



## **JDF Lacrosse Association Executive Meeting** **Minutes**

**5 December, 2024 – 7 pm /JDF Seniors Center 201**

**Meeting called to order: Moved by Ryan 7:03pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Craig, all in favor, carried**

**Adoption of Agenda: Moved by Rochelle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cass, all in favor, carried**

**Adoption of November Minutes: Moved by Nic, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kyla, all in favor, carried**

**Adoption of Reports of Committee Members: Moved by Jill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Blake, all in favor, carried**

**Attendance: Ryan, Jessica, Jill, Jamie, Kyla, Jean, Rochelle, Craig, Blake, Alicia, Rob P, Nikila, Cass, Rob C, Nic, Jesse**

**Online- Matt M, Curt, Brittney**

### **Reports:**

**President – Ryan Hyland (Interim)**

I spoke with Andy Stuart about Coach Talk Training course being offered in Victoria. I would like to discuss at our December meeting. This would be a great way to start coaching development. The only courses the coaches get at this point is the coaching courses offered by BCLA which only covers the basics.

**Vice- President Box 1- Kyla Pedlow**

I attended the VIMLC AGM on November 25th, where Ryan and I voted “yes” to tiering for U11 and unfortunately there were not enough votes to carry that new policy change.

I attended an Assessment Committee meeting last night to discuss details of our upcoming Box Assessments. Back to the Box sessions start on January 11th and the first Assessment session starts on January 16th. Further details will be discussed on Thursday night at our meeting.

I've also attended a few meetings with other local sports organizations in the Westshore. We're all trying to work together to have all of our needs met and new facilities built that will benefit everyone. We recently met about the City of Langford's plan to purchase the Westhills YMCA, and our collective concern over how that will affect budgets for other recreation facilities. Our group was able to speak to Langford

Council last night, along with many other members of the public who are asking the City to slow down this decision and be sure that it is what is the right decision for the community. Thankfully Mayor and Council agreed to delay their decision until a special meeting on December 16th. We're hoping that we'll be able to speak with certain councillors who helped to push the decision last night, to further express our needs and how important it is to rethink this massive purchase by the City. We are not against the purchase, but are simply asking the City to rethink the payment structure to a longer amortization, which would hopefully allow for more funds available for other recreation facilities.

**Vice-President Box 2** – Nic Collison- Nothing to report.

**Vice-President Box 3**- Blake Anderson

- I have been following along and participating in the email discussions.
- I attended the VIMLC AGM meeting last month as an observer.
- Ready to begin preparations for the beginning of our box season – hearing from various association members and everyone seems itching to get going.

**Vice-President Field 1** – Matt Towle- Nothing to report.

**Vice President Field 2**- Jamie Boyd- Nothing to report.

**Vice-President Female** – Criag Patzer

The Women's Regular Seasons are coming to an end very quickly. We have had a great year and the girls have brought home a lot of hardware from across various tournaments. The U18 Women brought home silver at Big Als and a bronze at the Van Isle Cup, the U13 Women we're able to get their first win of the year at the Van Isle Cup on their way to a silver medal. We've also had various ladies participating with their respective Co-Ed teams with success as well.

As an incoming member of the position there are a number of projects I have identified and will be working towards in the near / mid / long term. My main effort is to grow the Women's game, and by that I specifically see my main task as getting more girls to register. In order to do this, I have outlined these four lines of effort. They are as follows:

1. Elite Coaching. I have begun to reach out to some women local to the Victoria area that are alumni of NCAA Women's Field Lacrosse programs. I would like to see each of our teams have a representative that can coach the women's game as they understand it which will be a few steps above our current model of volunteer parents. In the future I will look to get commitments from these ladies for the '25-'26 season so when we begin to advertise for registrations we are able to communicate this to potential players living in the South Island. Ideally I would also be able to reach out to current JDF parents who also played at a professional / higher level to access their expertise. From some

conversations this year I have met some parents who have this skill set but do not want to bare the burden of being a full time team representative and I will work to alleviate these concerns moving forward so that everyone feels like they can give what they can to maximize the experience for the women players.

