2023 Mann Cup Agreement. WLA Commissioner Paul Dalmonte and Terry Rayner were extremely helpful throughout the process.

Paul Horn Host Convenor and Jamie Rennie Arena Manager were very good to deal with as was the City of New Westminister. Sept 7th the day before the Series started the City of New Westminister hosted a catered Banquet on Queens Park Historic Wooden Floor with over 120 people attending.

Both teams players coaches, management and support staff, representative for the 6 local Indigenous Nations were present, along with the Mayor and Council, Salmonbellies Alumni and Hall



of Fame Members, members of the Print Press and Local major news Global BC attended and interviewed players and coaches from both teams, great media exposure. Queens Park staff were excellent to deal with, decorated the facility with colorful bunting and addressed all special requests to accommodate SN merchandise area , provided power to visitors bench for fans, etc. The venue was clean and looked world class on the Mann Cup Webcasts

Attendance for the games were as follows.

1. 3300
2. 3330
3. 2900
4. 3360
5. 2670

Prior to the Series we had an enquiry from Lynn Withers from MSL stating Six Nations wanted to use Wooden Sticks. I referred them to the 2023 Mann Cup agreement signed by Lacrosse Canada, MSL & WLA Commissioners, OLA & BCLA Presidents where it clearly states Wooden Sticks can only be used by Goaltenders.

All games were broadcast on Play Full Screen and were available on the Salmonbellies or WLA webpage for a cost of \$19.99 per game. They used 5 cameras including a roving camera and the production came across on the webcast as first class. Viewership for the first for games were in the 1000-1100 range and game 5 was 1300. Local Newspaper Royals City Record covered the series daily as did the Vancouver Sun and Province Newspapers. Global BC TV had a cameraman and reporter at the Banquet and at each game and provided viewers with interviews and highlights nightly.

Social media from both teams and the WLA were extremely active providing great content and highlights throughout the series.

From the Pre-Competition right through the 5 game series Both Teams Personnel, WLA/MSL Commissioners, RIC, Host Convenor and Arena Manager were a pleasure to work with. We all worked together with a common goal of putting on a world class show and let the players on both teams decide the series. Congratulations to both the New Westminster Salmonbellies and Six Nation Chiefs for putting on a fantastic display of Lacrosse, the fans got their monies worth. From the Venue, Historic Queens Park Arena, the wooden floor , The Indigenous Drums, Queens Park Organist, the fans, and most of all the players on both teams put on a show of lacrosse for the ages.

I would like to thank Lacrosse Canada for the opportunity to act as this years Convenor for the 2023 Mann Cup.

The Six Nations Chiefs are the 2023 Mann Cup Champions and rightfully so, however the real winner is Canada's Official Summer Sport the Game of Lacrosse. Lastly a big thank you to the Army of Salmonbellies Volunteers who made this event happen.

OIC report prepared by Pat Differ

Facilities – Queens Park Arena and the wooden floor is simply the very best lacrosse arena in the country. New Westminster did everything it could to make sure this event was able to flow without incident as far as facilities. Officials dressing room was on the penalty box side with the New West dressing room down the hall further. There was one incident room wise after game 3 where someone locked the referees in the room with a padlock. It was cut off by arena staff and there were no further



incidents. This was a restricted corridor, and IF there had been a fire or a medical emergency of any kind in there that could have been real trouble.

Lots of room in the dressing room and a cooler with drinks was brought in before each game and appreciated. Suggest in the future the home team provide 3 or 4 towels each game as travelling officials could use the laundry help.

All arena equipment was working properly with nothing to report incident wise. Benches in Queens Park are really close and tight on line changes. Penalty box is located across the floor and is on the small side. There was a Six Nations person in the Visitor penalty box and he was asked to leave by the Convenor. That is not done here in the West but is common in Ontario. Not a problem.

Pre-Competition Meeting - # reps from each team, coach, one player and GM. Commissioners Lynn Withers MSL, Paul Dalmonte WLA, RIC and Dan Richardson LC Convenor. Paul Horn Pres Salmonbellies.

Officials as follows Josh Hiltz and Andrew Ecclestone from Ontario. Nick Thomas, Craig Baldrige and Cam Anderson from BC.

Off ball slash, low tolerance, goalie interference will be watched closely, crease plays – feet break the plane before the ball goes in, no goal. Check from behind 4 or 5 or 5 +game. Moving picks a bit tough to define, feel your way through them.

Same benches will be used for each game regardless of H or V status. Six Nations will exit dressing room and walk behind benches and out far gate to avoid and entry in the New West end.. This worked well. Typical feeling out process during first two games really.

Officials Meeting – Eastern officials arrives late (9:40pm) the night before the first game. Would suggest an earlier arrival so an officials meeting could be held the day before things start. I met with Western officials the night before and we went over a few things mentioned in the pre series meeting. Also, these referees have all worked together in the game so that is helpful. I felt we had a cohesive group for the most part.

Issues discussed were as follows – staying on things early, let them play but be quick on anything stupid, moving picks are very aggressive in the game today. Talk to the players let them know your limits early.

During the series meetings in the room were held before the game by me and as we got to “feel” the series unfold. Before the game lots of chatter among officials on game situations. Good sign. After each game a 10 minute review was enough. For the most part in any Mann Cup there will be back and forth things and my job is to listen to post game comments and be a sounding board. I must say that in this series there was no real issue with officiating brought to us by coaches or even Commissioners. The usual small stuff but this crew did a good job in each game. The first 2 or 3 games were chippy in nature, well controlled and the last two the teams were playing each other and not us so much. Games 4 and 5 were relatively easy to call compared to 1,2 and 3.

Stand By official was on the floor during warmups to keep an eye on things.



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Minor official wise the software program used by New West does not have a Gross Misconduct listed only Game Misconduct. The Messenger Gross Misconduct was announced as a double minor for holding and a game misconduct and there was some confusion with that call. Josh Hiltz was the referee who made the call correctly, and had to go back to correct the game scorekeepers announcement to be sure of the call. This was not corrected by the announcer and I believe this was a bit of a cause for concern for NW.

Individual Game assessments included in attachments.

This group of officials worked well in general. Not an easy thing to do in the 3-man system. They controlled the benches well on line changes and after goals. They were on top of too many men calls and were fair in their assessment and judgement throughout the series.

Officials were paid by Ken Thomas Treasurer by direct deposit after each game. Ken has an incorrect email address for Josh and that was corrected quickly and everyone got paid immediately following each game.

Ross Cup

This event was cancelled



Communications Coordinator Report Submitted by Kealan Pilon

Overview:

Lacrosse Canada has had a year that contained many different national events, as well as national championships hitting their stride again post covid. Our social presence grew exponentially this year. With lots of content for numerous events, our social medias have taken a major step forward thanks to video content, along with extended coverage of our national events.

Social Media

Our social media numbers have reached new highs in the past year. With the help of several National championships along with world championships. Our socials have reached over a million people. We plan to continue this climb by continuing to engage our community along with our MAs to showcase lacrosse across the nation. The numbers for our socials are below.

All numbers below are as of October 31, 2023, from October 1, 2022
Numbers are compared to the previous year during those same dates.

