Vancouver Island Minor Lacrosse Commission Regular Meeting Minutes February 3, 2025

Attendees

Voting Executive

Chair Tim Frost Vice Chair vacant

Secretary Krista Gregory
Treasurer Michelle Vecqueray

Zone 6 Representative Brande Terris

Web Master/Scheduler Liaison Stephanie Prizeman

Female Coordinator Shane Mellish

VIMLC Executive

BCLOA Representative Tyler Boyer
Indigenous Development Bryan Baxter
BCLCA Representative Kelly Fines

Association Representatives

Alberni Valley Darren Mannix
Campbell River Sarah Thomas
Comox Valley Chad Robinson
Cowichan Valley Janice Parmar

Juan de Fuca Kyla Pedlow, Craig Patzer, Jessica Lejeune
Nanaimo Bryan Norby, Jesse Kemp, Shawn Swanson

Oceanside Rennee Allan

Peninsula Rod Senior, Terry Hall

Saanich Scott Barillaro Victoria Esquimalt Kate Blass

Adam Gow, Wendy Hall, Cathy Coulson, Greg Toll

- 1. Call Meeting to Order 7:04 pm
 Land Acknowledgement
- 2. Adoption of Previous Minutes Motion made by Brande Terris, seconded by Janice Parmar, Carried

3. Additions and Adoption of Agenda

Addition proposed by Jesse Kemp "Presidents' Meeting", Motion to adopt the amended Agenda made by Jesse Kemp, seconded by Shane Mellish, Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes none

5. Financial Report and Budget: Michelle Vecqueray

Motion to accept the Report and Budget made by Shane Mellish, seconded by Rennee Allan, Carried

Attached please find the bank reconciliation for January 2025. Bank balance remains \$17,843.78 with no changes from the past month.

Draft budget for 2025 is included. This budget is prepared with a fee of \$15 per player which is the same fee as 2024. There are no major increases or decreases expected for the 2025 season. The presented budget shows a small surplus of \$625.

7:21 PM 2/2/2025

Vancouver Island Lacrosse Commission Reconciliation Summary Period Ending: 2025/01/31

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Beginning Balance	17,843.78
Cleared Transactions	
Cheques and Payments	-
Deposits and Credits	-
	
Total Cleared Transactions	
Cleared Balance	17,843.78
Cicarea Balance	
Uncleared Transactions	
Cheques and Payments	(560.12)
•	(300.12)
Deposits and Credits	- (500.10)
Total Uncleared Transactions	(560.12)
Register Balance	17,283.66
Ending Book Balance	17.283.66

VANCOUVER ISLAND MINOR LACROSSE COMMISSION

DRAFT Budget for Approval 2025

ASSOCIATION	2024 #'S	Fe	es /player	Notes
ALBERNI VALLEY	64	\$	960.00	
CAMPBELL RIVER	50	\$	750.00	
сомох	109	\$	1,635.00	
COWICHAN VALLEY	126	\$	1,890.00	
JUAN DE FUCA	387	\$	5,805.00	
NANAIMO	415	\$	6,225.00	
OCEANSIDE	66	\$	990.00	
PENINSULA	164	\$	2,460.00	
SAANICH	244	\$	3,660.00	
VICTORIA-ESQUIMALT	96	\$	1,440.00	
TOTAL INVOICED/INCOMING FUNDS	1721	\$	25,815.00	
CARRY OVER FROM 2024 SEASON		\$	17,283.66	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SEASON		\$	43,098.66	
EXPENSES	Actual 2024	Pı	rojected 2025	
501501115	4 2 222 22		2.500.00	
SCHEDULE	\$ 2,000.00	\$	2,500.00	
REFEREE PLAYOFF	\$ 5,540.00	\$	6,000.00	
REFEREE TRAVEL	\$ 1,580.00	\$	2,000.00	
FLOOR PLAYOFF	\$ 2,988.12	\$	3,200.00	
BANNERS	\$ 2,932.16	\$	3,200.00	
COMMISSIONERS	\$ 2,500.00	\$	3,100.00	DCI A maying this year
RAMP officiating (Formerly Arbiter) ELECTRONIC GAME SHEETS (RAMP)	\$ - \$ 420.00	\$	450.00	BCLA paying this year
WEBSITE (RAMP)	\$ 420.00	\$	550.00	Annual Licensing fee
WEBSITE (RAMP) WEBSITE DOMAIN RENEWAL (RAMP)	\$ 498.75	\$	550.00	5 Year renewal (\$25/yr)
ZOOM	\$ 240.69	\$	300.00	5 real renewal (\$25/yr)
BCLA AGM FEES	\$ 70.00	\$	140.00	Estimate of 4 Delegates - Oct 25
BCLA AGM TRAVEL/ETC.	\$ 70.00	\$	3,000.00	4 Delegates (est. based on prior years)
On Floor Referee Clinics	\$ 2,336.61	\$	3,000.00	not approved for 2024
Referee Mentorship	\$ 500.00	\$	500.00	New Budget Item in 2024 / Managed by Tyler
MISC	\$ 232.38	\$	250.00	Stamps, Bank fees
MISC (ADDED AFTER BUDGET APPRV)	y 232.36	7	230.00	Starrips, Darik 1663
Total Expenses	\$ 22,060.91	Ś	25,190.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	7 22,000.31	- 	23,130.00	

