

## **RVLA Board of Directors Reports**

### **Presidents Report:**

Nothing to report as Ashley Reutlinger resigned her position on July 5<sup>th</sup> 2018.

### **Vice Presidents report, Keith Berg:**

At the start of the 2018 season I brought forth quite a few new ideas for policies after review with the RVLA board we implemented quite few of them for the 2018 season, some of them are the RVLA Code of conduct for parents, the 24 hour rule (which is a cool down time frame) for communication and conflict resolution, it outlines who to contact first and what the process needs to be to come to a resolution. The RVLA Fair play for athletes, parents and coaches. Rule of two for coaches in dressing rooms and a female dressing room policy. Also an internal RVLA club affiliation procedure to help promote our athlete's development and exposure to other coaches during the season. Later in the season we created a discipline matrix, which identifies types of incidents they may occur and provides acceptable types of discipline to be issued if the need arises (this is to help future Discipline directors with their role)

The RVLA board also adopted the CDLA Policy on the prevention of Harassment, Bullying and abuse which includes social media conduct.

Our teams overall did quite well we had about ½ of our teams qualify for the playoffs this year which is good as the playoff format was changed this year by the CDLA and limited most division to just 4 teams qualifying, the CDLA changed the Playoff format to help promote attendance to the provincial tournament. In the playoffs our Novice Girls team won the gold metal and our Peewee and Midget A teams came home with silver metals.

Our Bantam Age group this season was not successful at either level we placed our teams in. with limited numbers in the 2004 and 2005 birth years registered we only had enough for 2 teams this season. This age group also did not have the opportunity to play Peewee A two years ago to learn and develop at that level of lacrosse. We made the really tough decision to place a team in A this season to see how it went with the intent of helping make the right decision in the 2020 season at midget for this group of players. I think we would still place our top team in midget A for the 2020 season but we would more than likely place the second team at the C level in 2020. This would be the recommendation we leave for the 2020 board.

We had a few RVLA players make the Jr. Roughnecks again this summer at least one on each team that went to Oakville for the Jr. NLL tournament. The Peewee and Midget teams finished second at this year's tournament both losing to the host Toronto Rock team, who won each division.

We had 3 long time RVLA members win a Gold medal with Team Alberta at the midget nationals this season held in Calgary beating Team Ontario in the finals for a second straight year.

We also had representation with the Bantam Girls team Alberta who finished with a silver metal losing to BC this year.

### **Executive Director (Equipment, Registrar, Arenas), Melanie Burnsed:**

Hours worked from November 23, 2017 - October 15, 2018 - 795 hrs (300 hrs the yr before)

Equipment - When I took over I was told we would probably need to buy close to \$10K in goalie equipment, upon completing inventory we actually only needed to purchase 2 pairs of CAT 2 goalie pants (\$501.90). I was also told there were only 3 sets of goalie gear still out, turned out there were 11 sets (roughly \$11,000 worth) as well as 4 sets of team jerseys (\$6400 for jerseys) that were not accounted for. I also shopped around for a new storage unit after I saw what we pay a month, I found one for \$1903.17/year, its twice the size and half the price. I did purchase some shelving/storage for the locker which was a few hundred dollars. It is incredibly organized from before with everything hung up and counted.

- Goalie gear out – 6 sets out for camps
- Goalie gear inventory
  - CAT 1 Uppers - 17
  - CAT 1 Legs - 15
  - CAT 1 Pants - 15
  - CAT 2 Uppers – 11 (1 need repair)
  - CAT 2 Legs - 13
  - CAT 2 Pants - 6
  - CAT 3 Uppers – 11 (3 need repair)
  - CAT 3 Legs - 13
  - CAT 3 Pants - 12
  - Throat guards – 10
  - Suspenders - 13
  - Sticks - 19
  - Gloves – 3 (CAT 3), 3 (CAT 2), 3 (CAT 1)
  - Bags – 5 (small), 16 (medium), 6 (large)
- Balls
  - 582 (White), 144 (Mini tyke) - will need to order a couple hundred of each
- First Aid Kits – 22 - will order a few more
- Jerseys
  - Need to possibly order up to 10 jerseys at \$75/each for 2019-Total \$750
- I've looked into buying an Ozone generator to disinfect our equipment as this might be a better option. I was quoted \$425 for one but it can't be used currently as it needs to be used in a temperature of 18 degrees C or warmer, will look into it more in the spring.

Registrar - Registration Numbers – 483 (2016), 492 (2017), 501 (2018)

- Mini Tyke - 6 teams
- Tyke - 6 teams
- Novice - 5 teams
- Novice Girls - 1 team
- Peewee - 5 teams
- Peewee Girls - 1 team
- Bantam - 2 teams
- Bantam Girls - 1 team
- Midget - 3 teams

- Midget Girls - 1 team

We are looking at switching our website to Ramp and aligning with the ALA and possibly the CDLA, we already have a demo site set up when we are ready. With this new system it will give us a better email system to store emails for futures board members to look back on and it also removes everyone's personal emails from being used.