Instagram:

Followers: 20,004 + 7,002
Reach: 195,294 + 40.9%
Average interactions per post: 594 +69.7%
Highest Post Outreach: 33.9k (Josh Byrne Nike Video)

Facebook:

Followers: 10,477 +1,016 +68.2%
Reach: 226,200 +54.2%
Likes: 9,492 +37.9%
Highest Post Outreach: 11.2k Women's Box Team Staff

Twitter:

Impressions: 1.72 million + 220,000
Impressions Per Day: 4,196
Followers: 13k + 912

YouTube:

Views: 9.5k
Watch Time: 520.7 hours
Subscribers: 632, 143 New

In the new year we would like to increase our growth on all platforms. With goals of reaching 30k on Instagram, 15k on Twitter, 1k for YouTube, and 15k on Facebook. With new strategies and opportunities in the upcoming year, we are excited to grow our presence online. We see the need for a larger presence on YouTube especially, as we feel we can captivate a whole new audience to subscribe and follow along on YouTube. Including athletes in content creation through interviews, takeovers, and profiles engages them and overlaps their networks with our own, thus bringing us new audiences for us to attract. Along with having a proper showcase of both the women and the



men across the country playing lacrosse. We are happy with the growth made over the past year and will strive for more during the 2023/24 year.

Website:

RAMP interactive has successfully set up a fully bilingual site that can be switched at the simple press of a button. This was the first year RAMP websites had been used for National Championships. The results from this varied. Some of the sites were kept up and running and well, while others fell behind quickly, and were not held to any standard. Here at LC we are aware of the potential for a better solution when it comes to websites for these National Championships. In the new year we look to get rid of the idea that every National Championship has their own website, and instead bring these pages together where we see fit. This will be able to help smooth the process between Lacrosse Canada and the hosts of these National Championships.

Registration:

This was also the first year when using RAMP on a national scale for registrations. This technique helps us create a national database. This process will be reviewed and discussed to find ways to simplify registration for all parties. For being our first season with RAMP registrations, we were still able to start to build the database up, however this system gave many people headaches across the country, which we are aware of and plan to fix for 2024. Issues such as file uploads, and roster sizing was a constant issue, all of which will be reviewed with RAMP to take another step once again towards making registration as simple as can be.

Legends Of Lacrosse:

The fourth season of CLF's Legends of Lacrosse Talks went live on our socials and website from early January until early July. Episodes aired longer this year due to World Championships in San Diego, causing some delay on their postings. Short highlights of the interviews were posted on our social medias, followed by the full video and podcast being shown on our website.

Awards:

The 2022 Lester B. Pearson Award is awarded to an individual in recognition of their unselfish dedication and outstanding contributions of sportsmanship and distinguished leadership to the game of lacrosse and to the physical and mental development of young Canadians. This year's recipient was the late Cliff Pascas.

Next Steps:

This year our goal is not to simply maintain, but to take Lacrosse Canada to the next level. We plan to look towards other National programs across the country to see what techniques and strategies have helped them grow their online profile over the years. From this we hope to piece together ideas to help lacrosse grow. The inclusion into LA28 brings on many possibilities for lacrosse, the opportunity to showcase more of our national athletes, while also getting back to our grass roots, to help show kids can realize their Olympic dream in our sport. We will also continue working with the communications teams of MAs to amplify events and initiatives, as well as celebrating the good work our members are doing. While doing this we will continue to work with our MAs to find a sustainable process for extended coverage during our National Championships. Through these goals, we aim to



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develop the profile of Lacrosse Canada, demonstrating our diversity, passion, and dedication to the sport and general lacrosse community.



Minor Box Sector Chair Report Submitted By Marion Ladouceur

In my new role as LC Minor Box Sector chair my duties are to chair the LC Canada Games Committee, and the Minor Box Sector meetings.

Since the LC SAM in May 2023, there have been three LC Canada Games Committee meetings. Most of them have dealt with changes to the Technical Package which is submitted to Canada Games. To date Canada Games has approved the age category which will be U17 for Female and Male, with allowances for one year under and one year over. Some smaller MAs already have some additional allowances included in the package from the previous Games. There has been some discussion about the limitations of the under/over age players to some of the MAs. Wendy Dobbin LC Technical Coordinator has been working with the Canada Games reps to add an "Age Dispensation" Process and is currently working on the wording which will be added to the Appendices of the Technical Package.

The Coaching criteria for the 2025 Games have been approved as well. All Head Coaches must be Competition-Development Certified, and all Assistant Coaches must be Competition-Development Trained. As well as required additional modules that are stated in the package. Wendy has been working on the development calendar for Comp-Dev Clinics to start in January 2024 and end by December 2024. As well hold Multi Sport Cohorts for the additional modules that are required. The evaluations for Head Coaches will be planned January through June of 2025. Thanks to Wendy for all the great work.

Minor Box Sector meetings were held in June and October. The first meeting the Sector approved changes in Team Jerseys for the Minor Nationals. There were only a few changes to be made. I received mock ups with the colours and made a chart to be included in the National Championship Guide.

In the October meeting, rule changes and minor nationals were topics on the agenda. The LTAD committee's rule changes were presented to be approved for implementation in 2024. Concerns were expressed about the application of those rules to all minor age groups rather than starting at the lower age levels. Correspondingly, the members believed there was not enough time to prepare officials, coaches, as well as players to put these rules into practice in 2024. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to defer implementation of the rule changes until 2025. A sub-committee of 5 members was appointed to work together to come back with any appropriate changes or recommendations. They are to be ready to report a workable solution by March 2024, with monthly updates to the Minor Box Chair.

Review of the 2023 Minor nationals:

- o Well run tournament given the size
- o Not enough games for certain age groups
- o Time frame for hosting package
- o Discipline Process
- o LC representatives' support/attendance was lacking.
- o Use pool with previous tournament for rankings.
- o Tie breaker: when no ties allowed it's not an issue.
- o Eight days too long and too expensive



- Staggering age groups better for transporting to event.

Bidding process for Minor Nationals

- There should be a comprehensive bidding package that includes economic impact.
- Firm bid date.
- Bids submitted two years in advance.
- Split by age division/gender?
- Scheduling meeting for nationals

Discussion: What does Minor Box need from LC?

- SIXES – funding for MAs to drive the programs in their MA.
- Why no pillar for Grass Roots?? Strategic plan; no plan for 2028
- Support for promotional templates
- A live document of resources available for Minor Box
- Resources for officiating, coaching, and player development – virtual
- Scheduling meetings for national championships
- Create a marketing committee, to help LC in communication of their programs.
- Resources for addressing minority communities.
- LC involvement with Universities/Colleges

Our next meeting will be in March 2024.



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Major Box Sector Chair Report
Submitted By Randy Trobak

No report submitted.



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Women's Field Sector Chair Report
Submitted by Heidi Bates

No report submitted.



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Men's Field Sector Chair Report
Submitted by Dirk Rachfall

No report submitted.



**Sixes Sector Chair Report
Submitted by Wendy Cuthbert**

LA28! On October 16, 2023, the International Olympic Committee released the historic announcement that lacrosse will be included in the XXXIV Olympiad, Friday, July 14, 2028 – Sunday, July 28, 2028. Congratulations are in order for all of the people who have worked diligently towards this goal over the past several decades to realize this vision of the reintroduction of lacrosse into the Olympic Games. Sixes Lacrosse is the game that will be featured in LA28, and Lacrosse Canada, its Member Associations and the Sixes Sector have a lot of work to complete in the next five years!