2. Coordination with other Associations. I have began to work with Nanaimo Lacrosse and will be reaching out to Claremont Secondary School next to try and share best practices and see how they had success building their programs to the high levels they are now. Nanaimo as we know have a multi year head start on how their program is set up year over year and the culture which they have established within the women's program.
3. School Outreach / Saanich Involvement. In an effort to learn from my discussion in point 2, I will be coming up with a plan to message women's Lacrosse into the schools within the Southern Island area. Ideally with some assistance from the students at Royal Bay and Claremont we will be able to create a grass roots program that not only brings in girls across the lower island but potentially be seen as a development program for both RBSS and Claremont. The second part of this will be promoting JDF within the Saanich region. On the women's teams there is a significantly lower participation rate from the Pac-Rim Association, so it begs the question why. My proposal in the short term is to investigate running a portion of the practices and games in both the JDF and Pac-Rim geographical region so that they feel like it's their team as well. This is what we do with the VELA Box teams and it seems to alleviate some of the concerns. The risk of course is to build up the Pac-Rim area participation so much they can actually field teams, but I will accept this so I can drive to Nanaimo less :).
4. Vancouver Island Girls Cup Tournament. I will be looking at trying to shift this tournament to Victoria for 2025 in an effort to share with Nanaimo on a rotating year basis. Ideally we will be looking to book this at UVic and increase the size of it substantially with the available resources. I have already roped in our Tournaments and Gaming Directors on the initiation phase of the exercise and I will be reaching out to Pac-Rim's field allocator and Nanaimo's women's Coord to get loose commitments prior to the summer time.

What assistance I need from the Executive:

Director Tournaments: Please assist with the coordination of field allocations, team invites, the financial requirements for the 2025 iteration of the Van Island Girls Cup as we have discussed at the Velodrome.

Marketing: I will need a digital and hard paper copy of a flyer with lots of colours, photos of girls, and fun so that we can begin to send these out Spring 2025 prior to a proposed campaign of school visits in June 2025.

Everyone else: Please just keep me honest and let me know if I'm over-stepping anything.

**Secretary** – Jessica Lejeune

I attended the Colwood City Hall meeting Nov 25th, and unfortunately our proposal/request (and 100+ people showing up to their Colwood ideas fair), did not gain enough popularity, and meet the committee's objectives.

The committee for the Quarry Park phase 2 ruled that a covered Lacrosse box was not able to be built on any of the lands available by royal bay due to the soil bearing capacity, impacts to surrounding park spaces and amenities, and park budgets.

Councillor Ian Ward unfortunately went on to say soccer is the number one youth sports registration in the country and that he knew Lacrosse didn't even reach the top ten, and that other groups like soccer would benefit more from funds. We know this is skewed information from a small survey.

The planning committee did acknowledge our current spaces being in dire need of repair and they would rather allocate some funds to that.

I had a chance to speak to the planning committee during a recess and plead for help with a covered box, stating that the Belmont box is DND land, and the area would need massive remediation. As well as the JDF box has to be approved by their board as well as agreement from the Mayor's of Colwood, Langford, Metchosin, view royal and the high lands.

That we have tried this avenue before but have not made any traction.

I also let them know Langford's plans of buying the YMCA and that would leave very minimal funding for many youth sports organizations for years to come.

The committee person agreed with our needs being valid, and with the growing communities in the Westshore will continue. He will speak to our association more about this, he believes there might be land elsewhere that would be suitable. I encouraged him to look at other user groups who use covered floor surfaces like ball hockey, roller hockey, floor hockey, roller derby, roller skating, basketball, pro d camps, summer camps, even timbits soccer could benefit from a covered surface. I also suggested to look at the covered box in Nanaimo and see how successful it is.

I propose anyone working with this committee to keep on advocating our needs. Lots of good ideas coming in about how to do this.

I'm waiting on the financial table, then will submit our BC Societies documents and finalize the annual report.

I have updated executive contact list and sent to BCLA, VIMLC and VIFLL.

**Treasurer** – Cass Jutting

I have been taking over responsibility for bank accounts and have had a meeting with Jesse for a turnover briefing. Still waiting for access to current year documents in order to fully assess our budget situation.

I have been in contact with the bookkeeper as well and plan to do some re-organization with her to ensure the financials are more accurate and reflect the ongoing/current financial situation.

Moving forward, I will be working with the policy committee to implement stronger financial policies/practices, including requirements for more consistent reporting from all who manage any sort of revenues and expense streams.

**Registrar** – Jean Gallagher

Finalized Field Registration this past week with the BCLA Registrar. Our final official number for field registration for 2024-25 is 240.

I attended a training call on November 30 with RAMP and the BCLA on the new registration system. Although we have been using it for Field, there is still so much to learn and a lot of details to sort out with the BCLA Minor Registrar, and many associations (including the 3 other South Island associations) do not offer field and will be using it for the first time. I anticipate there to be some delays with transfers and releases, but am hopeful it will not cause major issues.

