

## **2020 RVLA President Report-Keith Berg**

RVLA did have some good news at the start of the 2020 year as we had a number of graduating Rockyview players drafted to Jr lacrosse, the following players were all drafted by the same Calgary Mountaineers Jr. A team: Hayden Moffatt and Jacob Berg were selected back to back 2nd and 3rd overall along with Blake Kleisinger at 16<sup>th</sup> overall all. These 3 players join another very strong group of RVLA players drafted the previous year (2019 draft) very high in the order, Caden Rotter was selected 1<sup>st</sup> overall Nathan Lam was selected 4<sup>th</sup> overall and Sean Kriwoken 6<sup>th</sup> overall. These results over the last 2 years show RVLA has been developing our players the right way. We also had a total of 11 players selected to Jr B teams:

Hayden Moffatt 2<sup>nd</sup> Silvertips, Blake Kleisinger 5<sup>th</sup> Shamrocks, Josh Pilsner 10<sup>th</sup> Shamrocks, Jacob Berg 12<sup>th</sup> silvertips, Owen George 21<sup>st</sup> Silvertips, Oliver miller 35<sup>th</sup> Shamrocks, Sean Morrison 37<sup>th</sup> Silvertips, Chase Penner 45<sup>th</sup> Chill, Jacob White 49<sup>th</sup> Chill, Brodie Yule 54<sup>th</sup> Chill and Curtis Patrick 57<sup>th</sup> Silvertips.

RVLA was able to secure a Local Jersey sponsor for the club (Cam Clark Ford) whose name and logo have been placed on all of our new Jerseys, unfortunately we were not able to use them this year as our evaluations were cut short due to the Covid -19 situation. On March 12<sup>th</sup> we were forced to shut down and then ultimately cancel the season. Up until that point we had completed our A team evaluations and were approximately 80% done on our 16u, 14u, 12u B/C evaluations the only age group that did not get on the floor was our 10U group for evaluations.

Over all the evaluations that did take place went very well. We tried expanding to 4 floor times to aid in the process this year and it did provide valuable information to our evaluation team for future years.

We all know the season did not go as planned due the Covid-19 basically requiring us to cancel the season and then do mass refunds to our members. There was no way to plan for this type of situation and I think overall in the end we did the best we could, I Know it was not perfect but once the refund was done and we had paid all our bills we ended up right where we thought we would be financially. We had set aside enough funds to get us to the start of the next season but we will not be able to order the second half of our new jersey this season as planned. Hopefully the Canada Day tournament can be held in 2021 and we will be able to fund the jersey from co hosting that event as this was always the plan for how we paid for the new jerseys. We had also applied for a government grant in the spring to cover the cost of the jerseys but the programme was put on hold in the spring due to Covid, we did re-apply for a grant in early September when the government reopened the program but have yet to hear back from the government.

I can say this, there will be RVLA Rage box lacrosse next spring/summer we may not be back to a normal programme being able to play other CDLA clubs or attend tournaments but with how the cohorts are working so far with other sports we will be able to at least run a club based lacrosse season, where our members will be able to practice and play organized games within RVLA.

## **Executive Director Report - Melanie Burnsed**

2020 will definitely go down in the history books! Our registration numbers were looking really good, we had a bit of a drop but we always have quite a few late registrations coming in well into April so we were anticipating having the same numbers as 2019. We ended the season with:

6U - 65

8U - 64

10U - 69

12U - 82

14U - 71

16U - 39 (29 RVLA + 10 Knights, lost 5 to HOKS A = 34 total)

Total: 390

Evaluations ran very smoothly, the other clubs that we combined with for 16U were quite impressed with our whole process, from the software to the evaluators and all of our wonderful volunteers. We were able to build our A teams and most of the B when Covid hit.

The refund process was quite an intense one with a lot of spreadsheets going. It took a few weeks to get through all of the credit card refunds, in a perfect world it would have been nice to do a mass refund but unfortunately there were so many different circumstances that each one had to be done individually. I'm confident that everyone's accounts are balanced and accurate and will reflect any credits or balances owing.

With hand delivering the cheques, it was nice to get out and see some of our members faces, I think they appreciated seeing us as well. We had a pretty good system going and divvied up neighborhoods to each board member and we were able to get them all distributed over a few short weeks.

I stayed a bit active on social media with some puzzles and the PLL gave us some codes for discounted games to watch but other than that it was a quiet off season.

I already have all of the regular season floor booked in Airdrie and the preseason floor in Airdrie and Cochrane, I will start booking space in Crossfield in the new year. We shouldn't have to book any evaluations at South Soccer Centre in 2021, the Silvertips will not be running their winter camp so we have access to that floor early on in Cochrane and Airdrie Soccer isn't using nearly as much floor as before so we have time booked there as well.

We shouldn't need to buy any equipment this next season except for first aid kits.