World Lacrosse will have many requirements to meet over the next five years, which may include qualification events for the Olympic Games. If this is the case, Canada's inclusion in the Olympic Games may be not a given, and Lacrosse Canada will have to work diligently to ensure Canada's teams qualify. Lacrosse Canada and the National Team program will be paying great attention to these requirements and issues. Lacrosse Canada is working very hard to meet the criteria for membership with the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC). The Sixes Sector's role is to support these endeavors by creating the technical and competition infrastructure to support the development of Sixes Lacrosse across the country.

The Sixes Sector has started the groundwork for the technical development of athletes, coaches and officials. A starting point plan was created in May 2023 at the Lacrosse Canada semi-annual meeting. This includes pathways for certification of coaches and officials for the grassroots level. A pathway to high performance and Olympic participation needs to be developed.

An initial Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) program was created by the LTAD Committee as a starting point for the fledgling Sixes Sector, but we expect this will be reviewed and updated. We do not have a clear pathway for athletes to be the best players to be included in the 24 athletes at the Olympics, team-wise or individually. We must be prepared, provincially and nationally, for athletes who want to participate in lacrosse because of their interest in the Sixes game. How do we integrate Sixes Lacrosse into our current infrastructure to develop the best athletes for Olympic participation? For example, when a new-to-lacrosse athlete asks: "What do I need to do to become the best athlete I can in order to be one of the 24 athletes playing in the Olympics?" This pathway needs to be clear.

The Sixes Sector approved a national championship competition for Sixes Lacrosse starting in the fall of 2024, at U19 in both women's and men's divisions. These nationals are very important to the evolution of Sixes Lacrosse in Canada. Operating a National Championship will help to promote and develop Sixes Lacrosse across the country. Certification for coaches and officials is imperative to developing Sixes Lacrosse not only for national championships, but also for the Member Associations and the grassroots level.

This is an exciting time for lacrosse, and we should all celebrate this major Olympic milestone. However, there is a lot of hard work in the immediate future, and I believe the Sixes Sector is up for the challenge!



Coaching Committee Chair Report Submitted by Roxanne Curtis

Since the SAM - the Coaching Committee met virtually in September – great sharing of information across the country – successes and challenges in the coaching sector.

Continuing progress being made in these areas:

1. Coaching Clinics moving towards a “CORE” clinic for all items which are NCCP / LTAD / “common” to all sectors (pursuing virtual options), then ‘on floor/field’ will be by sector specific and must be in person
2. Increasing the number of Coach Developers across the country –
 - NB and BC have both made progress in recruitment & training of additional Learning Facilitators
 - MCD training – looking before end of 2023 to bring folks together
3. Reminder that this was passed at SAM2023 - Competition Introduction Coaching Stream is undergoing a revision process.

If the coach completed a Comp Intro clinic in 2023 the requirements are:

“in training” (attended clinic)

“trained” (clinic + completion of Making Headway AND completion of MED by December 2023)

“Certified” (all of above PLUS In Person Evaluation and Portfolio*)

*as found in the current Evaluation package

Rationale: portfolio of evidence & evaluation will provide growth plan for coaches

[this means NO SUBMISSION of the online workbook for those coaches who completed a clinic in 2023; no grand-fathering, prior to 2023 still expected to complete workbook]

An “expiration date” for workbook completion by coaches that completed the workshops prior to 2023 is still being discussed by Coaching Committee, after that date they will be required to complete the course again.

→The CAC report of impacted coaches to be shared with provinces.

4. In Person Evaluation Package for Competitive Introduction is being revised to reflect the statement above
5. CSG – Calendar of events is a work in progress



Officiating Committee Chair Report Submitted by Steve O'Shaughnessy

Our Officiating programs are led by Me as the Chair, Bryan Baxter as the VP of Domestic Development, Wendy Dobbin as the LC Technical Coordinator. We have a representative from each Member as part of the Officials Committee.

The Sectors continue are led by Adam Crowe as the OIC for Men's Field, Cheryl MacNeil as the OIC for Women's Field and Sean Lehman as the OIC for Major and Scott McMullen as the OIC for Minor Box Lacrosse. The SIXES Sector OIC's have been selected and are being announced at the October SIXES Sector meeting.

The 2023 Season had several International and Domestic Championships with Officials from multiple Members:

- 7 officials attended the World Senior Field Championship in San Diego in June
- 4 Officials attended the Super SIXES in Oshawa in October.

We hosted all our National Championships in 2023. 6 Minor Box, 4 Major Box, 1 Women's Lacrosse and 1 Men's Lacrosse.

- Minor Box Championships – All six Hosted in Regina SK
 - 27 Officials and 3 OIC's from 8 Members attended.
- Major Box Championships
 - Mann Cup (2) – BC – 5 Officials - 3 BCLA, 2 OLA
 - Minto Cup (3) – Alberta – 6 Officials – 1 BC, 4 ALA, 1 OLA
 - Presidents Cup (7) – Ontario – 8 Officials - 1 BC, 1 ALA, 2 FNLA, 1 SLA, 3 OLA
 - Founders Cup (7) – BC – 8 Officials – 1 OLA, 1 ALA, 1 SLA and 5 BCLA
- Women's Field Championships
 - Jenny Kyle Cup – Quebec – 5 Officials – 5 OLA
- Men's Field Championships
 - First Nat/Alumni Cups – PEI – 21 Officials – 1 NS, 4 NB, 1 QC, 4 BC, 2 ALA, 2 SLA, 7 OLA

There were several recommendations which came from the reports and we, as the Officiating Committee and the NOCP groups for each Sector will be reviewing what we can update and improve. We have held 3 committee meetings, 1 at the Semi-annual and 2 online since the last Annual meeting, We covered multiple topics, including:

- New and updated ways to make the overall learning experience better for the four sectors. We discussed the need to update the Clinic programs across the sectors:
 - Box suggestions:
 - Include more Video as part of the program.
 - Refresh all Box materials. This is a continuous process and is now with the two new RIC's and the NOCP for Box.
 - Updated use of a Learning Platform. Use Thinkific for a platform and look at Classmarker for a Standard online testing system.
 - Currently using Paper Testing in most MA's and some are using their own Classmarker to administer the testing.
 - Men's Field suggestions:
 - Updated materials, offering various ways to present in person, online via "zoom", in person but using Field and gym access, and/or a combination of all of this.



- The MF NOCP lead by Adam Crowe, did a deep dive into the MF Materials, and updated where applicable.
- Updated Video was pulled and created from the various World games we had video access to. 60-80 video clips were created.
- Access to an Online Learning Portal for learning (pre and post clinic) as well as online Testing. Can achieve this with a system like Thinkific.
 - We have implemented the Thinkific Learner Portal for the 2023 season for MF. It includes several pre-clinic modules and the post clinic exams along with a plethora of Video for situations and rules.
 - <https://lacrossecanada.thinkific.com>
- Women's Field suggestions:
 - Updated materials created with a 3-part Clinic.
 - WF NOCP updated and revised the material for the Clinics and included options for In person, Asynchronous (online learning) and ability for Online Webinar style learning where traveling a Learning Facilitator is not possible.
 - Updated need for ways to provide the Clinics via online Meetings, online Learning Portal and online testing, like Box and Men's Field
 - WF NOCP are delving into the use of the Thinkific Learning Portal but likely will not have it fully available for early 2023.
- For the New SIXES Sector, we have selected 2 OICs from the Sector to oversee the sector needs. They will announce in late October now that the Olympic Announcements have come out. Their meeting is Oct 26.
 - We are putting two Officials in Charge, one for Men's SIXES and one for Women's SIXES. This also aligns to the dual Chair roles with Wendy C and Randy.
- Recruitment and retention are a big issue across all sectors.
 - I was tasked at the 2023 Semi-Annual meeting to look at ideas and options for Recruitment and Retention. I forwarded this report and a 5-year plan to The Board for Review. The "almost ready" report is at the end of this report as an appendix 1
- Better overall communication from Top down
 - Communication for the sake of it is not exactly the best option, but the Chair recognizes the Members request for continued communication and will do what is in the best interest of Officiating across the country.
 - We continue to provide updates and details from Lacrosse Canada through Email notices and through Online Notices on the Website and through Socials.
 - As communication regarding officiating opportunities comes available, we will get them out to the members asap via email and post online on Website and Socials.