I received an email from the BCLA today (Dec 3) advising they have opened Box registration as the parent association. I am just about ready to go for JDF, just finalizing the information for the website and an email will go out to all members when it is open, and will coordinate with Jess to get a post out for social media. Should be either later tonight or tomorrow. We are waiting to discuss some items around wait lists at our meeting on Thursday but after discussing with Ryan and Kyla, we decided to edit registration as needed after Thursday and open asap.

I know we also discussed only using credit cards for payments to make things a bit easier, but since we pay fees per transaction, I decided to accept etransfers and will be diligent about collecting before assessments so that it is not such a mess come the start of the season. I'll be looking to the VPs to help enforce if a player is not eligible to participate during assessments due to missing payment. If this season becomes too much, my recommendation moving forward will be to switch to credit card only.

Please note that the BCLA fees have increased this year from \$46 to \$54. BCLA advised that the forms we use for player movement and releases will be updated shortly as the Minor directorate met this past weekend to finalize these.

**Head Coach Box** – Curt Morwick

In the process of organizing box season assessments, assessors, and getting coaches applications ready to send out.

**Head Coach Field** – Adam Ranns- on leave of absence.

**Head Referee** – Rob Cook- Nothing to report.

**Referee Allocator Box & Field**- Sarah Nishimura

Everything status quo. We don't have enough games to have the entry level officials on the field as much as they'd all like, and don't have enough senior officials to fill the

u15/u18 games. We've unfortunately had to reschedule a few u15 and u18 games over the past month due to lack of officials.

Having mentors on the field continues to be incredibly helpful to entry level officials to assist them in becoming more confident officials and has also proven helpful in buffering challenging parents and coaches.

Box Allocator:

Cass has begun transferring materials to myself in preparation for box season.

I've also spoken to one of the allocators on the mainland for tips and tricks around managing officials during tournaments which was helpful.

**Equipment Manager** – Rob Ponte

Quiet field season. We purchased some field goalie equipment.

Now preparing for box season and purchasing new box goalie gear.

**Risk Management** – Matt Towle

1. **Criminal Record Checks:** Nothing to report.
2. **Concussion Awareness Training:** We will continue efforts on certifying all coaching staff for the season.
3. **Injuries:** 6 injuries have been reported over the past month, with the following details:
  - U18 T2: A player sustained an ankle injury.
  - U18 T2: A player sustained a dental injury.
  - U18 T2: A player sustained a sprained ankle.
  - U18 T2: A player sustained a separated shoulder.
  - U15 T2: A player sustained a concussion.
  - U15 T2: A player sustained a concussion.

**Gaming** – Rochelle McRae

Waiting to hear back from Nanaimo from the girls van island tournament, so I can close off the licenses.

**Jersey Manager Box & Field**- Jesse Henwood

I will be working with the previous jersey manager to learn the position. My 1st priority is for me to get into the locker and do inventory.

We still have the \$2,500 (noted in the February meeting minutes) allocated to purchasing jerseys for this upcoming box season. I will be working to put in that order once I know what we need.

**Webmaster** – Stephen Laws- nothing to report.

**Whaler Wear Coordinator**– Ashley Petch

I have 3 big preorders that have arrived. Jackets have been sorted and customers messaged for pickup. Hoodies and polo shirts are ready to be picked up and customers notified. After distributing of these orders, I'll be doing another inventory adding in extras of these items.

**Head Manager Box & Field** – Alicia Hayes

I have sent All the coed teams declarations into BCLA We have five teams that have declared. U13-1/2, U15-1/2 and U18.

I am just waiting on one more from the female side and then I will be sending those off.

I am starting to get things organized for end of season for the teams that have already finished, and I'll be collecting end of season packages.

Team photos arrived on Friday, and I have begun getting them to teams. So far, the feedback has been good people seem to be happy. If it continues to be positive, I will plan to use the same photographer for box season.

I also took part in the assessment committee meeting last night so far things look to be going smoothly. We have another meeting lined up for end of December. Looking forward to box season!

**Floor & Field Allocator** – Nikila Cyr

**Field Allocator Report**

The U7, U9, and U11 seasons have either concluded or are nearing their end. There were many questions regarding U11 not participating in provincials this season. To support skill development, we've decided to continue U11 practices once a week until the end of February. I've returned a significant amount of field time to WSPR and am working on rescheduling several canceled U18 games.

**Floor Allocator Report**

Kyla arranged the floor time for assessments. WSPR will open their floor booking requests on January 17th. I will ask for what we had last season, and possible more time at Q this season. Considering the ongoing challenge of securing floor time, I'd like to explore the option of using the Sooke Box on a regular basis.