PROJECTED FUNDS AT YEAR-END \$ 17,908.66

Projected Net Gain (Loss) \$ 625.00

6. Zone 6 Reports

A. Chair Tim Frost

A busy month preparing for our season.

We had our monthly MD meeting and worked to clean up many administrative items including updating documents to align with 2025 season and revised policies from the AGM.

I also met with members from the LMMLC to discuss their MyLax ranking proposal. I will share more details at the meeting Monday.

We have received commissioner volunteers from all associations. The elected executive will meet to decide on roles and then the assignments will be forwarded to the MD for review and ratification.

Please come to the meeting tonight with

- 1) registration numbers broken down by division and coed/mixed
- 2) coop team requests and rationale
- 3) preliminary view on declarations

This will be a busy meeting with quite a lot of information. You may find it better to attend via laptop or tablet then cell phone to be able to read and follow shared materials.

- B. Minor Directorate Rep Brande Terris no report
- C. Vice Chair vacant
- D. BCLCA Rep Kelly Fines no report

E. BCLOA Rep Tyler Boyer

Our Learning Facilitator course was completed the other weekend and a preliminary Island clinic schedule has been discussed. The BCLA will publish the official schedule in the next few weeks (maybe even days). Island clinics are anticipated to run in Nanaimo and Victoria on March 8, 9, 15, & 16 - not sure of the exact locations for each date yet. On-floor clinics will be the same as last year and are mandatory for all Entry Level and 1st year Level 1 officials - these will be scheduled in the upcoming month with each Head Referee of the determined Associations.

All official registration for clinics will be completed through the RAMP software. This means that if there are new officials, they will need to reach out to the Associations (Head Refs) to have themselves put into the system to register and attend the clinic.

I would like to slightly revise the travel fees for the Island for this upcoming season - specifically looking at the mid-Island fees. I have heard from many officials throughout my time that the idea of Cowichan being covered as just 1 location with a single travel fee from Fuller Lake all the way to Kerry Park is illogical - especially now with the use of

Kerry Park being consistently used. We need to ensure that this fee schedule is more sensible. We last revised them back in 2022, and with the consistently higher gas prices and increasingly high number of officials travelling away from their home associations to ensure games are filled, I would like to ensure they are fairly compensated for the costs of travel.

I will provide an updated table, along with the current travel table for reference, when I am able to have that completed. I will have that done over the next few weeks and we can have that discussion in the March meeting.

Just for everyone's knowledge - due to life, family, and career circumstances for my commitment levels, I am looking at scaling back in this role so that the level of official and association support is maintained to a level that is deserved for everyone's success. My goal is to eventually step out of the role sooner than later. For now, I am still the principal point of contact and completing all duties. If I do have someone come in to assist me in the near future, I will ensure to keep everyone updated as things progress / change so that they are included in communications and everything is answered promptly.

F. Indigenous Development Coordinator Bryan Baxter

2 coaching clinics have been scheduled in Nanaimo on March 1 and 2.