Arenas - We held all our 2018 evals out of Spray Lakes and Calgary South Soccer Centre, we are hoping we might get to hold some in Airdrie for next year and not have to travel as far. In 2017 I met with the GM of the Crossfield arena about re establishing our relationship with them, they were under new ownership and were excited to welcome us. It was a great experience all around I feel and was definitely helpful with all the closures at Genesis this year. 2019 is our 20 year anniversary and we want to make our Fun Day a much bigger event, looking at locations to host.

### **Coaching Directors report, Keith Berg:**

Again we had many new and many returning coaches this season, 135 coaches over all with the 31 teams RVLA had this season we had 31 coaches attend clinics this season. I held 2 RVLA coaching mentorship nights at the start of the season for our coaches to come and watch the Sr. Knights practice. The idea was they would be able to see the drills run efficiently and ask questions, unfortunately attendance was rather spars... the coaches that did come and watch had the reasons we run certain drills explained during the practice. I think a night like this would be very beneficial for our Coaches who work with the Peewee age and above as it shows the more advanced drills.

I also facilitated 8 Coaching mentorship nights For the CDLA during last season for all clubs as part of the CDLA coaching Development project. The biggest thing I found was being able to explain the drills to a coach and his players first hand, it really help the players know why they do drills like wall ball and a simple shuttle passing drill at the same time the coaches found what to look for and how to correct the players. I will hopefully be continuing this program with the CDLA next season and will help facilitate something similar with RVLA at the start of the season with the Tyke and Novice age groups.

Implementation of a coach's binder, this binder included the RVLA fair play policy, Code of conduct policy, affiliation policy, 24 hour rule, dressing room policies, CDLA Abuse-harassment and bullying policy, RVLA coaching drill book and a document on the history of lacrosse. All most every Coach that received the binder said it was really helpful. RVLA plans to make these binders each season moving forward.

Mid Season last Year RVLA asked Greg Bradley The previous Coaching Director to help with the second part of the RVLA coaching Drill book, I reviewed the status with Greg just last week and we will have the second edition ready for next season, this book will be for the older age groups and include more advanced drills and drill specifically for offence and defensive systems, it will be geared for coaches peewee and above.

### **Discipline Director, Cam Dick:**

Cam Dick resigned his possession July 22<sup>nd</sup> I would like to thank him for his time on the board over the last 2 lacrosse seasons.

**Secretary, Tamara Pritchard:** Tamara also resigned her position with the board on September 12<sup>th</sup>, Tamara has 2 girls and will be joining the new CDLA female club next season.

**Director of Female Programs, Terilyn Palmer:**

In 2018, we saw a slight increase in female players to 73, with the largest division at midget with 23. There were many successes to the season. Peewee girls brought home the gold medal from the St. Albert Jeremy Richardson Memorial Tournament. Kaylee McKay and Ruby Irwin rostered for Team Alberta Bantam girls. Midget girls took home a silver medal from Girls Rock. They were also victorious in a triple overtime game against the 3 year undefeated St. Albert Titans. Most notably though, RVLA Novice girls took the number 1 spot in regular season and won City finals! Congratulations to all. RVLA sponsored a girls beginner clinic as well as the female Jr Silvertips development camp. Both were successful and profitable.

In light of the varying skill levels between clubs, the idea of tiering the girls divisions came to be. A transition committee was formed and have diligently been working on all aspects of a new female club. They are working on everything from bylaws and budgets to coaching and player development. The new female lacrosse association will be up and running for the 2019 season. The female athletes in each division will be evaluated, then "A" or travel teams will be formed. The remaining players will be placed on parity teams, taking their home community into consideration. With the benefit of all athletes playing within their own skill level, there is sure to be remarkable growth for all. Watch for an AGM to be announced soon and the inaugural board to be voted in.

The girls program will be leaving RVLA but our hearts will always here at home! Thanks for all the support and great memories.

**Mini Tyke/Tyke Director, Michelle Anhorn:**

The 2018 season opened with a change to the program it moved to weekends only. I believed this worked well for this age group and there were no complaints from parents. Our registration closed with 65 mini tyke players and 96 tyke players. This resulted in us having 6 teams of 11 kids for mini tyke and 6 teams of 16 kids for the tykes. Teams are made based on how much experience the kids have and which hand they play with. Which hand the child uses is given to the association at time of registration and I believe that the parent just picks the child's dominate hand and really does not know which hand they will favour once holding a stick. I believe a one time mini scrimmage done before the teams are made will help the director to make the teams more balanced with lefts and rights. Due to a no affiliation rule give to all teams from the CDLA a lot of kids in mini tyke and tyke were unable to play in the year end festivals. I am hoping the CDLA will reconsider this for next year as then Rockyview can enter a few more teams.

