



2022-2023

ANNUAL REPORT



SLA VIRTUAL MEETING PROCESS

ROLL CALL/CHECK IN – Delegates/Observers will need to register by using the Chat Function to state their full name and what MA/AMA they are Associated with. Failure to do this will result in an attendee’s attendance not being recorded on the AGM Minutes. SLA President will do a verbal roll call of the pre-registered voting delegates who can use the Hand Raise function to signal they are present at roll call.

MAKING A MOTIONS – To make a motion, delegates can use the hand raise function when the Chair asks for a Motion.

SECONDING A MOTION – To second a motion, delegates can use the hand raise function when the Chair asks for a second.

APPROVAL OF MOTIONS – When voting please use the Hand Raise function. The chair will ask all those in favor, give a couple minutes for those to raise their hand.

QUESTIONS – If any delegates have a question, they would like addressed they can do one of the following actions:

- **Raise Their Hand** – Utilizing the Raise Hand Function delegates can “Raise Their Hand” and the moderator will unmute the individual.
- **Use the Q & A** – put question in the Q & A Box and the moderator will read it out. Only questions from voting delegates will be answered.
- **Text** – anyone having issues with those two options can text “Question” and their name/MA/AMA, and the question to 306.541.3738 and the moderator will bring the question forward on their behalf.

ELECTIONS

- **Nominations** – nominations were to be submitted one-week hours prior to the start of the 2024 AGM so nominations will not be accepted from the floor.
- **Voting** – Voting will be done by Microsoft Forms

For virtual meetings to be successful, it is crucial that there is respect and common courtesy used. Even when frustrated, delegates should discuss topics in a positive tone and bring forward their opinion on topics in a professional manner. Anyone not following the Virtual Process or whomever the SLA President feel is acting unprofessional will be removed from the meetings.



PROGRAM/EVENT REPORTS



2023 SLA BOX PROVINCIAL'S CONVENORS REPORT

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

In the second year of the revised Provincial format, most divisions were successfully categorized into A, B, and C tiers. The A Division included teams from the Sask A Box League, while for House Provincials, teams were allocated to B or C based on their performance and the presence of double-carded athletes. This approach ensured closely contested games and provided equitable playing opportunities for smaller Member Associations (MA's) and areas without double-carded players.

While some MAs with multiple teams in a division attempted to create All-Star teams by combining their house teams, resembling the old Provincial format, the majority adhered to submitting teams as they were during the season. This format allowed teams that had faced heavily double-carded opponents all season, sometimes without scoring a goal, to secure their first win against teams of comparable playing levels.

Under this updated format and the capability to segregate into distinct divisions, there was a notable reduction in "blowout games" compared to previous years. The few instances of such games either transpired in divisions lacking enough teams for differentiation into B and C or occurred during seeding games.

There were instances where some groups aimed to introduce All-Star teams into the A Division, which, at present, is designated for players participating in the A League. While the new format is expected to evolve and potentially allow this option in the future, further decisions and considerations are needed, particularly concerning Double Carding. Extensive discussions are required to navigate the integration of this option without diminishing the significance of House Teams. It is crucial to bear in mind that, for certain players involved in Provincials, this represents the highest level of play they may experience, while others will have other high-performance opportunities available to them.

A considerable number of coaches lacked the required certifications before Provincials, which is a cause for concern, especially considering that Provincials typically mark the conclusion of the season.

This year, we transitioned to using RAMP for registration purposes, which presented a learning curve.



EVALUATION OF HOST ASSOCIATION

Moose Jaw Lacrosse once again demonstrated remarkable proficiency in hosting this extensive event. Managing a tournament across two to three arenas spanning five days is no small feat, yet Jill and her team executed it perfectly. The opening ceremonies were well-executed, fostering a fun atmosphere for the athletes. The arenas proved more than sufficient, and witnessing the players' excitement in the Mosaic Arena was a highlight. Ample food options and family-friendly activities in the city added to the overall positive experience. Notably, the host went the extra mile by installing large portable air conditioning units in the Kinsmen rink to ensure a comfortable environment for the athletes.

Swift Current excelled in hosting the U11 Festival, earning praise from attending families and creating a memorable experience for the teams. The event's success reflects Swift Current's commendable efforts in organizing and executing the tournament, and we express our gratitude for their willingness to take on the responsibility this year.

COMPETITION

The A Provincials had all four teams in the league participate this year in each age division (Regina Barracuda, SSSL Stealth, Saskatoon SWAT, and North Sask Jr. Predators). This year there was the following number of teams in each Division for House Provincials:

- U13 – 7 (Carnduff, Moose Jaw, Regina Crossfire, Regina Warriors, Standing Buffalo, Swift Current, and Weyburn)
- U15 – 9 (Carnduff, Melfort, Moose Jaw, Regina Predators, Regina Titans, Saskatoon, Standing Buffalo, Swift Current, and Weyburn)
- U17 – 6 (Moose Jaw, Regina Snipers, Regina Waterdogs, Saskatoon, Swift Current, and Weyburn)

The introduction of the new format has contributed to narrowing the skill gap, resulting in fewer blowout games and a more substantial number of close and exhilarating matches. The A, B, and C divisions all offered compelling lacrosse competitions, providing valuable opportunities for players across various skill levels.



