**RRLA BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, September 13 2016**

**NOTRE DAME ARENA**

**Board Member Attendance:**

| **NAME** | **TITLE** | **EMAIL ADDRESS** | **PHONE #** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Serge Balcaen | President | [serge@pmc-insurance.com](mailto:serge@pmc-insurance.com) | 204-955-9060 |
| Steve Cumpsty | Vice-President | [sjrr@live.ca](mailto:sjrr@live.ca) | 204-805-4115 |
| Andrew Jolly | Past Vice-President | [sidewinders](mailto:vlgingell@gmail.com) | 204-223-8377 |
| Valerie Gingell | Treasurer / Registrar | [vlgingell@gmail.com](mailto:vlgingell@gmail.com) | 204-223-8377 |
| Laurie From | Secretary | [Laurie.from@f55f.com](mailto:Laurie.from@f55f.com) | 204-782-2631 |
| Heather Hill | Marketing & Promotions | [hhill@winnipegjets.com](mailto:hhill@winnipegjets.com) | 204-782-5102 |
| Bruce Paton | Referee in Chief | [bpaton@mpi.mb.ca](mailto:bpaton@mpi.mb.ca) | 204-254-9120 |
| Jenny Riddell | Zone 1 Gryphons | [jcriddell@mymts.net](mailto:jcriddell@mymts.net) | 204-661-4740 |
| Kim Schotchenko Kim Winzoski Glen Henkiwitch | Zone 2 Falcons | [nwfalconslax@gmail.com](mailto:nwfalconslax@gmail.com) khawke2@shaw.ca ghenkewich@shaw.ca | 204-330-0374 |
| Mark Luke | Zone 3 Shamrocks |  |  |
| Nelson Graham | Zone 4 Sidewinders | [neljoy@mts.net](mailto:neljoy@mts.net) | 204-250-6390 |
| Jon Ottenson | Zone 5 Wizards | [goaldy5@mymts.net](mailto:goaldy5@mymts.net) | 204-981-9831 |
| Norbert Fontaine | Ojibway Juniors |  |  |
| Lionel Charron | Director at Large/Even | [stumpworks@mymts.net](mailto:stumpworks@mymts.net) | 204-837-3364 |
| Cary Schotchenko | Director at Large/Odd | [cary@absolutepetro.ca](mailto:cary@absolutepetro.ca) | 204-918-3402 |
| Open | MLD Representative |  |  |
| Don Jacks Paul Magnam | Manitoba Lacrosse | [lacrosse@sportmanitoba.ca](mailto:lacrosse@sportmanitoba.ca) | 204-925-5684 |
| Brad Becker |  |  |  |

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting

**Motion:**

*To accept the minutes from BY: Valerie*

*SECONDED by: Steve*

*All in Favour – Motion Passed*

1. Donation for Field Nationals  
   Motion: $2000 ad package for Field Nationals BY: Kim W  
   SECONDED by: Val  
   Wanted $5K, reduced it to $2K. Suggested sponsoring t-shirts “powered by RRLA”. Not just going into team coffers.   
   All in Favour – Passed
   1. There was exposure from the RRLA in way of T-Shirts and signage by the trophy case as well as in the program.
      1. Paul will get a sample of the T-Shirt as well as the billing for this.
2. Website & online registration   
   Teamsnap costs are too high. Sport Ngin interested – recently purchased NBC Sports. 30% cheaper. Paid for RRLA domain for 10 years. Will discuss at next meeting.
   1. Team Snap will be needed while we are getting Sport Ngin up and running so likely until December / January. This way we will not lose any current information. It was agreed that we will not get rid of Team Snap until we have a complete understanding on the running of Sport Ngin and how it generates schedules, etc.
   2. We
3. Board member attendance   
   Need to reinforce attendance with board members. Looking for new members. This year a new President is required. Next year Treasurer and Registrar is required.
   1. We need all Zones attending every meeting for the upcoming season, so we may have to resort to fining Zones for no attendance.
4. Zone websites – interaction with RRLA site
   1. Sport Ngin will also make their site available to all the Zones so that every area looks and operates the same on-line.
5. Compensation for schedulers
   1. This was a good concept but it was not executed in a generic way and some Zones did a great job but others did not get the full impact of what was needed at this meeting.
   2. Should we look at having one person schedule the entire season, regular games, playoffs, officials, timekeepers, etc. This would be a paid position with one person being fully responsible and only one person to contact in times of trouble and aggravation.
      1. This may be well worth the cost of the salaried position *if* there is someone willing to accept this challenge and responsibility.
      2. The MLA has been approached about having lacrosse be a part of a building that would be a multi-sport venue but this is in the discussion stages; this is something the MLA is definitely exploring further.
      3. The idea of a central scheduler has worked very well for the East Man Hockey. The schedule gets loaded onto to Goal Line to get the schedule for the season. Then the referees get assigned on an ongoing basis over the season. There is some management that will be needed for cancelled or moved games that a scheduler would work in partnership or alone. When on Goal Line games, and officials cannot be double booked as the program would reject that.
         1. Methods of payment for this position could be on a per game scheduled basis or on an annual basis.
6. Officials travel mileage   
   Board members discussed that the application of this benefit is not fair to those within the city. Distance to travel across city can be more than going to Garson. Would still be considered for those traveling to Sagkeeng. Consideration is being given to removing this benefit. Will discuss at next meeting.

Also discussed more young referees than older refs. There was considerable difficulty with mentoring this year, especially at the start of the season. Bruce indicated this will be fixed for next season and he wants to coordinate it.

