

**Vancouver Island Minor Lacrosse Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda
April 1, 2024
8:00 pm via Zoom**

ATTENDEES

Voting Executive

Chair	Tim Frost
Vice-Chair	Doug Kampen
Secretary	Krista Gregory
Treasurer	Michelle Vecqueray (absent)
Zone 6 Representative	Brande Terris
Web Master/Scheduler Liaison	Stephanie Prizeman (absent)
Female Coordinator	Shane Mellish

VIMLC Executive

BCLOA Rep	Tyler Boyer
Indigenous Development	Bryan Baxter (absent)
BCLCA Rep	Kelly Fines (absent)
Commissioners	Greg Toll, Wendy Hall, Jen Fairbrother, Ken Passmore, Janice Parmar

Association Representatives

Alberni Valley	absent
Campbell River	Sarah Thomas
Comox	Chad Robinson
Cowichan Valley	Janice Parmar
Juan de Fuca	Adam Ranns
Nanaimo	Bryan Norby, Jesse Kemp
Oceanside	Renee Allan
Peninsula	Stacey Alford
Saanich	Scott Barillaro
Victoria-Esquimalt	absent

- 1. Call Meeting to Order** 8:05 pm
Territorial Land Acknowledgement
- 2. Adoption of Previous Minutes** Motion made by Chad Robinson, seconded by Jesse Kemp, **Carried**
- 3. Additions and Adoption of Agenda**
Motion to adopt agenda made by Renee Allan, seconded by Shane Mellish, **Carried**
- 4. Business arising from the Minutes** none

5. Financial Report: **Motion:** To accept financial report as presented by Michelle Vecqueray made by Rennee Allan, seconded by Brande Terris, **Carried**

Attached please find an interim bank reconciliation for March 2024. There are currently no outstanding cheques.

Thank you to the 6 associations that have paid their fees. For the other 4, we ask that you please arrange to submit payment.

Attached is also the report showing budget vs actuals for the current year.

8:01 PM
3/24/2024

Vancouver Island Lacrosse Commission
Reconciliation Summary
Period Ending: 2024-03-24

Beginning Balance		17,219.57
Cleared Transactions		
Cheques and Payments	(1,159.44)	
Deposits and Credits	<u>4,275.00</u>	
Total Cleared Transactions	<u>3,115.56</u>	
Cleared Balance		<u><u>20,335.13</u></u>
Uncleared Transactions		
Cheques and Payments	-	
Deposits and Credits	<u>-</u>	
Total Uncleared Transactions	<u>-</u>	
Register Balance as of		<u><u>20,335.13</u></u>
Ending Balance		20,335.13

VANCOUVER ISLAND MINOR LACROSSE COMMISSION
APPROVED BUDGET 2024

At March 24/24

ASSOCIATION	2023 #'S	Fees \$15/player	Notes	Actual Rec'd 2024	Variance
ALBERNI VALLEY	82	\$ 1,230.00			(1,230.00)
CAMPBELL RIVER	65	\$ 975.00	chq 3/16	\$495.00	(480.00)
COMOX	66	\$ 990.00	chq 3/9	\$495.00	(495.00)
COWICHAN VALLEY	123	\$ 1,845.00	E-transfer 3/8	\$930.00	(915.00)
JUAN DE FUCA	344	\$ 5,160.00			(5,160.00)
NANAIMO	349	\$ 5,235.00			(5,235.00)
OCEANSIDE	51	\$ 765.00			(765.00)
PENINSULA	167	\$ 2,505.00	E-transfer 2/28	\$1,260.00	(1,245.00)
SAANICH	233	\$ 3,495.00	chq 3/3	\$1,755.00	(1,740.00)
VICTORIA-ESQUIMALT	79	\$ 1,185.00	e-transfer 3/8	\$600.00	(585.00)
TOTAL INVOICED/INCOMING FUNDS	1559	\$ 23,385.00		\$5,535.00	(17,850.00)
CARRY OVER FROM 2023 SEASON		\$ 15,959.57		\$15,959.57	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SEASON		\$ 39,344.57		\$21,494.57	(17,850.00)
EXPENSES	Actual 2023	Projected 2024		Actual 2024	
SCHEDULE	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,500.00			(3,500.00)
REFEREE PLAYOFF	\$ 4,565.00	\$ 5,000.00			(5,000.00)
REFEREE TRAVEL	\$ 1,629.77	\$ 2,000.00			(2,000.00)
FLOOR PLAYOFF	\$ 2,474.94	\$ 2,500.00			(2,500.00)
BANNERS	\$ 2,665.60	\$ 2,700.00			(2,700.00)
COMMISSIONERS	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 3,100.00			(3,100.00)
RAMP officiating (Formerly Arbiter)	\$ -	\$ -	BCLA paying this year		0.00
ELECTRONIC GAME SHEETS (RAMP)	\$ 420.00	\$ 420.00		\$420.00	0.00
WEBSITE (RAMP)	\$ 472.50	\$ 498.75	Annual Licensing fee - invoice rec'd	\$498.75	0.00
WEBSITE DOMAIN RENEWAL (RAMP)	\$ 131.25	\$ -	5 Year renewal (\$25/yr)	-	0.00
ZOOM	\$ 224.00	\$ 224.00		\$240.69	16.69
BCLA AGM FEES	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	Estimate of 4 Delegates		(750.00)
BCLA AGM TRAVEL/ETC.	\$ 3,360.95	\$ 3,000.00	4 Delegates (est. based on prior years)		(3,000.00)
On Floor Referee Clinics	\$ 159.86	\$ -	not approved for 2024		0.00
Referee Mentorship	\$ -	\$ 500.00	New Budget Item / Managed by Tyler		(500.00)
MISC for 2023	\$ 156.82	\$ 50.00			(50.00)
MISC (ADDED AFTER BUDGET APPRV)					
Total Expenses	\$ 22,610.69	\$ 24,242.75		\$1,159.44	(23,083.31)