2023 MEDAL WINNERS

U13 A DIVISION	U15 A DIVISION	U17 A DIVISION
Gold – SSSL Stealth	Gold – SSSL Stealth	Gold – Regina Barracuda
Silver – Regina Barracuda	Silver – Saskatoon SWAT	Silver – Saskatoon SWAT
Bronze – Saskatoon SWAT	Bronze – North Sask Predators	Bronze – SSSL Stealth

U13 B DIVISION	U15 B DIVISION	U17 B DIVISION
Gold – Swift Current Rampage	Gold – Weyburn Thrashers	Gold – MJ Mustangs
Silver – SB Fighting Sioux	Silver – MJ Mustangs	Silver – Weyburn Thrashers
Bronze – MJ Mustangs	Bronze – Swift Current Rampage	Bronze – Regina Snipers

U13 C DIVISION	U15 C DIVISION	U17 C DIVISION
Gold – Regina Crossfire	Gold – Melfort Wings	Gold – Swift Current Rampage
Silver – Carnduff Cobras	Silver – Carnduff Maulers	Silver – Saskatoon Bandits
Bronze – Weyburn Thrashers	Bronze – Saskatoon Thunder	

OFFICIATING

There were no concerns with officiating, except for the need to increase the number of officials to allow for longer breaks between games. The Referee-in-Chiefs (RICs) played a commendable role in assisting the officials with their requirements. The host thoughtfully provided dedicated rooms for the officials, stocked with snacks and drinks. The officials maintained effective control over the games.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

There were no suspensions or incidents that required a discipline committee to be created.

MEDIA

The Provincials garnered significant media coverage, ranging from local media outlets focusing on community teams to larger media groups attending the event.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Two Member Associations (MAs) opted not to participate in House Provincials this year. One MA abstained from both A and House categories, while another chose to attend only the A category. Encouraging the participation of all MAs is desirable, and it was particularly gratifying to welcome back some MAs that had not attended in a while, with the added delight of one of them securing a gold medal.
- There was considerable feedback expressing concerns about the extensive travel for the South Sask Lacrosse League families, as they held their League Championship weekend only two weeks before Provincials. Families found it challenging to manage the travel for both league playoffs and Provincials within such a short timeframe. It is suggested that the Sector collaborate with the league to explore alternative dates that could alleviate this strain on families.
- The new format received substantial positive feedback, particularly from smaller Member Associations (MAs) that lack the flexibility of having numerous double-carded players. The introduction of A, B, C divisions or variations for Provincial Championships aligns lacrosse with the structures commonly seen in other sports. However, it is acknowledged that the presence of double carding poses challenges when it comes to the divisional categorization of teams.
- There is divided feedback regarding the length of the event, with approximately half of the families expressing difficulty attending for five days. This is particularly challenging for athletes who double card and participate in both A and House Provincials. Nevertheless, the extended duration is deemed necessary to accommodate the substantial number of teams and ensure sufficient time for all scheduled games. The separation of A Provincials from House is emphasized as a necessity as long as double carding is allowed.
- It is recommended that the Sector review the future direction of A Provincials. This review should consider whether the event should remain exclusively for teams in the A League or if it should be opened to other teams that have a very successful season. If an expansion is considered, careful planning is crucial to prevent negative impacts on House Provincials. For instance, measures must be put in place to avoid scenarios where Member Associations (MAs) send only All-Star teams for A Provincials instead of their genuine house teams, potentially limiting opportunities for grassroots players and concentrating participation among high-performance players as often those grassroots players are the ones left at home when teams combine.
- It is recommended that coaches ensure their certification is completed two weeks before Nationals, or ideally, at the time of registering teams.
- Get rid of the Performance Bonds. They are no longer a requirement and if teams do need to get fined, the Office can fine them individually. This causes a lot of additional work, and causes teams to from closing out their season sooner as they wait for the return of their bond.
- Invoice teams as they register.

The Box Provincials has come a long way over the years, especially coming out of COVID, it is an exciting event and great to see the opportunity available to so many players of all levels.



2023 SLA FIELD PROVINCIAL'S CONVENORS REPORT

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

The Field Provincials of 2023 proved to be another triumph. The introduction of a Women's Field/Sixes segment significantly enhanced the event, providing a platform for our female athletes to collaborate and relish the experience.

It was encouraging to witness teams from smaller Member Associations participating in the event, showcasing the inclusivity of the competition. Challenges arose for the U19 Groups due to conflicting Junior Box games with the RMLL scheduled for the same weekend, impacting some players. The decision to have the U15 division as 7's allowed for broader Member Association participation, although a few opted out due to difficulties in scheduling pre-Provincial games.

Both the U10 Festival and U12 Provincials were successful, offering players an enjoyable experience. While Provincial participation is not typically aligned with the LTAD at these age levels, the players were delighted to seize the opportunity to compete for Provincial honors.

EVALUATION OF HOST ASSOCIATION

The Saskatoon Field Lacrosse Association, serving as the Host Association for the 10U Festival and 12U Provincials, once again demonstrated outstanding performance. The utilized facilities were excellent, meeting all the tournament's requirements seamlessly.