## **2020 RVLA EVALUATIONS REPORT-Shane Viste & Brad Foote**

Overall the 2020 evaluations went really well. The whole process was very transparent, and all players were placed as fairly as possible. We had a few inquiries from parents about rankings, and we supplied them with the player evaluation report. Most times we never heard back from

them after they were provided with the report. The Team Genius report is a nice tool. We might want to look at sending them to all players.

This was the second year we used the Team Genius web based system. We did make some set-up changes from the 2018 evaluations that allowed the process to flow a little easier. We looked at a second evaluations site called SkillShark but ultimately we decided to go with Team Genius. When I tested the SkillShark website there were a couple of glitches that caused me some concern.

Communication (Wi-Fi and Cell) was decent this year. There were a few options we used at the Calgary Soccer Center, and they all worked relatively well; cell boosters, and TELUS Smart hub were some of the options used. The Airdrie Genesis Place building's assigned Wi-Fi did not work. We should be prepared for this to not work for future evaluation sessions. Creating a hotspot from a cell phone is likely the best option. Having internet connection is not absolutely necessary, but it does make things easier. You would not be able to add players or change helmet numbers without it. The midget evaluations would have been impossible without an internet connection this year.

We started evaluations earlier this year and spread them out over a longer period, which from an evaluation perspective, was fantastic. There was more time in between sessions, allowing for more time to synthesize the data and have meaningful discussions. I recommend starting the evaluations in early February again next year. As always we should try and avoid spring break if possible. Attendance was better this year than in previous years.

There was one issue on the email side of Team Genius. Some people were not getting their emails from the system. I never did figure out exactly what the issue was, but once I re-typed in their email addresses, the email system seemed to work even though the addresses were identical. We do have the ability to see who has opened up their email or not, and particular attention should be paid to this aspect in the future if we continue to use Team Genius.

We purchased 1400 helmet stickers for this past evaluation session. I don't have an exact number of stickers we used or the inventory left, but we will not need to purchase stickers for the next couple of years. It is really easy to swap out a player's evaluation number if they have lost or removed theirs from previous sessions. It is not imperative that they use the same number for each evaluation, unless we don't have an internet connection. Players who are evaluating while still participating in hockey will likely remove their stickers between evaluation sessions.

We evaluated a total of 230 players. We completed the "A" tryouts and approximately 1/3 of the "B/C" tryouts before the evaluations were cut short due to COVID-19. We had purchased a 250 player package (sold in 50 player bundles), so it was an optimal purchase amount. We would have had to add another 50 player bundle if we had gotten to the Novice evaluations.

The evaluations numbers were as follows:

Midget A: 43 players plus 4 goalies

Midget B/C: 22 additional players (players already evaluated in A do not count)

Bantam A: 34 players plus 6 goalies

Bantam B/C: 33 additional players plus 1 additional goalie

PeeWee A: 37 players plus 2 goalies

PeeWee B/C: 46 additional players plus 2 additional goalies

We did ask Team Genius if they would be willing to refund any amount as our evaluations were not completed but because we had already evaluated 230 kids, it was not possible.

I recommend we evaluate the SkillShark software and Team Genius software again this upcoming year. Both software sites have excellent reviews online. A cost comparison at the very least should be done.

The midget "A" evaluations were much more difficult than any of the other evaluations. Trying to get updated lists from every club was difficult. Many players had to be entered into the system as walk-ups which we managed but is not ideal. Getting all their info after the fact was difficult. 90% of the parent complaints/inquiries came from this group of players.

Missing players do have a major effect on placement. The Board must communicate the importance of attending the evaluations. The answer to the question of how many evaluations a player must attend is "All of them". If they say that is not possible, we must encourage players to attend as many as possible. Another message we should convey is that when making a decision between two "like" players, preference will be given to the player with better evaluation attendance.

Specific notes for 2021 Evaluations (More from Brad and Shane):

- Create two weighted PeeWee B/C groups, based on previous placement or yrs. of experience or coach ranking, similar to what we did in Novice. We learned this from the 2018 evaluations.
- We ran the 2020 evaluations using separate assessments set up as such:
  - i. RVLA Midget "A" Assessment
  - ii. RVLA Bantam "A" Assessment
  - iii. RVLA PeeWee "A" Assessment
  - iv. RVLA Novice "A" Assessment
  - v. RVLA Goalie "A" Assessment
  - vi. RVLA Midget "B/C" Assessment

- vii. RVLA Bantam "B/C"  
Assessment
- viii. RVLA Pee wee "B/C"  
Assessment
- ix. RVLA Novice "B/C"  
Assessment
- x. RVLA Goalie "B/C"  
Assessment

- No Player Groups to be set up; use Eval Group instead, ex) Pee wee B/C Assessment will have Eval Group 1 and Eval Group 2. This will allow you to see Team Genius scores on players should they move groups.
- Don't use "eval groups" for the jersey color designation. Make it part of the check-in sheet process, as a lot of the kids didn't adhere to it anyways.