PROJECTED FUNDS AT YEAR-END **\$ 15,101.82**

\$ 20,335.13

Projected Net Gain (Loss) \$ (857.75)

\$ 20,335.13 Bank balance

6. Zone 6 Reports:

A. Chair Tim Frost:

Well it has been an incredibly busy month as we prepare for another season. Since our last meeting, I have attended MD meeting to ratify our commissioners. On Thursday I will attend the Commissioners Teleconference set out by the BCLA - and all commissioners should be in attendance. A few reminders;

I am receiving a lot of questions from folks about policies and rules. I would encourage you all to acquaint yourselves with the following key documents that govern our commission.

- 1) The BCLA General policies
- 2) The Minor Directorate policies
- 3) The VIMLC Bylaws
- 4) The VIMLC Operating Policies

I always am happy to explain the rules and policies but we need to ensure everyone does a little homework before they reach out to me with questions you all should know the answers to. As we move into the season - I'd like to reinforce the following protocols for questions.

- Parents and athletes should always first contact their coach or manager / association executive with questions.
- Coaches / managers should direct questions first to their commissioners and association executive.
- If they cannot answer please reach out to the Island Executive as follows (Female - Shane, U7-U11 - Brande, U13-U17 Doug, Coaching questions - Kelly, referee Questions - Tyler)
- If they cannot answer please direct to me.

Please make sure that all presidents and association executive are familiar with the attached Disciplinary Guidelines. These guidelines specify how commissioners are to manage suspensions and supplemental discipline. No excuses for people who claim they did not know.

a few key points

The included penalties are automatic suspensions. "Automatic" means that the coaches sit the player until they are notified by the Commissioner. Notification is not required.

Any suspension up to 5 games IS NOT subject to an appeal. refer to BCLA policy for appeals process for everything else. Note time limits exist and fees must be paid to the BCLA in accordance with policies..

I am hopeful this year that we can work to limit the necessity for suspensions and supplemental discipline. Please also note we have modified our bylaws to make sure that **it is clearly understood that we can and will sanction parents and spectators** for unacceptable behaviour. Our first line of defence is always you as associations to make sure you police your own parents and supplement our discipline with severe sanctions for those who behave inappropriately.

Looking forward to a great season

B. Minor Directorate Rep Brande Terris:

I would like to reiterate what Tim has mentioned about the correct channels for questions.

If all Presidents & Association executives, Coaches and managers review the BCLA Minor directorate policies, VIMLC policies and bylaws and the 2024 minor disciplinary rules, they should be able to find the answers to most of their questions.

If Presidents or Commissioners cannot find the answer in those documents they can contact the appropriate Island executive, U7/9/11 contact me, U13/15/17 contact Doug and Female contact Shane. If one of us cannot give you an answer right away we will find the answer for you.