For the U15, U17, and U19 Provincials, Regina Field took on the hosting responsibilities. The facilities were exceptional, featuring a restaurant for player meals. The close proximity of the fields enhanced the overall hosting experience, making it an excellent venue.

The convenors expressed gratitude for the tremendous efforts put forth by the hosts in organizing and executing these highly successful events.



COMPETITION

This year there was the following number of teams in each Division:

- U13 – 7 (Carlyle, Moosomin, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Sturgis and Yorkton)
- U15 – 6 (Carnduff, Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Sturgis, Weyburn, Yorkton)
- U17 – 4 (Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Weyburn)
- U20 – 3 (Prince Albert, Regina, Sturgis)

Competition varied at the younger ages, but games become closer for the most part in the older divisions. It was great to see more teams in the younger divisions this year.

2023 MEDAL WINNERS

U13 DIVISION	U15 DIVISION	U17 DIVISION	U20 DIVISION
Gold – Yorkton Fighting Pikes	Gold – Prince Albert Attack	Gold – Regina Reign	Gold – Regina Reign
Silver – Saskatoon Havoc	Silver – Saskatoon Havoc	Silver – Saskatoon Havoc	Silver – Prince Albert Attack
Bronze – Regina Reign	Bronze – Cornerstone Chaos	Bronze – Weyburn Rattlers	Bronze – Sturgis Trojans

OFFICIATING

Convenors expressed satisfaction with the officiating, noting that it was well-managed. The Referee-in-Chiefs (RICs) at the tournament demonstrated effective oversight, adeptly addressing any issues that arose and offering valuable mentorship. The U13 division, in particular, served as a beneficial training ground for younger officials.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

There were no suspensions or incidents that required a discipline committee to be created.

MEDIA

Several local media outlets did articles on their community teams, and CTV and Global both did pieces at the actual Provincials.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Persistent challenges surround the Field Provincials, particularly for dual athletes. The decision to hold the Field Provincials in the fall of 2021 drew teams from various regions, benefiting from players not engaged in a Box season. Many teams currently arrive at Provincials in the spring without any prior games, making player commitment challenging. Regardless of the Field Sector's decision to shift its season, exploring alternative Provincial dates is advisable, although this may pose difficulties with graduation schedules.
- It is recommended to separate the 7's and 10's Provincials to alleviate logistical challenges for hosts. Having two separate Provincial weekends, one for 7's (younger teams) and another for 10's (older teams), could be a practical solution. For instance, organizing the U11 Festival, U13 Provincials, and U15 Provincials on one weekend, and the U17 and U20 Provincials on a separate weekend, may be considered if feasible.
- Coaches should be required to obtain certification two weeks prior to Provincials, and the Field Sector should review the necessary certifications for coaches participating in Provincials. This ensures coaches begin the season with a clear understanding of the certifications they need.
- The inclusion of Women's Field or Women's Sixes into the Provincials should be continued to enhance diversity and participation.
- Get rid of the Performance Bonds. They are no longer a requirement and if teams do need to get fined, the Office can fine them individually. This causes a lot of additional work, and causes teams to from closing out their season sooner as they wait for the return of their bond.

All in all, it was a great tournament, a big thank you to the Saskatoon Field Lacrosse Association and Regina Field Lacrosse and all of its volunteers for all their hard work and effort into putting on a fantastic Provincial event.



2023 SLA TEAM SASK PROGRAM SUMMARY REPORT

OVERALL REVIEW

The Team Sask program experienced an incredibly busy 2023. In addition to hosting Nationals, the program expanded from 5 teams to 10, with plans to add three more teams in 2024. This year marked a milestone as we introduced two Jr. Rush teams and sent three all-Female Box teams to Nationals, a first for Sask Lacrosse. Tryouts saw the highest participation in over five years, which was gratifying to observe.

Hosting Nationals in Regina for the minor Box program provided an excellent opportunity for players to compete on home turf and showcase the best of what Saskatchewan has to offer.

The program's growth is a positive outcome and a reflection of the hard work invested over the past decade. However, it also prompted the Team Sask Committee to undergo a thorough review for 2024, identifying necessary changes to accommodate the program's expansion.

TEAMS IN THE PROGRAM

In 2023 the program offered the following teams:

- U13 Box Coed
- U13 Box Female
- U13 Jr. Rush
- U15 Box Coed
- U15 Box Female
- U15 Jr. Rush
- U17 Box Coed
- U17 Box Female
- U17 Field
- U19 Field

COMPETITION RESULTS

The program secured two A Side Bronze medals, with most of our teams achieving top-four placements. Witnessing teams triumph over larger provinces, such as Alberta, was a noteworthy positive aspect.

We are observing a reduction in the development gap among our players when competing against other teams. This positive trend can be attributed to the various opportunity's players have had, including working with professionals and engaging in year-round play and training. The impact of these opportunities is becoming increasingly evident.



