

**Vancouver Island Minor Lacrosse Commission  
Regular Meeting Agenda  
April 3, 2023  
7:00 pm via Microsoft Teams**

**ATTENDEES**

**Voting Executive**

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Tim Frost</b>
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	<b>Doug Kampen (absent)</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Krista Gregory</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Michelle Vecqueray</b>
<b>Zone 6 Representative</b>	<b>Brande Terris</b>
<b>Web Master/Scheduler Liaison</b>	<b>Stephanie Prizeman (absent)</b>
<b>Female Coordinator</b>	<b>Lisa Seel-Thompson (absent)</b>

**VIMLC Executive**

<b>BCLOA Rep</b>	<b>Tyler Boyer</b>
<b>Indigenous Development</b>	<b>Bryan Baxter</b>
<b>BCLCA Rep</b>	<b>Kelly Fines</b>
<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>Wendy Hall</b>

**Association Representatives**

<b>Alberni Valley</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Campbell River</b>	<b>Mark Labowka, Tyler Spiers</b>
<b>Comox</b>	<b>Chad Robinson</b>
<b>Cowichan Valley</b>	<b>Chris Claxton</b>
<b>Juan de Fuca</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Nanaimo</b>	<b>Bryan Norby, Jesse Kemp, Cathy Coulson</b>
<b>Oceanside</b>	<b>Paula Winnett</b>
<b>Peninsula</b>	<b>Jason Alford</b>
<b>Saanich</b>	<b>Andy Stuart, James Scott</b>
<b>Victoria-Esquamalt</b>	<b>Amanda Welch</b>

**1. Call Meeting to Order 7:07 pm**  
Territorial Land Acknowledgement

**2. Adoption of Previous Minutes Motion** made by Jason Alford, seconded by Andy Stuart,  
**Carried**

**3. Additions and Adoption of Agenda**  
**Motion** to adopt agenda made by Michelle Vecqueray, seconded by Chris Claxton, **Carried**

**4. Business arising from the Minutes none**

**5. Financial Report:** **Motion:** To accept financial report as presented by Michelle

Vecqueray made by Tim Frost, seconded by Jason Alford, **Carried**

Thank you, as everyone has paid their invoices for the 1st half fees.  
We are now able to accept E-Transfers as well as cheques for payment.

## **6. Zone 6 Reports:**

**A. Chair Tim Frost:**

It's been incredibly busy as we gear up for another season. A huge thank you to all involved in getting our schedules finalized - it has been a lot of work.

We are still finalizing the U7-U11 schedules but hopefully that will go smoothly too. Same with the schedules for female interlock schedule.

Yesterday - Brande and I attended the Minor Directorate Meeting in Victoria. A few things to report;

We met Jill Krop who is the new Executive Director. She is in her third week and coming up to speed rapidly. She has experienced lacrosse as a volunteer with ridge Meadows and understands first hand the hard work volunteers put in.

Probably the most exciting news is that we will be having a AGM in Whistler again this year. The BCLA is excited to put this on again.

Members from the BCLA will attend the Lacrosse Canada Semi Annual General Meeting in May 10-13. Gord McIntosh will represent the Minor Directorate for box lacrosse.

National Championships have been confirmed this year

Regina SK August 14-19

U13 Box Nationals

U15 Box Nationals

Team BC is working to do a logo refresh this year and will align uniform and gear bags etc between Field and Box to keep costs down for participants who play in both.

Lots of the meeting was administrative where we all present for approval oversize rosters, age down approvals and summary of combined teams approved at the various commissions.

Other than that - not much else to report other than I am excited that a new season is upon us.

A reminder to all associations that presidents have received carry over suspension details and also the disciplinary guides.

One last thing - the Minor Directorate confirmed that teams may choose to use a tournament game in lieu of a league game. The steps to do this are as follows.

1) In advance of the tournament game and the game being replaced both teams must agree to

doing this.