**Tournament Coordinator** – Brittney Corkery

**Marketing Manager**- Vacant

Past position Jessica Lejeune– There was no one able to take the lead on the Santa Parade, so we will not have an entry of kids walking this year. The organizer was generous and refunded our entry fee. Hopefully next year there will be people available to help.

I have enjoyed working in the marketing position for over the last 5+ years and will continue to be available to transition in the new marketing executive when someone puts their name forward for the position.

**Administrative Coordinator-** Jill Denis

I've been working on updating email addresses for new executive members and removing those who have left us. The executive contact info on the JDF website has been updated as well. All executive should have access to MS 365, and should be able to access and share files using this platform. It was discussed previously that where ever possible, JDFLA documentation should be stored under our MS 365 accounts in Teams and not on personal computers. This allows us to better manage and share information, spreadsheets and documents. If anyone is having trouble logging in or getting access please let me know.

The assessment committee met last night and are busy organizing and planning for the quickly approaching box season. Lots of work happening in the background to prepare for assessments. The assessment schedule is complete for now (subject to change) and will be shared with the membership very soon.

**Past President-** Ryan Hyland- see Interim President report.

## Agenda

**Review of Old Business: None**

**New Business**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
Rob Ponte- Goalie Sticks. We can only offer basic options at all levels. If competitive goalies want higher-end options, need to bring their own. For policy or communication?	The gear we offer to goalies is what we have. U13 and above should bring their own sticks. Previously U15- no gear provided. Now we provide basic options. Supply own gloves, helmet and protective cup/jill. JDF supplies uppers, pants and leg pads.	Ryan VP's to discuss female players released to VELA with VIMLC and VELA.
Rob/Jessica-Goalie discount registration to be considered?	<b><u>Rob Ponte makes a motion to implement base registration discount of 50% for dedicated/registered goalies in the 2025 co-ed box season for divisions U11-U17.</u></b>	Jean to process 50% base fee refunds based on



	<p><b><u>A 50% refund of base registration fees will be issued at the end of the 2025 box season to co-ed goalies who complete the season with their JDF teams.</u></b></p> <p>2nd by Kyla</p> <p>Discussion: Coaches will validate who goalies are. Trial this 50% discount to start, can move to tiering discounts per division if successful. 2025-2026 Field season to be discussed at a later date, as that falls under a different fiscal year. Female box players are all released to VELA. Rob C- table the female box team discount discussion until discussion with the VIMLC.</p> <p>All in favor, carried.</p>	<p>coach's validation.</p>
<p>Ryan- Coach Talk Training</p> <p>Coach Talk Training is not a typical coaching course about the fundamentals of sport, the rules of the game or how to motivate youth athletes. Although these aspects of learning a sport are important, Coach Talk Training focuses on the actual words said by a coach to a youth athlete, the importance of clear and connected language. The program teaches coaches to identify sport specific jargon, abstract terms and general words that youth athletes may not understand. The</p>	<p>Head coaches should attend full day course. Its important to keep developing our coaches for retention of coaches and players</p> <p>We should trial the course first, an executive can ask to participate in the session with Saanich</p> <p>Respect in sport activity leader course could be an option as well for development.</p> <p>All executive to email Ryan any questions about this course by Tuesday and he will send them to Andy. We will take an e-vote to move forward once questions are answered.</p>	<p>Nic</p> <p>All</p>

<p>coaches learn how to effectively replace the misunderstood words with descriptive and concrete words, and say them in a concise and connected way to the sport activity.</p>		
<p>Brittney-</p> <p>Changing the name of “Tournament Coordinator” title on the executive to “Tournaments and Awards Coordinator”</p> <p>Potentially co-hosting our U13 Rumble on the Rock tournament and adding in U15’s if possible.</p>	<p>We don’t need to change the position title, just change responsibilities given. We will leave title until 2025 AGM and then will make proposed changes/recommendations from policy committee.</p> <p>Brittney to reach out Saanich, then report back what it would look like. Consider Referee availability, and floor times, and costs. VELA has expressed interest in U15 tournament as well. Reach out to them as well to see what they have planned.</p>	<p>Policy Committee for 2025 AGM</p> <p>Brittney</p>
<p>Jill-</p> <p>Committees-</p> <p>Team BC Funding-</p>	<p>Policy Committee- Cass, Jill, Jean, Alicia</p> <p>Disciplinary Committee- Rob C, President, VP of division involved</p> <p>Assessment Committee - Curt, Kyla, Jill, Nic, Alicia, Nikila</p> <p>Cass makes a motion to remove Team BC funding that was previously available to JDF players who make the teams for box and field disciplines moving forward.</p>	