POSITIVES

- While the program had a lot of growing pains this year, there was lots of positive as well:
- Despite facing significant challenges this year, the program also experienced numerous positive developments:
- A substantial number of players enthusiastically signed up for program tryouts. The introduction of the Jr. Rush program allowed us to provide playing opportunities for most participants.
- There was a notable increase in the participation of female athletes in the program.
- Strong competition results showcased the program's competitive prowess.
- This year, we implemented a more organized practice schedule, released much earlier than in previous years. There were also more practices available for teams this year.
- The PLL camp was another success, providing a great learning experience for the Field Teams, who typically see the least amount of practice time due to conflicts and field availability.
- The program garnered substantial media attention, particularly in connection with hosting Nationals.
- The presence of dedicated volunteers greatly contributed to the program's success, both with individual teams and during Nationals.
- Teams were able to practice together at the same locations and during similar times, reducing travel for families with players on multiple teams.
- The coaching staff represented various regions of the province, and team representatives hailed from diverse lacrosse associations.
- The heart of the program lies in its players, who consistently brought positivity, excitement, and a genuine passion for the game. Even on challenging days, the players' enthusiasm made a significant difference.

ISSUES FACED/ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Encountered significant issues with our clothing supplier this year, including garments featuring incorrect logos, sizes, and delays in delivery. Some jerseys even had logos falling off. It was learned that relying on a single supplier for all clothing needs was overwhelming for them.
- Due to the substantial growth in teams and a high volume of payments on already limited resources and staff, the reconciliation of accounts took much longer than should. Over 100 payments were received without names, causing significant. Additionally, sponsorship payments did not align with the sponsorship sheet, creating challenges in managing the increased number of transactions.
- RAMP, particularly for dual athletes engaged in both Box and Field, proved confusing. Parents were unable to view backend details entered by the office, such as payment dates and types, leading to frustration and confusion for families and the office alike.
- Conducting Coed and Female tryouts simultaneously resulted in athlete frustration and confusion for coaches during the selection process.
- With so many different teams, it was difficult to have constant communication available for families.



- Due to supply issues, it was difficult getting equipment this year.
- With the growth of the 5 to 10 team it became very apparent that RAMP no longer meets our needs for accounting purposes. The program is confusing and when payments are entered in, parents cannot see the same as what the office puts in. All payments are tracked but to try and switch that over to RAMP is no longer working.

CHANGES FOR 2024

- Tryouts will commence earlier and undergo a revamped structure for increased efficiency.
 - For Box teams, players will attend one Open ID camp, reducing travel and preventing evaluator overload. The Open ID camp will be segregated into Coed and Female sessions, offering players flexibility. Following the Open ID camps, players progress to Invitational ID Camps, receiving invitations to either a Team Sask ID camp or Jr. Rush camp. This accelerates team formation, avoiding delays for Jr. Rush teams. The process culminates in a Finals camp, with A League exhibition games scheduled for mid-April. The objective is to finalize Box team rosters by the end of April.
 - Field teams will have a single full Open ID camp and a finals camp, with fewer sessions compared to Box teams. The timeline for team selection depends on decisions made by the Field Sector regarding the season, with the goal of finalizing all teams by the end of April.
- Collaboration with RAMP has led to a revised account setup, streamlining the process, especially for dual athletes. Instead of separate accounts, these athletes will have both Box and Field packages consolidated under one registration, eliminating the need for multiple registrations for each ID camp. This simplifies administration for families and enhances organization for the office.
- Efforts are underway to automate and enhance payment tracking, exploring user-friendly accounting programs to provide families with a clearer overview of their payments and regular statement updates.
- Multiple clothing suppliers have been engaged to distribute the workload and prevent overwhelming a single supplier, reducing delays and errors. Earlier selection of teams will assist in ordering clothing sooner.
- Collaboration with Sask Polytech Sport Management program will bring in three interns to assist with program management and hosting Nationals, distributing workload and potentially expediting processes.
- The inaugural Prairie Cup Regional Championship will offer teams additional playing opportunities.



2023 PGLL REPORT

Thank you to all the teams that committed to the PGLL in 2023! PGLL is struggling to get back to enrolment of teams before COVID-19! 2023, saw the lowest number of teams within the league in the past several years. PGLL welcome back to Moose Jaw Mustangs, and it was great to see that the Standing Buffalo Fighting Sioux joining the senior league as well.

Trying to find the ultimate balance between individual work schedule and games played has always been a struggle within the PGLL! Seniors only played 8 regular season games, and the Juniors played 12. This was discussed at the PGLL 2023 Fall Meeting and hopefully the PGLL will have a solution for this in 2024.

The parity in the league was visible from week to week! Both championship matches were decided by 1 goal. 2 new champions were crowned. Prince Albert Predators in the Junior division and the Saskatoon Swat in the Senior division.

A huge shout out to the sponsors: Crop Aid SBK and GWB for their commitment to the PGLL. Unfortunately, a team from the Senior division did not attend President's Cup in 2023. Hopefully the PGLL can get a commitment from players to attend in 2024. Swift Current Wolverines also participated in the McDonald's Cup in British Columbia in 2023 and the PGLL is hoping to send another team in 2024. Thank you to all the officials who participated in one way or another in 2023! Feedback around the league was that consistency is starting to come together. Overall, fighting has decreased each year, which I believe, can be contributed to towards the consistency of officiating. A huge shout out goes to Jeff and Marcus for their arrangement of officials for the games.

Thank you to the PGLL Board of Directors for their commitment to the PGLL in 2023! Providing the guidance and knowledge for the league heading into 2024! Thank you to all the General Managers who participate in league, dialogue, and meetings.