- 2) You must request permission of the Commissioner.
- 3) Commissioners will use the score from the alternate game in our web site results.
- 4) Any costs for canceling floor times or referees are the responsibility of the home team.

**B. Minor Directorate Rep Brande Terris: no report**

**C. BCLCA Rep: Welcome to Kelly Fines**

**D. BCLOA Rep Tyler Boyer:**

All classroom clinics have been completed and 4 on-floor clinics have been run this past weekend. There were a few instances where we needed to cancel or combine classes due to low registration numbers which did not make financial sense for BCLA to host. This has been the second consecutive year where we've had to do this a lot more than we had to in the past. We will have a few more on-floor sessions to run over the next few weeks. There will be one more catchment clinic put on virtually to catch any officials who are out-of-country for school or had to have clinics cancelled due to numbers.

The feedback from the on-floor clinics so far has been very positive and we are very happy with the results thus far. We are very glad that this is being rolled out province-wide and it was an easy transition as we've been doing this for years. We will continue to take feedback and look to improve moving forward.

We definitely have a decrease in official numbers again this year. We are lower in our Level 2 numbers for officials, which seems to be the unfortunate trend over the past few years. We are hoping for continued recruitment, and specifically retention, for upcoming seasons.

I have a few things I would like to discuss this evening in our meeting like difference between Minor and Jr/Sr rule sets this year and get the info from each association on shot clock fees across the VIMLC for my confirmation.

**E. Indigenous Development Coordinator Bryan Baxter:**

Recent coaching clinics have seen 18 more coaches trained at CMD and 20 coaches trained at CPI. There are two more coaching clinics scheduled in Nanaimo on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of April to pick up what is left of the coaches needing training for this season. The clinic on the 22<sup>nd</sup> will be CMD and the 23<sup>rd</sup> will be CPI.

I wanted to thank Russell Sam and the Tsawout First Nation for hosting the recent CMD clinic. Not only did they provide a great venue, they also supplied the coaches with water, snacks and a lunch.

It is so wonderful to see the number of Indigenous coaches who are taking the coaching clinics. Also wanted to commend Will Johnny for his continued program of Indigenous lacrosse with the 9 Nations Lacrosse program he currently runs out of the Snuneymucw Recreation Center in Nanaimo. With all that is going on with Indigenous lacrosse on Vancouver Island, I hope we are seeing an increase in Indigenous youth participation across all of our associations.

Have a great season. Hoping to take in a few games and tournaments.

**F. Female Coordinator Lisa Seel-Thompson:**

I do not have much to report at this time. Lots of hard work has been happening behind the scenes to put together the female interlocking league schedule and the island female league schedule, schedules should be out in the next couple of days. Teams can anticipate starting games as early as the April 14th weekend.

Once released and approved, the female schedule will be on both LMMLC and VIMLC ramp sites.

I have family in town and tonight is their last night here, I will likely not be able to make the meeting but if any questions come up, please feel free to email or text.

**G. Web Master Stephanie Prizeman:**

**Web** - we hosted a training session (more of a sharing session) for the RAMP game sheets app/website last week. It was well attended, and after a few follow up questions, I think that folks are feeling pretty confident considering it's a new method for us.

Tournaments will use paper sheets - all league games will use the RAMP app.

Presidents have received some handouts and a video - if these are needed again, please let me know. Caveat - The handouts may direct folks to the LMMLC website - please direct your folks to the VIMLC site for log in to add their rosters etc., and remind them that anything they do for a paper sheet must be done via the app/site :)

All presidents have been provided with VIMLC site (RAMP) log in information for each of their co-ed teams - this is the log in for managers to input their rosters and get their game codes. Please let me know if any issues or if any teams missing. Female teams to follow - LMMLC is setting those up.

Final reminder - the app is for gamesheets (verification of rosters on game day, scorekeeping); the VIMLC site log-in is for setting up your team roster (don't forget Coach NCCP and position) - I suggest the site be used on a computer or larger tablet rather than a phone. App should be good with any mobile device!