C. Vice Chair Doug Kampen:
No report

D. BCLCA Rep: Kelly Fines:
No report

E. BCLOA Rep Tyler Boyer:
Other than getting our clinics done and new/young official's development training in place, we have had games uploaded in RAMP Assigning and are starting to schedule for opening weekend. Thank you very much to all who were involved in getting that completed - and especially to Stephanie Hopkins who emailed me a few times while she was down in the USA. Your time and dedication are so appreciated.

Associations - Please make sure when you are looking into game changes that your Head Referee and Referee Allocator are also included in that conversation. This is so that we aren't changing it to a day/time that they know they are already struggling to fill games.

Officials Clinics/Training Update:

- All Island in-class clinics have been completed and we had a pretty good turnout for numbers in our EL/L1 levels. Unfortunately, our L2 numbers continue to be lower than we'd like - which is important for the higher-age group/level's games. I didn't have time to get the exact number of officials registered yet - I will follow up with that to be included in the report once I have time to get them.
- We have our first on-floor session starting tomorrow night in Peninsula. This is for drills/stations for EL and 1st year L1 officials to continue to build on their confidence, positioning, basic officiating skills, etc. We will have 2 more in the Victoria area, 2 in Nanaimo, and 1 in Comox being run in the following weeks.
- Once the U11 and under schedule is released I will be looking into scheduling that first U11 home game for associations as 3-official in-game training to get all those same officials into games with our mentors.

I am very hopeful for this year and really hope that we can all get off to a great start for the season. It starts with the Associations ensuring that appropriate behavior and code of conduct is relayed and driven home to all coaches and parents. As well, our continued mantra for zero abuse is really important to keep stating. With all of us working together, we can continue to reduce these types of incidents.

And just so you are all aware - you will be seeing newer signals being used this year as we are transitioning to unite things with WLA/World Lacrosse/NLL. This includes "pumping in" for all whistles, and different signals being used for moving screens, too many players, shot clock violations.

F. Indigenous Development Coordinator Bryan Baxter:

Thank you to all those associations who sent their coaching needs. I will talk to Dave Showers and set up necessary clinics. Watch the BCLA website for clinics to sign up your coaches.

G. Female Coordinator Shane Mellish:

It should be noted that the Lower Mainland Minor Lacrosse has worked very hard to assist us with another year of development for Female Lacrosse on the Island. They had to convince their teams to travel to the Island and to absorb all the costs associated with this additional travel.

The days they are committing to are long (Double headers + Ferries and travel). Also they agreed that our teams travel only one time.

I am very impressed with the level of commitment from the Lower Mainland Commission/Executive, Associations and Teams.

I believe with a lot of hard work this schedule can be a success.

We need to start working with teams now so that all the appropriate planning is in place and Coaches, Managers, Parents, and Players all know that every game **MUST** be played.

I believe John Hamilton has reached out to the associations involved to assist with the information they need for Wilsons Travel if they want to plan to travel on a bus instead with a bunch of cars.

The interlocked games have been planned and have been given to the island scheduler.

It looks promising. It did not match up exactly with the parameters laid out, but it is very close.

- U11 with only one Island team we will have 10 games scheduled with the mainland. Our team travels one time.
- U13 A with only one Island team we will have 14 games scheduled. 6 with the mainland. Our team travels one time. (there will be A vs B Island games)
- U13 B with only two Island teams we will have 15 games scheduled. 5 with the mainland. Our teams travel one time. (there will be A vs B Island games)
- U15 A with only one Island team we will have 14 games scheduled. 4 with the mainland. Our teams travel one time. (there will be A vs B Island games)
- U15 B with only two Island teams we will have 14 games scheduled. 4 with the mainland. Our team travels one time.(there will be A vs B Island games)
- U17 B with two Island teams we will have 14 games scheduled. 5 with the

- mainland. Our teams travel one time.
- JR. with three Island teams we will have 14 games scheduled. 4 with the mainland. Our teams travel one time.

Female Team BC

It is looking promising to be able to hold an Island development camp for the female athletes that have committed to trying out for Team BC.

This is something we are trying to make happen in Nanaimo on the day of the Island Mixed Team BC Assessment for U13 & U15 (May 27th)

To keep the size manageable it will only be open to female athletes that have registered to go to the main camp on the mainland.

There may be a small fee to cover costs but I am working on a couple of sponsors.

H. Web Master Stephanie Prizeman:

U13-17 is out in "paper" form. I am working as quickly as I can to get it in Ramp, at which time the website will become the only official schedule. The first two weeks' games are in the system.

U11 North will be out shortly - it has been out for feedback already.