PGLL is hoping to attract a few more teams heading into 2024! Please if there is any questions or concerns that anybody has, I would be happy to answer them. Thanks again for allowing me the opportunity to be the Commissioner and looking forward to 2024!

Sincerely,

C. Lesanko

Chris Lesanko | PGLL Commissioner
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



BOARD AND STAFF REPORTS



2022-2023 PRESIDENT 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 Box Nationals and introduced the inaugural U13 Female Festival. This event served as a highlight for our entire lacrosse community and look forward to hosting Box Nationals again in 2024.

We're witnessing a remarkable surge in female participation, largely attributed to the impact of the participation in the Canada Games. In 2023, we sent three female teams to Nationals, including the new U13 National Festival. Looking ahead to 2024, 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. 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, and three athletes to the LC Women's Box ID camps, making it a first for our province. We eagerly anticipate more opportunities such as this for our athletes and hope to see these programs extended to the 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 that as many youth as possible have access to the medicine 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. 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.



I am happy to report I was elected to the Chair position of Member Council for Lacrosse Canada in November of 2023 where I will faithfully continue to serve out my term as Director at Large on the Lacrosse Canada Board until November of 2024. (I serve in this National position in addition to my SLA President position). Having the opportunity to not only serve at a Provincial level for Lacrosse but also at a national level has no doubt been an extraordinary experience that has provided me the incredible opportunity to learn and gain experience from other leaders across the country. These positions have continued to allow me to bring a strong voice for Saskatchewan to the National stage. In conclusion, 2023 was an extraordinary year for lacrosse in Saskatchewan, and we eagerly look forward to all that 2024 has in store. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone for their tireless efforts in promoting and nurturing this remarkable game.

S. Hubelit

Sheena Hubelit | President
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



2022-2023 V.P. OF MARKETING REPORT

I am honored to present the annual report of the Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association in my role as Vice President of Marketing. It has been a remarkable year filled with accomplishments, growth, and memorable events that have contributed to the advancement of lacrosse in our province.

Hosted 2023 Box Lacrosse National Championships and 12U Female Box National Invitational Tournament:

One of the most significant highlights of the year was the successful hosting of the 2023 Box Lacrosse National Championships and 1U13 Female Box National Festival at the Co-operators Centre. Bringing together athletes, fans, and supporters from across the country, these events showcased Saskatchewan's commitment to excellence in lacrosse and provided a platform for our local talent to shine on a national stage.

The Co-operators Centre served as the main hub, and despite certain hiccups within the facility, I have no doubt that as an organization we built a foundation to create an unforgettable experience for participants and spectators alike. Through meticulous planning, collaboration with stakeholders, and dedicated efforts from our volunteers, we were able to deliver world-class competitions that highlighted the spirit and excitement of the sport.

Extended Partnership with the Saskatchewan Rush and SLGA License Management:

Our continued partnership with the Saskatchewan Rush has been instrumental in promoting lacrosse and engaging our community. This year, we successfully extended our partnership with the Rush and managed SLGA license operations for the 50-50 on Rush game nights. This collaboration has not only enhanced the game-day experience for fans but also provided valuable support for our association's initiatives and programs.

Dale Wilson Officiating at the Men's World Lacrosse Championships:

We take immense pride in celebrating the achievements of individuals within our lacrosse community. This year, Dale Wilson made history by officiating with an all-female crew at the Men's World Lacrosse Championships in San Diego. Her remarkable accomplishment not only reflects the talent and dedication of our officials but also underscores the inclusivity and diversity of our sport on a global scale.

SLA Awards Night in Saskatoon:

The SLA Awards Night in Saskatoon was a momentous occasion where we celebrated the outstanding achievements and contributions of our members, athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers. It was a night filled with pride, recognition, and camaraderie as we honored those who have made significant contributions to the growth and success of lacrosse in Saskatchewan.



Closing Remarks:

As I reflect on the past three years, it has been a privilege and honor to serve as the Vice President of Marketing for the Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association. I am proud of the strides we have made together as a community and the positive impact we have had on the sport of lacrosse in our province.

However, I must announce that I will not be seeking re-election for the position of Vice President of Marketing. While this decision was not made lightly, I am hopeful that I have left the organization in a position that Sask. Lacrosse will continue to build, grow and prosper so all of our members have an exceptional experience with the game we all love!

In closing, I extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your unwavering support and commitment to the Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association. Together, we have achieved great things, and I am excited to witness the continued growth and success of lacrosse in the years to come.

Yours in lacrosse,

J. Laprairie

Joseph Laprairie | VP of Marketing
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



2022 - 2023 VP OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Collectively we were successful!

We saw arenas and fields full of athletes, coaches, parents and supporters passionately gathered cheering on their teams in the Spirit of Competition.

We saw league / provincial champions crowned; individual accolades earned & teams celebrated across our province.

We saw the completion of a marquee programs that culminated in 2 groups of athletes participate in the return of Box Lacrosse to the Canada Games after years of diligent planning.

We saw the return of our Team Saskatchewan programs that travelled across Canada as ambassadors our collective group, and like always, they represented us in a manner we can all be proud of.