* There are some good young referees in the Garson area so until these young referees can further develop Bruce thinks we should be continue to pay the travel.
  + High School Field pays travel to Portage, Beausejour, and Powerview but there is no travel within the Perimeter for referees. Each area is then responsible to have their own Minor Officials to ensure home games.
* There was a suggestion to budget for the travel costs but to hold back on paying that out if those referees if the travel for them to get to one or more city rinks is of the same distance or further from their home?
  + Motion by Steve Cumpsty to eliminate the travel benefit but to maintain a travel budget of $750 to have on hand in the year to be used for negotiation if needed to encourage Officials to travel.
    - Seconded by Cary Schotenko.
    - Vote was defeated with only two in favour.

1. Re-vamp Tyke, Midget and Junior programs   
   Need to consider partial A and B divisions next season, depending on numbers at each age group. Will discuss at next meeting.
   1. It is challenging to coach, play and watch games when there is such a large spectrum of player abilities on a team.
   2. Box and Field lacrosse will continue to work together to encourage a strong and healthy partnership in the coming year.

Discussion regarding field program and conflict with box. HS players are coming from box program.   
Need sub-committees next season for:  
- Liaison with HS Field  
- Recruiting

* Laurie proposed the Blizzard Players idea to have the Tyke program be coached by Blizzard players on the Blizzard practice night with half the floor time being used to teach skills and the other half of the floor time used to have a game.
* Discussion followed with many ideas
* Paul mentioned that he hears lots about what the Zones are doing and not a lot about what the RRLA is doing. We may need to have more RRLA initatives at the Grass Roots level to
* Serge suggested that there be a Sub-Committee created to bang out some ideas on how to grow lacrosse throughout the winter at different locations.

Drew Dickey will be coordinating the Junior League next year.

1. Floor time rental negotiation – pricing is rising too fast   
   Need board to negotiate with rinks on rates. They are getting too expensive and increasing the cost of box lax. This is pricing lax out of range for many families, as compared to other sports. Each zone is to negotiate with their rink to get the rate more reasonable.

Gryphons are negotiating with EE – but the rink wants them to buy all floor time on 2 floors

* Serge suggested that Cary stay on and form a committee to do these types of negotiating.

1. Pre-season advertising   
   Looking to get young rep on the board for advertising/marketing. (Brett Morrison)
   1. Tabled to next meeting and/or at the AGM.
2. Zone issues particularly Zones 2 & 5   
   Wizards has lost lots of volunteers.
   1. There is a meeting scheduled and there will be calls made to encourage more volunteers.

Falcons don’t think they will have a Zone next year.   
Glen H talked about we used to have lax weekends, but the demographics have changed in N. Kildonan. Lack of key young age group. Used to have a 5 year strategic planning sessions. Had loaner sticks and hockey players used their eqpt. Now that has all changed.

* The biggest issues are low player participation means low volunteers; enticing new coaches; and the cost to play when compared to other sports.

Need to discuss how RRLA is addressing the drop off in numbers. How is RRLA supporting zones and what can be done by MLA to help. Hilder is going to schools in SAG.

* This needs to be another Sub-Committee at the AGM for people to sign up to be on so that there are several focused discussions.

1. Universal pre-season discover/try lacrosse programs   
   Sidewinders had Discover Lax over winter. $30 for 6 sessions. Inside balls. Age groups 4-8 and 9-12. Helmets and gloves only.
   1. Kim was asked to bring a cost to the AGM meeting for the Winter Lacrosse program at Duncan Arena so that the RRLA can look at funding and running this program.
   2. Andy said that his Winter Skill camp cost about $600 to run.
2. AGMs   
   MLA – Sunday, Oct 23/16 Location TBD 10:00am to 2:00pm  
   RRLA – Sunday, Oct 16/16 at Piazza DiNardi from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Cost is $75/hour. Budget for the meeting will be $500 all in for 20-25 people.
3. ROUND TABLE

Serge Balcaen: Nil

Steve Cumpsty: Nil

Andrew Jolly:

There is a Bingo on Saturday, October 8th from 4:30-6:45 (Thanksgiving Weekend)

there are $500-$700 to be made with 6 volunteers working. This could be a way to fund Discover Lacrosse.

* There is a new ladder scale that the MLA will be using to assign the Bingos. These funds will be used to fund ongoing projects within Clubs, Zones and Leagues. The old way was to credit players $50 per Bingo worked.

Valerie Gingell:

1. Bank Balance is: $33,860.56. Mentoring fees need to be corrected. Website wil the other outstanding cost.

Laurie From: Nil

~~Heather Hill:~~

Bruce Paton:

~~Jenny Riddell:~~

Kim Schotchenko:

~~Mark Luke:~~

~~Nelson Graham:~~

Jon Ottenson:

~~Norbert Fontaine:~~

~~Lionel Charron:~~

Cary Schotchenko:

~~Don Jacks:~~

~~Glen Henkiwitch:~~

Paul Magnan: There will be a change to the MLA as Don will be taking a part-time position handling player development within the Province. The administrative position will be advertised in the paper and emailed to the MLA members. It is the goal to have this person hired and in place by the MLA AGM.

The MLA also wants to continue to support the RRLA to grow and encourage participation in the sport. This will be done through Bingo dollars at both the MLA level and the grass roots level. The MLA will also continue to have their staff member attend regular RRLA meetings.

Brad Becker: We need to keep the momentum of the lacrosse success in the Provinces going to bring up lacrosse exposure in Manitoba.

**Date for Next Meeting will be**

1. **Upcoming Meetings:**Sep 13 – 6 pm at Notre Dame Arena

Oct 16 – 10 am – AGM. Consider at Piazza De Nardi

Motion to Adjourn

* Motion to Adjourn at 8:05pm by Andy
  + Seconded by: Jon
    - All in Favour – Motion Passed.