U9 North is down to only a handful of associations and I believe the involved clubs are looking to deviate from the 12 game mandate due to it being a small 3-4 team league now.

U11/9/7 South is in the works and will be out for feedback soon.

Just a reminder that only I deal with communication to the scheduler - she should not be receiving emails from anyone else. Similarly, I shouldn't be receiving emails from random folks asking about schedules - U13-17 are to discuss with commissioners now, and U11 and under will soon.

For the web end of things, I have updated teams - I will send out team codes asap - I have been away and not with reliable wifi/computer access. These will go to presidents. I will also include training videos for ramp game sheets in that email.

I will set up a couple of "drop in" sessions for trouble shooting/help with game sheets but they'll have to be next week. In the meantime, I will not be able to field multiple email questions from team managers or parents - please streamline this within your association to a president/vp, or other designate who can ask/receive info - I do not work for Ramp, and will not be responding to complaints! ;)

A few gamesheet items:

As last year, game sheets will lock 3 hours after a game; officials are using ramp

this year and that will be an easier process.

For arenas with poor/no wifi or cell service, use the gamesheet app in offline mode. Ramp tech support shared that this is very common.

Teams must be set up ahead of time - this will be via the team codes I will hopefully have time to send this evening with training video.

Finally, related to any questions about the site, I work between the hours of 7:30-4:30 sometimes later, and will not likely be able to respond to inquiries within those hours. RAMP has assured us that their support team is available for assistance for any of our members as well.

Motion to accept Reports as presented made by Rennee Allan, seconded by Brande Terris, **carried**

7. Association Reports:

A. Alberni Valley:

We have been gearing up for the season. Things have been going well. Unfortunately we lost a few players in some divisions due to combining with Oceanside . The feedback was families did not want the extra travel.

We expect to have access to indoor facilities next week.

B. Campbell River:

Everything is slowly starting- spring break we had a lot of people away which delayed our pre season start.

Our season practices don't officially start until April 15 in the arena. It's up to coaches discretion to go to our outdoor box but it's not in very good condition anymore. Gear ends up being wrecked more than the practice being helpful to learning. So we are navigating those set backs

We are hosting a parent meeting this week to go over all the rules as a lot of our players/parents are new to lacrosse and we feel it's helpful to give one big gear talk, division Rules breakdown, player parent code of conduct, etc .hopefully with starting things with a fresh slate all parents can be more aware of our the season runs with full transparency. Our feedback from previous seasons has always been lack of communication so we are trying a new tactic. I find this to be an option for us and only possible as we have just 2 divisions this season

Our drop in recreation program will be starting the week after our practices. This will be dedicated to girls lacrosse on half floor - any and all helpful tips on keeping girls engaged and promoting girls in sports is highly welcomed

We also will have a co-Ed drop in on the other side so it's inclusive to everyone I'm hoping with our school program ending at the start of spring break and it

being a big success with amazing feedback, this pilot program will continue in teaching those kids we gained from schools about our sport as well as give them a better dynamic and development for their success in competitive lacrosse for next season.

Our mission this season remains as a rebuild for the future success of lacrosse in the north island.

C. Comox Valley:

We are looking forward to the start of the season with 103 players registered among six teams. We have been steadily building our numbers over the last three years and will be focusing on the U7 age group for next season as that is the only division we haven't been able to field a team at. We were able to take releases at our competitive levels that helped fill up those rosters. All of our teams are set for coaches, we need a couple of more managers and we will be ready to go.

Our pre-season practices have been hit and miss due to weather and spring break. We are able to get our arena floor a week earlier than we originally thought so that will help. We have had six coaches receive training so far and have another five or six that will take the upcoming clinics.

A few young referees from our association have received training, hopefully they are able to get some extra games this year with the extra ref on the floor for some U11 games.

D. Cowichan Valley:

We have 9 teams this year. Our practices are underway, and everyone has been super keen and engaged which has been great. We have sent off everything to secure our final floor bookings for the season.

Over all I'm really pleased with the start of the season.

Engagement from families, coaches, associations has been fabulous as well. We are very excited to join Nanaimo for the u7 jamboree days.

E. Juan de Fuca:

All of our teams are now set. We have a total of 22 teams this year.

It's been a lot of work behind the scenes getting teams organized but we are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

We still have players trickling in at U11 and below. We've had a number of players quit this year after getting cut from A to B, which is really disappointing. Upper teams have been practicing all month.