Collectively our Grass Roots Leaders are continuing to share The Creator's Medicine Game which is evident with the growing number of communities organizing lacrosse events throughout our province. We are seeing the evolution of our lacrosse families. Their passion, commitment, energy and enthusiasm for the success and development of lacrosse athletes have created opportunities that now are available all year round.

Looking forward to 2024, I look to continue the momentum to enhance and grow our existing programs to deliver the very best in opportunities to our athletes. Lacrosse doesn't sleep in Saskatchewan; We continue to grow stronger with each moment that passes.

Sincerely,

R. Labrecque

Randy Labrecque | VP of Planning and Development
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



2022-2023 FIELD SECTOR CHAIR REPORT

I would like to start off by thanking everyone that helped/participated in this past field lacrosse season. It was another year of learning for everyone. This sport is always changing, and it is your willingness to adopt and improve the sector that really makes it great. With the addition of Sixes, I can't wait to see what we come up with as a group to help bring this type of field lacrosse to the province.

Over the past year, we had some new additions to our sector, which is always great to see, but we continue to see our participation numbers drop. It was awesome to see multiple MA's work together to make it possible for those participating in field lacrosse to have a season. From putting on festivals, to having more athletes try field lacrosse. We were able to put on a try Female Field Lacrosse during Provincials, which was a big step in getting that sector more established. We also had a decent turn out for both provincials and Championship. I hope the numbers continue to grow for those events as they are always a great success for our sector. Thank you to Saskatoon Field Lacrosse Association for putting on a Championship for the younger athletes. Thank you to Regina Field Lacrosse Association for hosting Provincials this year. It was a great event and well put together.

As our sector continues to navigate and grow, I know we will continue to only get stronger and offer more for our athletes. I am always amazed at how well our small sector does compared to the rest of the country. Having our U19 Team Sask, finish 3rd at Nationals in PEI, really shows that Sask is a dark horse in the Field Program. Hearing from other provinces about how well our programs is progressing is a great accomplishment for everyone. It is our dedication to the sport, that sets us apart from the country. From hosting another PLL Over Night Academy, to having more Sask Athletes reach scholarships in Canada and the US. This is all because of your commitment to putting in the work for those athletes in the Field Sector. We are a strong province that continues to grow the game of Field Lacrosse. I look forward to the upcoming season and all the events that are being planned to help grow the game.

Sincerely,

M. Robin

Matt Robin | Field Sector Chair
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



2023 WOMEN'S SECTOR CHAIR REPORT

I am delighted to present the annual report for the Female Lacrosse Sector for 2023, highlighting the many achievements attained by our female athletes and programs. This year saw significant developmental within our female lacrosse community.

The year kicked off with great enthusiasm as our female players showcased their skill at the US Box Winter Nationals. Two Saskatchewan female athletes were chosen to attend the European Box Lacrosse Tournament to compete with Team German, Pgfalzer Phantom Banshees. It is amazing to see our home grown athletes competing at an international level.

The Women's Field and Sixes Clinic held in Saskatoon was a success, serving as a stage for skill development and growth within our lacrosse community. The clinic provided opportunities to enhance our techniques and develop a deeper understanding of the game.

Our association took pride in supporting and nurturing the Female NAIG Team, comprising of talented athletes representing our region at a high level of competition. Furthermore, Saskatchewan boasted an impressive presence at the Box Nationals in Regina, with four female teams competing across different divisions. This demonstration of talent showcased the growth and competitiveness of female athletes. Saskatchewan Lacrosse provided The Team Sask Fall/Winter Development Series to help our athletes refine their skills. Several of our talented Saskatchewan athletes participated in the Canada West tryouts for the Canada Female Box Team. Their representation at this level reflects the caliber of players within our association and their aspirations to excel on the national stage.

In conclusion, 2023 has been an exceptional year for female lacrosse in our province. The achievements reflect the dedication and passion of our athletes, coaches, volunteers, and supporters. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our female athletes. We look forward to continued progress and achievements in the coming year.

Sincerely,

P. Mason

Paige Mason | Women's Sector Chair
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



2023 OFFICIATING CHAIR REPORT

This report will be a brief overview of the status of Field and Box Lacrosse officiating for the SLA. We are continuing to recover from the restrictions brought on due to COVID-19 but with the success built from the previous seasons we continue to see growth and the great potential we have for more growth.

Happy to report lacrosse was in full swing again this year. We were fortunate to host the Minor Box Lacrosse Nationals this year and this I believe helped new officials to see the pace of the game at its highest levels as we used many young officials to time keep in this tournament providing amazing opportunities to many young officials. League and Provincial Championships went off without any major events and were in my view an amazing success I had the great fortune to attend.

At the nationals with a mixture of veteran and first-time officials entering these tournaments, Saskatchewan made a strong showing at these different events and was awarded by finding our officials in many of the medal games and even to see a new addition to the ranks in the NLL so a nice to see so congratulations to our own Tanner Fetch and wishing much success in the league. While it is usually athletes that seem to garner more attention, there is some validation that Saskatchewan is turning out excellent officials that can hold their own outside of the province and at any level. We want to continue training our officials to a higher level of consistency and game management and through this setting an extremely high bar for our supervisors and mentors as well, so that we can provide consistent quality officiating within our province and give them the chance to take their talents outside of the province as well and prove themselves.