There are always areas of improvement and am always open to have conversations around new approaches. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions and comments.

You are always a student, never a master. You must keep moving forward.



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*Appendix 1 – Recruitment & Retention (located at end of Reports Section.



LTAD Committee Report Submitted by Duane Bratt

The LTAD Committee (Duane Bratt, Wendy Dobbin, Bryan Baxter, Roxanne Curtis, and Steve O'Shaughnessy) have been very active in the 2022-2023 period. There were two major items that they focused on: minor nationals and physical contact in box lacrosse.

First, was a report on minor nationals. A draft report had been previously discussed at the Lacrosse Canada SAGM in May 2022 and this led to revisions that resulted in a final report. In preparing this report, the committee members were joined in their deliberations by Lacrosse Canada Director for National Championships AJ Jomha. The final report was presented for ratification at the three sectors meetings during the Lacrosse Canada SAGM in May 2023. It was ratified by both the men's field and women's field sectors, but was defeated at the box sector.

Second, was a report on physical contact in box lacrosse. A draft report had been previously discussed at the Lacrosse Canada SAGM in May 2022 and this led to revisions that resulted in a final report. The final report was ratified, with some amendments, at the minor box sector. Unfortunately, because of some scheduling issues, the major box people had left, therefore we could not present to the major box sector.

After ratification, the committee spent the summer starting the implementation of reducing the amount of physical contact in minor box lacrosse. In particular, eliminating off-ball contact and have graduated on-ball contact at the U-11, U-9, and U-7 divisions. Step one was revising the box lacrosse rule book. This is because the other implementation tasks – coach training, officials training, and a communication plan – could not occur without changes to the rule book. In revising the rule book, the committee members were joined in their deliberations by Rick Phillips (Ontario's Coaching Director), Marion Ladouceur (Minor Box Sector Chair), Scott McMullin (OIC for minor box), and Jeramie Bailey (Ontario Executive Director). In addition, draft rule changes were circulated among other coaches and officials for feedback.

During a special minor box sector meeting on October 18, 2023, the final set of proposed rule changes was presented for ratification. There was a 90 minute discussion over the proposed changes. Unfortunately, some of the participants did not want to discuss the wording of the rule changes, but the overall idea of reducing physical contact in minor box lacrosse. Others, especially myself, believed that debate had been concluded at the LC SAGM in May 2023 with the ratification of the high-level document. There was a clear division among the members of the minor box sector. At the end of the day, a motion was passed to delay implementation until the 2025 season. In addition, a sub-committee from the minor box sector will join with the LTAD committee to develop an implementation plan (including the wording of the rule book) for a March 2024 minor box sector meeting. It is my hope that this delay is to get things right (particularly coach/official training and creating a communication piece for clubs and parents), as opposed to a strategy to scuttle efforts at reducing the amount of physical contact in minor box lacrosse.



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Equipment Safety Committee Report
Submitted by Chuck Miller

There has not been much happening currently since covid, there are a few things to look at. Goaltending equipment on the men side we should be okay going forward less than 5 coming in verses 120 previous. Goaltending women we need more time to see if any changes needed, we do not have enough information at this time.

Helmets and face masks at this time are okay although CSA has to be renewed next year. There is some equipment we must look at and consider, men's field chest area, women's field safety glasses and headwear. Box Lacrosse there are no issues that I am aware of.



Gender Equity Committee Report Submitted by Donna Goguen

The Gender Equity Committee resumed meetings on ways to help increase equitable participation in lacrosse in Canada for all genders. Of note since the SAM is that Lacrosse Canada will be in the winter cohort for Canadian Women & Sport Same Game program, starting in January, 2024. We feel that this is a good next step to increasing education and awareness on this topic within our NSO, and eventually, to the lacrosse community in Canada.

This summer, I wrote a grant application for federal funding (CSIA) to provide NSO programming targeting under-represented groups. While gender equity is only one of several groups considered under-represented in sport, generally, it seemed a good idea to try to find alternate sources of funding to help advance the cause for LC and in partnership with our MA's. We have not heard back on this funding, but it is a worthwhile experience to submit these applications so that we are better able to submit strong grants for funding in future.

As you know, our committee is structured differently than most LC committees. We have a broad demographic of women from across the country with experience in all participant groups and sectors of our sport here in Canada and even internationally. At our meetings, we continue to share the stories and programs each MA is doing to provide more opportunities for girls and women to play lacrosse. We know there is still a lot of work to be done.

If we want to grow the game for women and girls, as well as all under-represented groups, particularly in our small MA's, the resources our committee will continue to work on, will be valuable. We currently have a working group addressing pathways for girls toward high performance, within Canada and internationally, that includes important academic considerations, and not only from viewpoint of playing the game, particularly at the university level.



Canadian Lacrosse Foundation Report Submitted by Jim Burke

The purposes of the Foundation are:

- (a) To advance the public understanding of the role of Lacrosse in the history and cultural development of Canada;
- (b) To educate and instruct Lacrosse coaches and officials on the rules of the game and player development;
- (c) To provide Lacrosse programs to support the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities and troubled youth; and
- (d) To receive or maintain a fund or funds and to apply all or part of the principal and income therefrom, from time to time, to qualified donees under the Income Tax Act (Canada).

Investment Portfolio Results

As I write this report, we have not received our quarterly report for the period ending September 2023. In June 2023, we had a balance in our portfolio of \$3,123,665 and made a second advance to Lacrosse Canada of \$245,725 in August. As of October 16, 2023, the investment portfolio is worth \$2,778,724.

Most of the same economic conditions that we described in our May report continue to exist in the current market. High interest rates combined with an over-target inflation rate have combined to create uncertainty in the market. The war in Ukraine continues in its second year with no immediate end in sight. The recent problems in the Middle East have added to the uncertainty as this area is seeing increased conflicts. The political situation in the US has also increased uncertainty in the market as that country continues to be divided into two polarized camps. The result has been a very choppy market with results moving up and down based on the focus of the news of the day.

We have sufficient funds in our current account to meet all our current obligations. We have available cash flow to fund the Foundation projects for the coming year but will need to go back to Cardinal Capital for any further Lacrosse Canada requests. We continue to generate dividends and interest earned at a good rate despite the reduced portfolio balance. In the last four quarters, we have generated dividends and interest of \$115,619 and this would match our current quota distribution requirements.

Update on Activities for 2022/2023

Canadian Lacrosse Foundation Project – Lacrosse Talks and Video Project – Approved \$30,000



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The Foundation completed their program for 2023 and released the additional content on a weekly basis this year.

All expenses have been paid.