U11 practices start this week.

U7/U9 practices start next week.

F. Nanaimo:

Nanaimo's registration numbers have grown since last season. We have

declared 26 teams, approximately half are female. Including and adaptive lacrosse programme with 5 registrants.

Nearly every eligible team in U15, registered for the Tim White memorial tournament. Hats off to Cathy Coulson for growing the tournament into what it is today.

We are looking forward to working with other associations in the u7 and u9 divisions. Lots of positive feedback for the scheduling and jamboree style games.

Can't wait to get this season started.

G. Oceanside:

Oceanside is very excited to have a team in every division! We have been very busy getting everyone started with the coaches and officials courses. Of course as the season progresses, more volunteers step up to take the courses and we are anticipating more courses. Practices have started for all the ages. Working with AVML for the 3 combo teams have been a breeze. We are all on the same page with practices and games. Very excited to get the season started.

H. Peninsula

We are happy that all the efforts put into growing the game on the Peninsula is starting to show in that we now have 10 teams total with 3 being U9 teams and 2 U7 teams.

We are still working on getting coaches for one of the U9 teams but we are on it. We currently have at 154 registered players at this time.

A lot of work has gone into preparing our Opening Ceremonies this year with members of our indigenous community taking a primary role in the planning and organization of the evening that would look forward to hosting on Wednesday.

Thank you to Jen and Stephanie for all the work on the U13-U17 schedule!

I. Saanich:

First, Saanich would like to thank Steph Prizeman and Jenn Lambert for their work on the U13 through U17 schedules over spring break. We appreciated the opportunity to provide input. There were a few quirks we identified. We will address them with commissioners as directed. We look forward to reviewing the draft U7 through U11 schedule when available.

All teams are now formed and staffed. U7, U9, U15 and U17 rosters are set. Our two U11 teams will play a balancing game this week as well as the two Saanich-VELA U13B teams. There may be additional roster movement between these teams over the next two weeks if necessary. U11 through U17 teams started optional practices in mid-March. U9 had some "drop in" sessions and will start practicing this week. U7 will also start practicing this week.

Saanich currently has 16 people registered for CMD in the first two weeks of April (including four under the age of 18). We also had 23 attend officiating courses

(five Entry Level, nine Level 1 (including me) and nine Level 2).

J. Victoria/Esquimalt:

It's been absolute chaos as it always is, but everything is in order and our season is underway. We have 9 teams including 1 combo. Coed numbers are coming back. We had 36 coed kids playing out of VELA two years ago.

The teams have registered for multiple tournaments. We will be increasing our community involvement again this season.

I'm happy to report a massive increase in female players. We have oversized rosters at U15F and U17F, and full rosters at U22F and U13F. The effort and financial undertaking have been huge but it's beyond worth it. We had 57 female players for 2023 and 95 for 2024. This season teams will be able to actually compete with the LM and enjoy the benefits of the interlocking agreement.

Motion to accept Reports as presented made by Stacey Alford, seconded by Scott Barillaro, **carried**

8. Commissioner Reports:

A. U7 North, Chad Robinson

Unfortunately it doesn't look like there will be a U7 league in the North Island this Season. Oceanside is joining Nanaimo for their in-house sessions and Comox, Campbell River and Port Alberni are all fielding combo teams at U9.

I am available to help out with another division if there is an opportunity for that.

B. U13, Wendy Hall

This year U13 will have 14 teams - 4 A and 10 B for a total of 98 games. Games will start on Apr 6.

C. U15, Janice Parmar

U15 A1,2 has three teams this season

U15B has 8 teams with Port Alberni and Oceanside playing together. Campbell River does not have a team this year and released players to Comox.

Each team is scheduled to play 7 home games 7 away games. We have a few that still need home games booked!

D. U17, Adam Gow

3 A and 6 B - 14 games even split for all.

Commissioner email went out yesterday. I have contact info for most teams just waiting on last few. Any I didn't have I sent to presidents to forward to coach's/ managers.

Teams seem excited to get going which is good. Several game change requests have come in already for tournaments. I have advised teams can get ball rolling

with other teams but to wait for tournament acceptance and once all league schedules are out.

First two games go April 6.

9. New Business:

A. RAMP set up/ electronic game sheets. Please refer to Stephanie Prizeman's report for information.

10. Next Meeting: Monday, May 6 at 7 pm

11. Motion to Adjourn at 8:15 pm made by Krista Gregory, seconded by Doug Kampen, **carried**