Our quality of officials continues to increase, we still need to look at increasing those numbers especially in the introductory levels as our numbers in some MA's did fall this year. As we are a smaller province, we continue to show that we have capable officials, and we must now push to get more officials out on the floor and retain them through support and mentorship. At the entry level, we need to continue looking for ways to increase numbers and carry on with more mentoring and providing opportunity for growth to these new officials especially in the rural areas where the chances of lots of games is a little more difficult to provide. With the increase in skilled games played this year, there was an increase in opportunity for officials to officiate those games at the higher level. As an official's experience continues to increase, our pool of higher quality officials will also naturally increase. I would like to say it has been an amazing year of development and an amazing job everyone on making 2023 a successful year, and as more people return to lacrosse, our officials will be ready for them.



In my closing remarks, I would just like to thank all the amazing volunteers, coaches, players, and officials who were apart of the 2023 season. I was fortunate to attend all the provincials and it was amazing to see everyone out and enjoying the game we all love again. Although for all MA's our need to work together and provide opportunities to officials of all levels has never been more important to grow the Creator's Game.

Thank you,

D. Hack

Devon Hack | Officiating Sector Chair
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



2022 - 2023 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The 2023 season proved to be one of the most bustling periods I've witnessed in my 11-year tenure. We expanded our Team Sask program significantly by introducing Female teams and Jr. NLL teams, effectively doubling our teams. Moreover, we hosted the largest Lacrosse Canada Minor National Championships to date and launched more Provincial Festivals and Championships, all within a condensed five-month timeframe.

I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation for the patience and cooperation demonstrated by all our members as we navigated this demanding year. I am deeply grateful for the dedication of our volunteers, Board, and Staff whose unwavering support helped us overcome the challenges of the year.

With significant growth comes inevitable growing pains, and we have learned valuable lessons as we endeavor to keep pace with our expansion. Some of our existing software no longer suffice, necessitating a reevaluation of our seasonal timing and resource allocation. To sustain our growth trajectory, it is imperative that we consider augmenting our staff and resources.

Nevertheless, I take immense pride in all that we have achieved and eagerly anticipate exploring alternative approaches and solutions to address the challenges encountered. Below is an overview of some of the specific areas of the Association from the year.

SASKATCHEWAN RUSH

We were appreciative to maintain our partnership with the new ownership, who demonstrated a strong commitment to collaborating with Sask Lacrosse to foster the growth of Lacrosse across the Province. The introduction of highlight nights has provided each of our Member Associations (MAs) with a platform to spotlight their respective communities. Additionally, Lax Day in Sask proved to be another triumph, with increased athlete participation in the try lacrosse clinic throughout the day.

As our current contract draws to a close, we have engaged in discussions with them to resume control of the 50/50 operations, and eagerly anticipate the prospect of continuing our partnership into the future.



TEAM SASK

The Team Sask program experienced an incredibly busy 2023. In addition to hosting Nationals, the program expanded from 5 teams to 10, with plans to add three more teams in 2024. This year marked a milestone as we introduced two Jr. Rush teams and sent three all-Female Box teams to Nationals, a first for Sask Lacrosse. Tryouts saw the highest participation in over five years, which was gratifying to observe.

Hosting Nationals in Regina for the minor Box program provided an excellent opportunity for players to compete on home turf and showcase the best of what Saskatchewan has to offer.

The program's growth is a positive outcome and a reflection of the hard work invested over the past decade. However, it also prompted the Team Sask Committee to undergo a thorough review for 2024, identifying necessary changes to accommodate the program's expansion. There is a more detailed report earlier in the Annual Report, but here is some positives here is a copy of the overview of the positives, issues, and solutions moving forward.

POSITIVES

- While the program had a lot of growing pains this year, there was lots of positive as well:
- Despite facing significant challenges this year, the program also experienced numerous positive developments:
- A substantial number of players enthusiastically signed up for program tryouts. The introduction of the Jr. Rush program allowed us to provide playing opportunities for most participants.
- There was a notable increase in the participation of female athletes in the program.
- Strong competition results showcased the program's competitive prowess.
- This year, we implemented a more organized practice schedule, released much earlier than in previous years. There were also more practices available for teams this year.
- The PLL camp was another success, providing a great learning experience for the Field Teams, who typically see the least amount of practice time due to conflicts and field availability.
- The program garnered substantial media attention, particularly in connection with hosting Nationals.
- The presence of dedicated volunteers greatly contributed to the program's success, both with individual teams and during Nationals.
- Teams were able to practice together at the same locations and during similar times, reducing travel for families with players on multiple teams.
- The coaching staff represented various regions of the province, and team representatives hailed from diverse lacrosse associations.
- The heart of the program lies in its players, who consistently brought positivity, excitement, and a genuine passion for the game. Even on challenging days, the players' enthusiasm made a significant difference.