N60 Wellness Project – Approved \$72,425

We have been working on this project for a couple of years and it was delayed by COVID. Modelled after the program featured in the movie “The Grizzlies,” this project will introduce a wellness program for the youth of Nunavut using the game of lacrosse. The intent is to develop an intramural lacrosse program in three communities to provide the youth with an activity to develop their physical and mental well-being. We have developed a relationship with Hockey North through their Executive Director, and he is an active member in the roll-out of the program. We are looking at starting the program in Rankin Inlet this fall and then complete the rollout to Iqaluit and Kugluktuk by the spring of 2024. It is hoped that the local champions will commence play in the spring of 2024.

Kingston Project - \$8,300

We have been working on a project with a historian in Kingston to recognize the first organizational meeting of the sports governing body now called Lacrosse Canada. The meeting was held in Kingston in 1867 and led to the formation of the first sports governing body in Canada and the adoption of the first rules for the game. We have received notification from Kingston city council that this project has been approved. We are currently working with them to finalize the location of the bench in a new location near the current hockey bench that recognizes the first hockey game played in Canada (this has been disputed by other locations



First Nations Lacrosse Association Report

In 2023, the FNLA had 3 very competitive leagues under our umbrella, and we made great strides in terms of growth & expansion. We welcomed a resurgence from the Three Nations Senior B Lacrosse League. Both of our Sr B league's championships went the distance, being decided in the final game of each series. Our Jr B division welcomed a new team and saw very tight competition between our 3 returning teams. We are currently in the beginning stages of developing both a women's and field sectors.

The Three Nations Senior Lacrosse League welcomed 3 additional teams in 2023, 2 of which moving over from neighboring Sr B leagues and 1 expansion team. The Akwesasne Bucks moved over from the CanAm Lacrosse League and the Capitol Region Axemen moved over from the Quebec Senior Lacrosse League. The Cornwall Island Redmen were a brand-new franchise in 2023 and we couldn't be more pleased to have them! The TNSLL had a very competitive summer that saw an upset by the Snake Island Muskies in game 7 of the final round to punch their ticket to the President's Cup. The Muskies had a very strong showing at the President's Cup before the injury bug got them, taking their star goaltender out of the tournament. The Muskies were still able to pull off a 4th place finish. The TNSLL was home to a lot of great lacrosse players this summer and we hope to see them all back again next year! With a newly formed league board, we are eager to see the TNSLL continue to grow in 2024!

The CanAm Lacrosse League saw parity across the board for the first time in a long time as a last place team made it through a grueling post season and took home the CanAm Cup for the first time ever! With the Akwesasne Bucks moving over to the TNSLL and 2 teams withdrawing from the league, the CanAm was down to only 5 teams this summer but the on-floor product was the best it's been in some time! For the first time in their history, the Tonawanda Braves took the 1st overall seed into the playoffs, but were knocked off by the eventual champs, the Tuscarora Tomahawks. Tuscarora and the Allegany Arrows played a final series for the record books as the games went back and forth before needing overtime of game 5 to crown a champion. Tuscarora claimed their first league title in 29 years and finally made their return to the President's Cup! As the story with the Snake Island Muskies, the injury bug came for the Tomahawks early and hit them hard, losing their starting goaltender, a top 2 scorer and one of their best defenders all in the first 2 games. Regardless of the injuries, Tuscarora still went out and battled each of their President's Cup opponents tough but we're only able to pick up 1 win through the round robin against Six Nations of the OLA. Over half of the CanAm regular season games and all but 1 post season game were streamed via YouTube by Blue Squatch Productions. In addition, Lacrosse TV carried the Blue Squatch feed on their networks, airing Box Lacrosse for their first time ever!

Our Jr B division welcomed the newcomers, Onesquethaw Smoke from the Albany Region. Returning for their 2nd season was the Tuscarora Tomahawks along with league mainstays, Onondaga RedHawks and the Seneca Warchiefs. The Tonawanda Braves took a leave of absence from the league in 2023 but still hold their league bond and will look to make a return in 2024. With top notch coaching across our league, we expect to see our players continue to develop into future NLL stars! Onondaga was able to prevail as our 2023 FNLA Jr B champs and made a strong showing at the Founder's Cup, qualifying for the Bronze Medal Game where they lost 12-8 to the host PoCo Saints. We are eager to see our Jr B league grow in 2024 as we expect at least 1 expansion team coming out of Allegany!



2023 saw some positive growth between our referees and league boards. We did have an incident in the CanAm where a referee was struck. Though the intentions of the player involved were not believed to be deliberate, both the CanAm and TNSLL boards stood firm on a lengthy suspension in attempt to discourage any other players from partaking in such hostile manners. Both boards' intentions were to make it clear to the players, referee abuse would not be tolerated as well as reassuring our game officials we will do what is necessary to keep them safe. We are very proud to announce one of our own, Herbie John, received the call from the NLL and will be attending the referee's training camp this fall! Herbie was also selected to attend the President's Cup from the CanAm where he had an awesome week which resulted in him being awarded the Bronze Medal game! We will continue to work with our referees through the offseason in attempts to grow a stronger working relationship between all parties involved.

Unfortunately, our Team First Nations had to withdraw from the Minors Nationals in 2023 due to costs. With a restructured board, TFN will be making a strong return in 2024!

As good of a season as it could have been for all of the FNLA members, we were reminded at Nationals of the attack on our traditional roots within this game as referees continue to make calls against our wooden sticks, trying to get them out of the game. It was clear at the Founder's Cup out west, wooden sticks were not going to be accepted on the floor. Numerous calls against the wooden sticks forced Onondaga to put them away after hearing on floor game officials make remarks over and over about them using wood. At the President's Cup in Oakville, it was clear the referees were not going to allow the same slash from a wooden stick as they were allowing the plastic ones to throw. This is a clear discrimination case against our people and our traditional roots by trying to force our traditional sticks out of the game. We are not going to allow Lacrosse Canada game officials to push this agenda against us without a fight. Let it be known, we will not put down our wooden sticks.

As a whole, the FNLA is very concerned about where Lacrosse Canada is headed in terms of the goaltender's crease. Too many players are taking advantage of the crease rules and our goalies are being put in unnecessary harm's way. Changes need to be made to the crease rules to protect our goalies and their futures in this great game. We should not be allowing players to propel themselves across the goal mouth in order to improve scoring angles. In addition, we should not be putting another discretion call on our referees for goaltender interference. It should be a clear rule that any self projection breaking the crease is not allowed. Another concerning point is the limit being put on pro players being used at the Sr B level. Most of our FNLA teams are home grown and develop our players into professionals. We should not have to pick which of our home-grown players we welcomed back the following season if we are over Lacrosse Canada's allowed limit.

As the First Nations Lacrosse Association continues to grow and develop in 2024, we strive to carry on our traditions and protect the integrity of our great game.

Submitted By:
FNLA Executive Board, James Rickard- Vice President



British Columbia Lacrosse Association

The BC Lacrosse Association (BCLA) members were in full swing all year.

Field Lacrosse - programming includes provincial championships at all levels. Team BC Field Lacrosse competed successfully at all Lacrosse Canada Nationals, as well as some select international tournaments. Registration is higher in all divisions last two (2) years and Minors are the same levels as pre-pandemic levels. Senior lacrosse is ~5% below 2019 levels.

Box Lacrosse – All the leagues operated in 2023 with full programming including provincials. Port Coquitlam Hosted the Founders Cup and New Westminster hosted the Mann Cup. Team BC Box lacrosse competed successfully at all Lacrosse Canada Nationals. Minor registrations are below 2019 levels.