**Novice Director, Jon Cullen:**

Team Results

Dev 1 finished third in league play and lost out in the first round of the playoffs

Dev 2 (RV2) finished 11th in league play and did not make the playoffs

Dev 2 (RV3) finished 3rd in league play and lost out in the first round of playoffs

Dev 3 (RV4) finished 4th in league play and lost in the first round of playoffs

Dev 3 (RV5) finished 2nd in league play and lost out in the semi finals

Issues: No issues reported with any of the teams. There was a couple of emails at the start of the season between our Dev 1 team and another association about the transition from non-contact to contact and how it was being coached on our side. This was dealt with appropriately and no other issues in relation were raised.

Overall, the novice division was quite successful with 4 out of 5 teams making the playoffs.

### **Peewee Director, Martin Burnsed:**

The 2018 RV Peewee division was a overwilling success, we have more than ever before with a total of 5 teams totaling 80 kids.

At the beginning of the season we had out normal first time parent questions, other than that it was uneventful.

I would like to see for next year.

- Directors to be more involved throughout the eval process ( TBD given the fact we are going to the digital version)

PW A Finished in first place in city and second in playoffs. (10-2)

PW B Was a tougher year stat wise, we finished 12th and 16th but the kids seemed to improve and RVLA has received zero negative feedback through our normal chain of command.

RV1 (4-8)

RV2(1-9-2)

PW C finished strong in 8th and 9th place

RV1 (2-9-1)

RV2 (3-7-2)

### **Bantam Director, Kevin Kleisinger:**

As last year started the bantam group of kids was a major concern for Rockyview. We as a board took a long look at where we felt the kids should be placed and felt to start at a B/C level. However when parents got wind we had push back and we as a board took a second look at the kids and process to make the teams as competitive as we could for the growth of the kids. This issue was from a few years ago when they were in pee wee division where they played the B/C division. We also felt that playing up would help the kids develop and allow kids to be more competitive as well. As a board we moved the teams up to A/B division.

In looking back at the season I feel that the kids played hard, learned way more and the skills of the kids progressed.

We had great people coaching the kids as they did as much as they could to allow the kids to enjoy the game. They stepped up with their time and deduction and patience so we thank them for that. We did lose a few kids as well and it is something that concerned me and I tried to keep kids playing the game.

Moving forward I would like to see the same evaluation process and to grow the bantam teams.

Rockyview is committed to the kids and the game of lacrosse for all the kids to continue in the sport.

### **Midget Director, Janet Dunford:**

#### Evaluations

The season started off well, with evaluations running smoothly. During the evaluation process we only had a couple of families that were unhappy with the outcome & process. Overall the process went smoothly in all levels. We had one family in Midget C decided to not play due to feeling like they were placed on the wrong team.

#### 2018 Season

##### Midget A:

Regular season: Went smoothly without any issues, finished in second place

Discipline: no major incidents

##### Midget B:

Regular season: Went smoothly without any issues, finished in first place

Discipline: no major incidents

##### Midget C:

Regular season: Went smoothly without any issues, finished in third place

Discipline: a few minor fighting issues but nothing major

Overall the season went really well. The Midget C team participated in Highway Clean-up this year with the Peewee Team, the event was a success. Of our 3 Midget teams the B team was the only one to go to provincials.

### **Director of Fundraising/Promotions, Shannon Kleisinger:**

#### Advertising:

Radio ads on Air 106

Digital boards in Cochrane

Magnetic boards in Airdrie

Tried with some schools

My only advice to next person to fill the roll would be to contact the vendor for the magnetic boards before December to ensure we get the time and the placement we would like.

Apparel:

The decision to move to Tina and Adrian with MMH was a fantastic one. They were extremely accommodating to what we as an association wanted to offer our members. I feel that they had amazing customer service and I hope that the association keeps them on as our apparel vendor going forward. I would love for an email to go out to the association right away to remind them that the apparel website is year round and would make for some fantastic Christmas gifts

Fun Day

This was our first year that we had the 50/50, and a majority of the raffle tables. Howie the Honey badger was a big hit with the younger kids. I think that as a whole the day was a success. My only suggestion that I've felt for a couple years is to go with the food trucks. Michelle did a fantastic job getting sponsorships for the food, but I think if we were able to get the ok from Genesis to have food trucks for the day and offer up different options for the kids, even though this would be a cost to families, I think that it would be a change and worth a try for just one year to see how it goes over.

I highly enjoyed planning Fun Day....there was so much help from all the board members and was so appreciated as it was a tonne of work, and I think the members appreciated everybody's hard work

Going forward, I'd love for Rage to do a tournament. I think that we have amazing kids, amazing teams, coaches and board members who could make a tournament that other teams want to come back to each year. I think a tournament committee should be created but understand that floor space is a huge issue.. would love to see one.