ISSUES FACED/ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Encountered significant issues with our clothing supplier this year, including garments featuring incorrect logos, sizes, and delays in delivery. Some jerseys even had logos falling off. It was learned that relying on a single supplier for all clothing needs was overwhelming for them.
- Due to the substantial growth in teams and a high volume of payments on already limited resources and staff, the reconciliation of accounts took much longer than should. Over 100 payments were received without names, causing significant issues. Additionally, sponsorship payments did not align with the sponsorship sheet, creating challenges in managing the increased number of transactions.
- RAMP, particularly for dual athletes engaged in both Box and Field, proved confusing. Parents were unable to view backend details entered by the office, such as payment dates and types, leading to frustration and confusion for families and the office alike.
- Conducting Coed and Female tryouts simultaneously resulted in athlete frustration and confusion for coaches during the selection process.
- With so many different teams, it was difficult to have constant communication available for families.
- Due to supply issues, it was difficult getting equipment this year.
- With the growth of the 5 to 10 team it became very apparent that RAMP no longer meets our needs for accounting purposes. The program is confusing and when payments are entered in, parents cannot see the same as what the office puts in. All payments are tracked but to try and switch that over to RAMP is no longer working.

CHANGES FOR 2024

- Tryouts will commence earlier and undergo a revamped structure for increased efficiency.
 - For Box teams, players will attend one Open ID camp, reducing travel and preventing evaluator overload. The Open ID camp will be segregated into Coed and Female sessions, offering players flexibility. Following the Open ID camps, players progress to Invitational ID Camps, receiving invitations to either a Team Sask ID camp or Jr. Rush camp. This accelerates team formation, avoiding delays for Jr. Rush teams. The process culminates in a Finals camp, with A League exhibition games scheduled for mid-April. The objective is to finalize Box team rosters by the end of April.
 - Field teams will have a single full Open ID camp and a finals camp, with fewer sessions compared to Box teams. The timeline for team selection depends on decisions made by the Field Sector regarding the season, with the goal of finalizing all teams by the end of April.



NATIONALS

In August, we extended a warm welcome to 44 teams representing various regions of the country at the Cooperators in Regina. It was truly a remarkable experience to host all six National Championships under one roof. We took pride in reinstating the U22 Women's National Championship and pioneering the U13 Female Festival, thereby providing more opportunities for our female athletes to shine.

The success of the event can be attributed to the dedication of all volunteers, particularly Saffron Panko, Renee Soucy, and Nicole Fisher from Regina. Their tireless efforts truly exemplified the caliber of events that Saskatchewan can host, and I eagerly anticipate the prospect of welcoming even more teams in 2024.

PROVINCIALS

Once more, our host excelled in organizing the Provincials, and we observed the incorporation of additional Field events. It's fantastic to witness a notable surge in athlete participation in both Box and Field events, alongside the expansion of Field activities. The revised format for Minor Box has enhanced competition levels for all teams, irrespective of their skill level, rendering the event more inclusive. Overall, it was a superb event, and I eagerly anticipate further growth in 2024. For a more comprehensive overview of the Provincials, please refer to the Convenor Reports

Yours in Lacrosse,

B. Pottle

Bridget Pottle | Executive Director
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association



2022 - 2023 PROGRAM COORDINATOR REPORT

Hello Lacrosse enthusiast,

It has been my great honor to assist different programs throughout the province in 2023! It was good to see member associations trying to get back to pre-covid numbers.

There was over 20+ officiating clinics conducted ranging from box to field to women's! Exciting to see different sectors, and to have individuals participating and expanding their knowledge to grow the game. Special shout out to: Devon, Ian, Brendan, and Marcus for facilitating.

Coaching clinics did not slow down in 2023. The SLA had multiple clinics in 13 different communities. It was a combination of online and in-person, which was nice to see individuals on the floor once again. A super clinic was scheduled in early March, but due to weather was cancelled, hoping that 2024 second round will be successful! A big shout out goes to the Coaching Facilitators: Steve, Brad, Alex, Javan and Brad.

Try Lacrosse clinics within the school setting was the lowest within the last several years due to the fact of funding and availability of facilitators! Majority were within Saskatoon and surrounding communities, and in and around Caryle region. Hopefully leading into 2024 the program has been rebranded to the First Scoops program, hoping to regain traction, and spread the joy of Lacrosse throughout the province once again. I've been sitting on a Canada Lacrosse committee that is looking at grassroots program to spread it's wings nationally in 2024. Thanks to the instructors Greg and Brad for your support.

Within 2023, talks started about bringing wheelchair lacrosse to Saskatchewan. Communication has begun with Saskatchewan Wheelchair Sport Association, and an organization out of Alberta called Lacrossing Barriers. Hopefully 2024 will see the first ever wheelchair lacrosse in the province. A growing concern within the province itself is the lack of facilities to conduct large practices or tryouts. The other concern would be the amount of time that we are putting on the facilitators because they are also involved with other things. Hopefully we can attract new members to try lessening the burden on a few that are involved to prevent burnout.

Talks have started with Canada Lacrosse to see how we can go about choosing and selecting our own SLA facilitators for coaching clinic, but nothing has been finalized yet.

My apologies as well with the Coaching certification if there are still some issues from COVID-19 and online certifications not being properly documented or completed. If there is a concern, please have your Coaching Director reach out to me directly, and I can help them out. Please note for 2024, Canada Lacrosse will be cracking down on CPI coaches and their performance points.

Very gracious again for 2023. Thank you to Bridget and the SLA Board of Directors, to all the Member Associations for giving me the opportunity assist you, looking forward to 2024!

Yours in Lacrosse,

C. Lesanko

Chris Lesanko | Programs Coordinator
Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association