	<p>Rationale- many players on Team BC now, they have their own sponsorships/fundraising, and our financial situation is still recovering.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> by Nic</p> <p>Discussion- None</p> <p>All in favor, carried.</p>	
<p>Kyla Pedlow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Box assessments Update</li> <li>• Waitlists</li> <li>• Volunteers</li> <li>• Closed Assessments</li> </ul>	<p>Assessments-</p> <p>Back to the box- start Jan 11</p> <p>Assessments- start Jan 16<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Teams formed by Spring Break.</p> <p>Waitlists</p> <p>We are able to do this in new registration system. 60 player cap U13, 40 player cap U15 and U17.</p> <p>Administrator volunteer position takes notes for assessors and write down the scores that assessors give. Allows assessors to have their eyes on the floor at all times.</p> <p>Looking for executive volunteers to sign players in, help with back to the box.</p> <p>Craig- VELA female players looking to help out with back to the box.</p> <p>Add schedule for volunteers into Teams/One drive for people to sign up to help where needed.</p> <p>U13-U17 Closed assessments for 2025 box season</p> <p>Rationale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough room in Eagle Ridge</li> <li>• Eliminates the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Parents talking to assessors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Assessment committee</p> <p>Jean to monitor</p> <p>All who are able to help look for sign up sheet in one drive.</p>



<p>Blake Anderson:</p> <p>Facilities and local/provincial government partnerships</p>	<p>Lobbying municipal governments for funding for our goals. We should be reaching out to provincial government as well. Local MLA Ravi Parmar would be a great contact. Adam had met in person with him previously. Blake to take lead on this now.</p> <p>Kyla- has been attending meetings with other local sports groups. Combined efforts to present to local governments.</p> <p>Ryan- there is a group similar on the mainland. Reach out to them for ideas.</p> <p>Cass- truth and reconciliation needs to be considered there are grants available for this and help bring more Indigenous aspects of the sport into JDF.</p> <p>Sponsorship committee to be formed.</p> <p>Current JDF and Belmont box land is fine, just needs major repairs/upgrades/renovated.</p> <p>Rob C to reach out to DND (owns Belmont box land) however, it's maintained by SD 62.</p> <p>Nikila to reach out to Peninsula for current building costs.</p>	<p>Blake</p> <p>Kyla-continue meetings groups</p> <p>Blake Kyla Nikila</p>
<p>Plans for u11 group in light of the VIMLC vote not to tier this division.</p>	<p>U11 travel team- last year we were not accepted into Crosby Tournament, need to plan ahead for this year's options. Alberta, US or exhibition games as alternatives if not accepted again.</p> <p>No cross-over players during regular season play between u11 teams. Need commissioner approval for exhibition games.</p> <p>Reach out to Nanaimo and Saanich for exhibition games. Canada Day tournament in Alberta is an option. Consider floor time and refs cost for practices and exhibition games. Parents could be charged extra fees for those who made this travel team to cover these expenses.</p> <p>Refs \$95, \$100 for floor time per game slot.</p> <p>Nic to coordinate assessments, coaching applications, floor times, logistics.</p>	<p>Nic</p>

<p>Coaches development and support- mentor initiative - having our more seasoned coaches work with those newer to the craft or our older players who may want to become coaches some day.</p>	<p>Diverse needs of players, coaches sometimes have difficulty with behavior management. What supports for coaches to help neurodiverse players is there? NCCP coaching athletes with a disability is available online. \$15 per registrant, 1 hour course.</p> <p>Mentorship program. Craig- Hamilton sisters and Brittani C have offered to mentor female coaches and help run some practices. We could reach out to other experts/alumni for support for all teams. Reach out to Shamrocks alumni. Goalie training clinics are very beneficial. Guest coaches should be volunteers where possible Reach out to Jr Shamrocks- Rod Wade ask for goalie support. Sr Shamrocks fun sessions to engage players of all ages. Poco offers drop ins year round for minor players, hosted by Jr players. Would be great to have something like this. Could reach out to Shamrocks for support. Set a goal to achieve, to be added into goals spreadsheet. Strategic Planning meeting to be booked for coaching goals.</p>	<p>Kyla Nic Blake Curt- coaches needs Anyone else with contacts/su pport options to let Blake know.</p>
<p>Craig- Van Island Girls Cup and discussion with Nanaimo</p>	<p>Van Island girls cup 2025 to start planning. Craig to communicate with Nanaimo and VIFLL/BCLA. Brittney to help as needed.</p>	<p>Craig Brittney</p>

**Next Meeting: Thurs Jan 9<sup>th</sup> JDF Seniors Center**

**Meeting Adjourned: Moved by Alicia 9:17pm**