Sixes Lacrosse – we had a group run a very successful sixes event in early September. We plan having more events in our sixes programming.

We welcome two new staff members – Jill Krop our Executive Director and Shannon Andres our Marketing and Communication Director. Veteran staff Deb Heard (Business Manager) and Dave Showers (Technical Director) continue serving our lacrosse members very well.

The BCLA and its' Directorates and Technical Support Groups had annual meetings and elections. The dedicated groups of leaders elected to run programming for lacrosse in the future of the BCLA are ...

Field Lacrosse

Chair – Beth McLucas

Vice Chair Youth Field – David Goulet

Vice Chair - Men's Field – Mary Clare

Vice Chair - Women's Field Lacrosse – Stacy Paterson

Secretary – Dylan Taylor

Senior Directorate

Chair – Dave Wilkie

Vice Chair – Terry Kirstiuk

Secretary – Wonda Warren

Minor Directorate

Chair – Gord McIntosh

Vice Chair – Dave Samson

Female Box Lacrosse Chair – John Hamilton

Secretary – Dee Bowley-Cowan

Coaches Technical Support Group

Chair – Russ Sheppard

Vice Chair – Senior Box – Dan Chetner

Vice Chair – Minor Box – Rob Arden

Vice Chair – Men's Field Lacrosse – Shawn Donahue

Vice Chair – Women's Field Lacrosse – Naomi Walser

Secretary – Mike Newton

Officials Technical Support Group.

Chair – Doug Wright

Vice Chair Women's Field - Angie Reid



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Vice Chair Men's Field Lacrosse – Ryan Nose
Vice Chair Minor Box Lacrosse – Dallas Lister
Vice Chair Senior Box Lacrosse – Andy Watson
Secretary – Cameron Anderson
Director at Large – Nick Thomas
BCLA Board
President – Gerry Van Beek
Vice President Administration – Nichola Manning
Secretary – Liz Hyland
Vice President – Operations – David Bensmiller
Vice President – Performance Programs – Tyler Codron
Vice President – Development - Terry Mosdell
Vice President - Technical Programs – Dennis Quigley
Director At Large – Rita Stroup

Yours in Lacrosse,

Gerry Van Beek – BCLA President.



Alberta Lacrosse Association Report

Dear Lacrosse Canada Executive, Board, and Members,

Here is the ALA's 2023 year at-a-glance:

Strategic Planning

In February we embarked on the task of creating a new strategic plan. We wanted to create a better thought-out and more applicable document to guide the organization. Since the creation of the document, we have worked hard to ensure the Year 1 Action Steps were completed on time with Year 2 underway.

Financial Management

The financial viability of the ALA is always the first consideration when completing tasks or starting new initiatives. To help ensure the financial stability of the ALA we have confirmed the 2024 casino and continue to an annual funding calendar.

We have spent the better part of the year working to overcome last year's financial missteps and now have the following in processes in place:

- Second approval required for all e-transfer payments.
- Automated payroll.
- Automated monthly payments.
- Reconciliation current to date.
- New Chart of Accounts implemented with our new fiscal year.
- New budget format.

In 2023, in addition to our annual operating grant and casino funding, we were successful in obtaining the following:

- CPRA Reaching Each and Every One: A Community Sport Intervention- \$6828 for Indigenous outreach in central Alberta.
- SPAR Sport Participation Support Program- \$40,000 over two years for Indigenous outreach in northern Alberta.

We approved a deficit budget for the year but have done better than projected in some areas, so we came out with a slight surplus.

Governance

Early this past year we updated and streamlined our regulations. The process included updating outdated language and references, removing redundancies and contradictions, and grouping similar regulations better. The purpose of this update and streamline was to keep our regulations current and make them easier to navigate.

This past year we also approved the re-creation of the Diversity and Inclusion (formerly Gender Equity) and Finance Committees, and the creation of an Indigenous Development Committee. All three will act as advisory to the Board on their respective focuses.

Registration

We saw growth across several minor age divisions this year, in both box and field.

Box



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Division	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
U7	841	634	423	557	671
U9	1290	1069	735	875	1225
U11	1523	1228	815	937	1209
U11 Female	242	155	72	88	113
U13	1499	1325	1004	984	1194
U13 Female	215	256	216	159	148
U15	1251	1170	901	880	972
U15 Female	284	243	160	228	239
U17	974	849	741	760	709
U17 Female	243	232	192	130	149
Minor Total	8362	7161	5259	5598	6629

Junior	814	563	744	806	861
Junior Female	164	132	131	178	140
Senior	438	153	265	413	414
Senior Female	97	27	35	27	6
Major Total	1513	875	1175	1424	1421

Box Total	9875	8036	6434	7022	8050
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Field

Division	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
U7	12	0	19	30	30
U9	61	0	33	60	95
U9 Female	12	0	6	5	22
U11	86	0	49	64	81
U11 Female	52	0	22	0	7
U13	100	3	77	109	99
U13 Female	0	1	0	27	15
U15	81	0	48	110	131
U15 Female	58	0	32	5	41
U17	134	0	0	51	90
U19	23	0	22	2	7
U19 Female	55	1	20	65	44
Field Total	682	6	414	528	662

Officials

Sector	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Box	503	641	124	438	372
Field	25	0	1	12	0



Development

U13 Player and Coach Development Clinics

Heading into the minor box season we hosted U13 player and coach development clinics in each of the minor box LGBs, except for Southern Alberta Lacrosse Association (SALA). The clinics were two days in length with alternating sessions aimed at developing U13 players and coaches. Between the four offered clinics the Technical Team reached 35 coaches and 95 players, mainly from the U13 division.

Stick Stringing 101 for Coaches

Prior to the season starting we hosted an online stick stringing clinic for coaches. 43 coaches from across the province registered, receiving NCCP Professional Development points upon request. The clinic will be re-recorded with better production at a future date and posted on AlbertaLacrosseTV as a resource for coaches.

Coaching Clinics

In 2023 the ALA supported the LGBs in hosting 29 coaching clinics, certifying 514 first-year coaches, and further certifying another 167 coaches. The clinics and coach evaluations were facilitated by nine different Coach Developers from across the province, including one that was certified as of this year.

Officiating Clinics

The Alberta Lacrosse Referees Association (ALRA), in partnership with the minor LGBs, hosted 24 officiating clinics, certifying 191 new Officials, and further certifying 174 Officials.

Official shortages continue to be an issue we grapple with and that we need to work to find a real solution for.

Lessons-in-Lacrosse, Lacrosse Literacy

In 2023 we spent resources actively marketing the ALA's Lacrosse Literacy (school) program. The program operated in Greater Edmonton, Greater Calgary, and Southern Alberta. We visited 123 schools reaching 650 students. This is in addition to the successful school programs Central Alberta Lacrosse League (CALL) and SALA also offer.

Heading into next year the focus of Lacrosse Literacy will be marketing to and serving schools in Greater Edmonton, Grand Prairie, and the Wheatland Lacrosse Association (WLA) region.

Lessons-in-Lacrosse, Lacrosse Roots

The bulk of the Lacrosse Roots work completed this year was preparatory for programming to be implemented next fiscal year. To set us up for 2024's outreach work we ordered equipment to create stick kits to be left behind in the communities we visit and started making contacts in various Indigenous communities and groups across the province.

Next year most Lacrosse Roots work will be in northern Alberta implementing the grant we received.

High Performance

Provincials

This year marked the return of a seeding-based minor box provincials' tournament in Alberta.