**Schedule** - U13-17 co ed schedule is now live; reminder that the website is the current and only official version of the schedule. A couple of conflicts within the U13 division have been identified and are in queue to be fixed - I will reach out to the commissioner when those are corrected. U11/9/7 is in draft form at the moment - there will be a brief approval meeting Tuesday evening (invite to follow) - concerns within the schedule business rules that have been received are being worked on - I will send out the most up to date version as soon as I have it - will likely be Tuesday morning before the meeting. Female schedule is in the works - it will be communicated via the female coordinator with consultation from the mainland league and I will alert affected associations when it is live on the website.

I appreciate everyone's patience with this process - we have some notes for next season, but feel that overall it has been smoother than last, which is always the goal. There will be an invite for scheduling input again, I'm sure, so be sure to join us for that

if so inclined!

## **7. Association Reports:**

### **A. Alberni Valley:**

Looking forward to getting started with the season - would love to see a few more U11 teams at our Tournament (May 12-14) - it's always a good time! There is a Jr B game on the Saturday night (Oceanside vs Campbell River) - the players enjoyed that last year for sure! Lots of nature to take in between games - a great team camping opportunity for those who are equipped as there are some great campsites in the area as well.

We are registering several coaches in the upcoming clinics in Nanaimo -thanks to NDLA for organizing. We will have a few left over who can't attend that weekend, so may be looking for another Level 1 down the road to catch our final few. We have a number of new coaches and referees being trained and are happy to see this. We have a much needed and formerly rescheduled association meeting tomorrow evening, so we will not be able to attend tomorrow evening.

### **B. Campbell River:**

Not a whole lot to report. We have been busy getting things organized for the season. All teams have coaches and managers and have been practicing outdoors twice a week. We are looking forward to the ice coming out at the Brindy on the 17th of April. Happy to report registrations for our U17 Fathers day Rally are coming in. Our head manager is in charge of Electronic game sheets and will continue to get that information disseminated, we have a bit of time as all our games are away for the first 2 weeks.

Side note, we moved our association over to Teamlinkt last year from TeamSnap and have been happy with the service so far in case anyone was considering the switch.

### **C. Comox Valley:**

We are all looking forward to starting another season. We will not have arena access until the week of April 17 and will be able to start hosting games then. We have a lot of U11 and younger families who haven't been through a season yet and have found a bit more of a learning curve than we expected with parent volunteers. Our managers are getting up to speed with the electronic game sheet app and thanks to NDLA for organizing additional coaching clinics that will help us round out coaching staff in all our divisions.

### **D. Cowichan Valley:**

It has been a very busy start but we have all teams set up with coaches and managers. We have had our coaches/managers meeting and our head manager went over the e-scoresheets and we covered the following-

- lines of communication for parents and coaches
- ethical decisions

- fair play and the expectations of cvla, vimlc and bcla
- be sure as coaches to know the latest rules, what was a rule in 1996 may have changed in 2023.

We look forward to some games!

#### **E. Juan de Fuca:**

We have our teams set for the season and all of them are looking forward to playing. We are still receiving registrations and are sitting at about 350. We were able to receive some sponsorship for some tablets for the game sheets and are purchasing ten of them for our competitive and Novice divisions. We are having our coaches and managers meeting tonight and that is why there is no representation from JDF. If there any questions for JDF please send me an email. I hope everyone has a great season!

#### **F. Nanaimo:**

We are excited and ready to start the 2023 box lacrosse season. We have team in every division both female and coed. We have our managers and coaches meeting Tuesday, where we will introduce the RAMP scoresheet app. We have rolled out a new website this year, through Ramp. Everything seems to be meshing well so far. Last count we had 16 applications to the Tim White Memorial, including a team from Alberta. And, we are excited to host our opening day celebration April 8. Something we haven't been able to do since Covid.