Alberta Summer Games



For the 2023 Alberta Summer Games (ASG) we had eight zones of 20 players and five bench personnel competing in Okotoks. After a weekend of great lacrosse Zone 2 left with the gold.

Nationals

This past season the ALA showed its support of the Lacrosse Canada (LC) Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) plan and only sent teams at the U17 age division and above to national championships. Here is how each fared:

- U17 Men's Box Team Alberta placed 3rd in the Tackaberry Trophy in Regina
- U17 Women's Box Team Alberta placed 3rd in the Dorothy Roberston Trophy in Regina
- U22 Women's Box Team Alberta placed 1st in the Carol Patterson Trophy in Regina
- U17 Men's Field Team Alberta placed 9th at the Alumni Cup in PEI
- U19 Women's Field Team Alberta placed 3rd at the Jenny Kyle Cup in Montreal

In addition to minor nationals, Alberta lacrosse was represented at the following Major championships:

- The Minto Cup, by the Calgary Mountaineers and Edmonton Miners, placed fourth and third, respectively.
- The President's Cup, by the Edmonton Miners, placing second.
- The Founder's Cup, by the Edmonton Warriors, placing first.

Alberta also showcased its national hosting skills with the Edmonton Miners hosting the Minto Cup.

Staff

The ALA employed three full-time and one part-time staff for 2023.

- Executive Director, full-time
- Administrative Assistant, full-time
- Technical Director, full-time
- Technical Specialist, part-time

All other paid positions were contracted.

Sincerely,

Sean Aggus
President



Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association Report

The Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association has celebrated a highly successful year, notably, we've experienced growth across various sectors and have worked diligently to provide new opportunities for communities, thanks to the unwavering dedication of our office staff, board members, coaches, and numerous volunteers.

One of the year's standout moments was in August when we proudly hosted the Box Nationals and introduced the inaugural U13 Female Festival. This event served as a highlight for our entire lacrosse community, and we've already commenced planning for the 2024 Nationals. In our estimation, the event was executed with excellence, and any minor hiccups encountered have provided valuable lessons for future endeavors. We acknowledge that, despite our best efforts, unforeseeable challenges can arise. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all provinces for their support and feedback regarding Nationals. Hosting the U13 Female event and bringing back the U22 Women's event was a tremendous honor.

We're witnessing a remarkable surge in female participation, largely attributable to the impact of the Canada Games. In 2023, we sent three female teams to Nationals, including the new U13 National Festival. Looking ahead to next year, we aspire to send four Box teams and two Women's Field teams.

Our commitment to making lacrosse more accessible to our members remains steadfast, and we're actively reviewing various processes, including a comprehensive evaluation of the Field season and double carding in our minor Box leagues. Additionally, we are thrilled to announce the launch of a new Strategic Plan for 2024, focusing on the future and our post-COVID rebuilding efforts. The increased engagement in both Box and Field lacrosse, coupled with this Strategic Plan, leads us to anticipate further growth in our numbers.

In a significant development, we sent eight athletes to the LC Development camp during the summer, marking a first for our province. We eagerly anticipate more opportunities such as this for our athletes and hope to see these programs extend to Prairie Provinces, in addition to BC and Ontario, to maximize participation and experience.

Our Try Lacrosse School and Indigenous Program continue to flourish, and we have decided to rebrand it as the First Scoops Program to align better with our vision for the program's future. This program helps us introduce Lacrosse to schools and Indigenous Communities to help ensure as many youth as possible have access to this great game.

The Team Sask program has seen a remarkable increase in participation, necessitating the division of tryouts into regional camps due to the unprecedented interest. This achievement stands as a testament to our growth over the past decade, from struggling to field full teams to having an ample number of athletes across various divisions. While this may diverge from LTAD recommendations, our U13 groups are the most enthusiastic about the opportunities, yielding substantial development results. The newly formed Prairie Cup Regional Championship, organized in collaboration with our neighbors in Alberta and Manitoba, continues to offer more opportunities to our high-performance athletes.

In conclusion, 2023 has been an extraordinary year for lacrosse in Saskatchewan, and we eagerly look forward to what 2024 holds in store. We express our gratitude to our colleagues across the country for



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their support and collaboration on various initiatives. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone for their tireless efforts in promoting and nurturing this remarkable game.

Yours in Lacrosse,

Sheena Hubelit | President
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



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Manitoba Lacrosse Association Report

No report submitted.



Ontario Lacrosse Association Report

2023 marked the second year of the provincial implementation of the OLA's strategic plan, which includes a number of initiatives and directions that will further advance the sport for our members. Our plan provides an inspiring vision, clear mission and strong fundamental values to guide growth and development within our association. Built on five key pillars, we aim to create a culture where lacrosse is the premiere choice for athletes in Ontario. Our overall strategy, as we continue to rebuild the sport together, is to modernize our organization so that we can best lead our membership into the future.

I wish to recognize the leadership councils of our 13 leagues, as well as the staff and the Board of Directors of the Ontario Lacrosse Association for embracing collaborative and meaningful efforts to support our pathway forward. The players, coaches and officials throughout our province form our collective primary focus, and we continue to deliver quality programming that delivers on their expectations of us. To that end, good governance, leadership and access to opportunities continue to guide our mission and mandate.

We strive for excellence in both of the player development pathways; grassroots and high performance, through initiatives that expand our scope and reach beyond organizing and managing provincial competition for community-based teams. We have begun experimenting with new programming that introduces and engages participants to fall in love with the sport, and look forward to learning from lessons and building upon the accomplishments that we experienced this past season.

Our teams continue to find success both at home and on the national level. Our minor field and women's field teams competed for a combined 22 divisional titles this season, while our minor box provincial Festival crowned a total of 32 championship teams from U9 through U22, including the return of our U13 Girls division. Seven junior and senior box league championships gave rise to excellence in each of the historically-established categories, with provincial victors moving on to represent Ontario in the Founders Cup (silver medalists), Minto Cup (gold medalists), Presidents' Cup (bronze medalists) and Mann Cup (gold medalists). Throughout each of the sectors, Team Ontario combined for an outstanding performance this season by capturing 17 gold medals and two silver medals at national championship events in 2023. We extend our congratulations to our teams and programs on these remarkable achievements.

Due acknowledgement is owed to representatives of the Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association (Minor Box Nationals), Fédération de crosse du Québec (Women's Field Nationals), Lacrosse PEI (Field Nationals) and the various junior and senior national box host committee members for their efforts to coordinate national championship competition in 2023. It is through your organizations, and the ambassadors that sustain them, that we are able to join together to celebrate our shared love of lacrosse. Thank you: your hard work is genuinely appreciated.

Our coaches and officials continue to raise the bar of excellence, by creating spaces that are safe, fair and fun for athletes to play and spectators to enjoy the game. With over 6,000 games played across five combined sectors in Ontario this summer, we recognize and applaud the efforts of our members who continue to give their talents to the game so that participants have a place to play. We are proud of our people, and will continue to develop resources that support them.



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Looking ahead, we are energized by the planned inclusion of the sport in the 2025 Canada Summer Games and the 2028 Olympic Games. The establishment of World Lacrosse Sixes presents us all with an excellent opportunity to introduce new players to the sport, and our organization recognizes its potential at the local, regional, provincial, national and international levels. Lacrosse is on a precipice looking toward a horizon of prospective growth, and we are thankful for the ability to be there to bear witness to it. We firmly believe that a unified partnership will be the key to our success and the achievement of our goals, and we encourage everyone who wishes to do so to be part of that journey together.

Finally and most importantly, we wish to express our sincere appreciation for the many OLA volunteers that dedicate countless hours of work to help us achieve our goals. From soft lacrosse to Senior "A" and all divisions in between, your passion and commitment is how we succeed. Thank you for being there with us; our accomplishments are yours.

Sean O'Callaghan
Ontario Lacrosse Association President
On behalf of the Ontario Lacrosse Association



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Fédération de Crosse du Québec Report

No report submitted.



Lacrosse New Brunswick Report

Over the past year, Lacrosse New Brunswick has experienced many challenges across the province. These challenges include a lack of volunteers, geographical competition issues, a lack of qualified and trained coaches and officials, and a lack of Coach and Official learning facilitators. We have brainstormed many ways to overcome these challenges with our Provincial liaison, Lacrosse Canada personnel, other PSOs, and volunteers within our own Association. We are excited to work hard in the “off-season” to put these ideas in motion to grow lacrosse in our province.

Even though this year has been difficult and busy for many of our volunteers, positive changes and programs have come from the hard work of LNB personnel. Some of these implemented changes/programs are the following:

- We have completed our Indigenous Development and Coach Mentorship programs with success and looking to add more dates and aspects to them moving forward. We are hoping to receive more grant funding to assist with costs to ensure the best resources are being put into these programs.
- We have used the information and resources that came from the STRAT planning sessions that was hosted at the start of the year. From these sessions, we have completed the majority of the goals that were set out and we continue to work toward completing all of the goals by the Association.
- We, with the assistance of some amazing volunteers at both Lacrosse Canada and Ontario Lacrosse, have started and made a huge step toward having multiple learning facilitators for coaching in the province. This process is not completed yet, however, this is a huge step in making LNB self-sufficient and not relying on other PSOs or Lacrosse Canada for these individuals.
- We are updating and re-vamping our Provincial Board Structure, Constitution, By-laws, and Policies in Lacrosse New Brunswick. These will be solidified at our AGM in late November.
- We are streamlining our Provincial Team structure to ensure that all our Provincial Lacrosse teams have all of the information that is necessary for them to thrive on their journey to Nationals.
- We at LNB have decided to be in full support of the LTAD that has come from Lacrosse Canada.
- This year, we received 700+ registrations in our province. This is a huge step in the right direction as these numbers are continuing to grow and almost reach our pre-pandemic numbers.

These are just a few of the positive things that have come out of Lacrosse New Brunswick over the last year. We are looking forward to growing as an Association as these programs are implemented.

Jacob Norton
President of Lacrosse New Brunswick



Lacrosse Nova Scotia Report

Lacrosse Nova Scotia has had a very successful year since the last Lacrosse Canada AGM. Our registration numbers for athletes have grown in all sectors, our coach numbers are stable, our volunteer base is committed and the only area of concern we have is our shrinking number of officials, particularly in our box sector. We continue to have a committed board and we are grateful for our staff, KJ and Donna, and their support for lacrosse in all areas of Nova Scotia.

We have updated our strategic plan with the over-arching goal to 'grow the game' of lacrosse, here in Nova Scotia. We have qualified for increased provincial government and Sport Nova Scotia funding, over the next 4-year cycle. We improved our scores in all 4 pillars and significantly improved our data submissions for our 'Sport Development Tool', particularly in our 'participation' pillar. Our increased programming targeting under-represented groups in NS, since the pandemic shutdown, contributed to that success. We are continuing to move up the ranks as a PSO in NS.

We continued to introduce and develop our game in underserved communities, bringing increased lacrosse programming to those regions of the province that are outside our 'hotbed' area Halifax Regional Municipality. We have targeted programs being brought to gym classes in schools in all areas of the province. We have a vibrant newcomer's program that is being funded through Support 4 Sport project grants through Sport NS and Jumpstart Community Grants. We continue to bring lacrosse to our black and BIPOC communities. We partner with the Indigenous Players Lacrosse Association to bring lacrosse into the Mi'kmaq communities through their school programs in NS. Our board committed to signing the NS Anti-Racism Charter and are working on updating our governance to ensure that EDI is embedded there.

We are proud of our gender equity commitment and targets, with 32% of our athlete registration now are girls and women, 26% of our coaches are girls and women and 25% of our officials are women. We are continually making progress. Our board has committed to taking the Canadian Women & Sport Gender Lens Training and we are currently working through their Playbook program that helps organizations better provide programming for girls and women.

Our provincial program continues to thrive. We sent 6 teams to LC National Box Championships in Regina this year, girls teams and boys teams at U13, U15 and U17. We are pleased with their successes there. We sent a U17 and U19 team to the LC Men's Field Lacrosse Championships in Charlottetown, as well. Our provincial program is a huge financial commitment for our families here in NS, but we are grateful for their continued interest and the number of players who come out for our programs every year. We are thankful to our provincial coaches and managers for their commitment to our teams, and also the officials from NS who want to improve their skills by attending Nationals, each year.

LNS has a significant role to play in the delivery of the lacrosse competition in the North American Indigenous Games this past July. We thank our ED, Donna, for taking on the Sport Lead role and to all our lacrosse community who volunteered their time at that event. It was extremely successful, and we were all grateful and blessed to have been part of this significant indigenous cultural and sport event. We learned so much that will help us honour the game and be sensitive to the importance of truth and reconciliation in sport.

Our entire membership, our board and all our clubs and leagues, must be recognized for their dedicated effort to 'grow our great game' throughout the Nova Scotia. We are grateful and thank our lacrosse leadership here in NS for everything they do to support and share the game in their regions.



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Respectfully submitted,

Tom Aquanno
President Lacrosse NS



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Lacrosse Prince Edward Island Report

LPEI had a busy building year in 2023. In order to grow our box program we ran box sessions all year in school gyms and arenas. These sessions were for all ages with extra sessions for the u15 group to prepare for nationals in Regina. Due to these sessions we were able to send a u15 team to box nationals for the first time.

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers LPEI was successful in hosting one of the largest attended field nationals. These games were attended by 18 teams from across the country. Our goal was to run a competitive event and at the same time keep it enjoyable and fun for everyone. We replaced the banquet with an outdoor social evening at the field, this was well attended by all.

We are currently running a fall program for our provincial players both male and female. We are also increasing our board members with dedicated parents that want lacrosse to grow on PEI.

Norman McGuirk
President



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Lacrosse Newfoundland Labrador

The NLLA began 2023 with its winter Masters league as the only active club in the province comprised of 30 members ranging in age from 19 to 64. The league played box lacrosse from January to April and transitioned to field lacrosse in June until August.

In April of this year Canada Games included lacrosse as a full sport and the NLLA was approached by Lacrosse Canada and asked to develop a team to represent Newfoundland Labrador at the 2025 games. In response to this the NLLA conducted U15 camps in July and August that saw 50 athletes male and female take part.

In addition the NLLA has provided support to the development of a minor box program on the Burin peninsula comprised of 35 athletes. We have also provided support to the development of minor programs in Grand Falls – Windsor and Conception Bay North.

Currently we are holding U15 training in St. John's to allow us to form provincial U15 teams male and female to compete at the 2024 minor box national championships as a precursor to the 2025 Canada Games. We are also establishing a minor box program in the St. John's metro region with competition to begin in spring 2024.

Sean Fitzgerald
Lacrosse NL