#### **G. Oceanside:**

We have coaches and managers in place for our two teams, U9 & U15. and have had the players in our outdoor box practicing twice a week.

We have had an influx of players register for our U9 team and have had to waitlist a few.

We will be hosting our Shark Attack U9 tournament on June 10 & 11.

Our try-it sessions were successfully completed and led to a few new registrations. We are currently working towards resuming these try-it sessions.

I will be unable to attend the meeting as I will be on the floor with our U15. Our VP1 Paula Winnett will be attending.

#### **H. Peninsula:**

We are struggling to get our teams sorted and organized for the season. Registration numbers have fluctuated forcing us to drop a team at the U17B Level which is not ideal for us but also for the entire division. All of the teams are practicing and we just hosted our coach/ manager meeting tonight.

With the loss of a team at U17 we find ourselves in a waitlist position and hope to receive permission for an oversized roster so everyone can play or at least continue to practice this season. It's been a tough one all the way around for this division.

Registrations are coming in for our U17 and our U9/U7 tourneys which is great to see.

With the move to electronic game sheets, we asked anyone who has an old tablet that

they don't need to let us know but we have received no responses. We plan to budget to purchase some for each team next season but given that we weren't anticipating this we are a little on our heels.

**I. Saanich:**

The heavy lift that happens at the start of the season is never easy but it is nice to see players back in the box...and some exceptional weather over spring break as some of our teams \ held practices.

We hosted a one day team building and conflict management workshop for coaches, managers, referees and executive members. This was well attended and are planning on using some of our ViaSport Rally Together funding for team building sessions for our U15 and U17 teams. The consultant, Nadia Kyba from Now What Facilitation, is exceptional and she is specific to sport. If anyone is interested in Nadia and her company I can provide contact info.

We are excited to co-host the U15 Provincials with VELA. This should be great for the local associations. Great to see Cowichan hosting the U17 on the island as well.

**J. Victoria/Esquimalt:**

Our numbers are light at coed U13 and U11 but we have a few more last minute school visits this week so we are hopeful. Getting back into schools and our community events have been great. For the first time in a long time we have two U7 teams. We are re/building community relationships and sponsorships.

Our new U9 tournament has gone past the full point with registrations which is exciting. Both our coaches meeting and managers meeting are scheduled for this week. We took a poll, and most managers will use their own devices for the gamesheets this season. We have a handful of new refs we look forward to supporting.

The biggest bright spot this season is the female divisions. We have been able to field teams at U13, U15, U17, and Junior with healthy numbers. Our efforts have resulted in U13 & U15 being mostly new players. The girls have great coaches, sponsors, and fundraising. I can't say enough good things about Lisa.

**8. Commissioner Reports:**

No reports at this time. A reminder that Commissioners need team contact info (coaches and managers) as soon as possible.

All presidents have been sent a copy of the Discipline Guidelines for 2023. Please make sure they are forwarded to association executive and team managers.

**9. New Business:**

A. Rule Differences between Minor and Jr/Sr divisions, Tyler Boyer: The Junior and Senior divisions have made some rule changes to be more in line with NLL style of play. These new rules are not applicable to Minor Lacrosse, our rules have not changed.

**B. Tournament Registrations:** If your association is hosting a tournament, please remember the difference between an application and a registration (ie, the team has paid). Collect fees as soon as possible to hold spaces for teams.

**C. Shot Clock Fees:** **Motion:** *Referee fees for 2023 will be: \$20 for shot clock in U13 and under, \$25 for shot clock in U15, U17 and female junior. On floor referee fees will be as per BCLA guidelines.* Made by Tyler Boyer, seconded by Brande Terris, **Carried**

**10. Next Meeting:** Monday, May 1 at 7 pm

**11. Motion to Adjourn at 7:31 pm** made by Jason Alford, seconded by Tyler Boyer, **carried**