G. Female Coordinator Shane Mellish

We have a 2 year agreement for interlocked games with the Lower mainland. (2025 & 26)

We are finalizing a new agreement for the associations involved in the Female Combo teams hosted in Esquimalt.

We will send it out to the presidents later in the week

The goal is to agree to a 5 year plan so Victoria can properly invest in the Female program.

With Jerseys, goalie equipment, trailing referees, developing and hosting a Female Tournament Etc.

We developed some scheduling templates for all the possible scenarios depending on the number of teams declared at each level.

The available weekends are being mapped and added to this template.

We should be ready to send it all to the two schedulers (Island and Lower mainland) in the next few days.

Female Lacrosse will be harder to plan and execute this season.

We are expecting more teams ...

There are more Tournaments making weekends unavailable ...

And always the possibility of less arena time ...

We are hopeful that some of the partner associations on the south island will allow some of the interlocked games to be played in their arenas.

We will need to be able to host more teams to get our games in.

I will be reaching out to the South island presidents to explain this more fully in the next week or so.

Preparation for the season is going well.

We are positioned to have a positive successful season.

H. Web Master/ Scheduler Liaison Stephanie Prizeman

Web:

I have updated the contact info on the VIMLC site for those who have sent me corrections/updates - that was only a handful of folks though, so please check your association contacts and let me know if there are updates.

Scheduler Liaison:

Presidents, please let me know (ASAP) the name and contact info for your floor allocator or whoever is in charge of floors and scheduling in your association.

Will be working with female time first as we have in the past - and will be asking for floor time to pass on to the scheduler - hoping for associations to provide all or at least the minimum time this year. We have struggled in the past with certain organizations not providing enough time. Last year, we sent games back to associations to schedule themselves - that will happen again and or we may have to look at other consequences as if folks are not going to give even the minimum amount of time as per the scheduling rules we end up with.

Finally, my annual reminder, please do not have members of your association contact me for scheduling information or requests or feedback. I will not respond - I will respond to Presidents and floor allocators only.

7. Association Reports

A. Alberni Valley

Hello everyone from Alberni valley! Registration is shaping up with decent numbers from a smaller association in each division I'm expecting to declare a team in each age group, we are having our try it sessions attended by quite a few new players to the game which is exciting! My issue will be having qualified coaches for each division I can see but working hard to rectify this problem, we've had a few executive members who have stepped aside for various reasons and they will be hard to replace for sure but we are putting a big push on for volunteers from parents and filling any vacant spots on the executive. We have quite a few local referees who are capable and can look after U13 and down for officiating but not many for the older divisions!

U7 - 3

U9 - 4

U11 - 0 (large number of hockey kids) always late to register

U13 - 12

U15 - 11

B. Campbell River

U7-2

U9-9

U11-10

U13-5

U15-0

U17-2

As always. Very low numbers. I have sent out a reminder email to last years players to please register so this may change by tonight

Our learn to play drop in events are growing every week from each school as we go and we should see by mid February majority registering for the season. These new players are mostly u9/u11.

We are Still in schools every Wednesday until end of February. And we are actually seeing parent feedback this year. I send home our learn to play event information on a little slip that looks like a hockey game ticket stub with a QR code to a google document. It seems the kids are treasuring it and actually showing their parents. Brainstorming new ways on how to get information home as that seemed to be our biggest challenge last year.

We will be bringing back the Friday night drop in girls program once we are in the arena as a lot of girls are interested from schools but not eager to join a team right away. My hopes are allowing a development year to learn and get comfortable with basic skills and game play it will get them ready for a team next year. This has gained a lot of interest with the girls in the schools as my daughter goes into the schools with me and it boosts their interest by seeing other girls involved. I have a list of just shy of 30 girls interested. With the QR Google doc to parents from schools we are also gathering a new email list for lacrosse events for new players so more direct contact to spread the word as our Facebook page doesn't get a lot of engagement. Not many people use Facebook anymore.

I think once we set practice days as well this will help parents decide to register. As we navigate other sports here in hopes everyone can enjoy a multi sport spring.

Hope to see a change in our numbers by next meeting in our development divisions. Our u15,u17 divisions are aware we will not be declaring a team. We have a few more u13s interested but it's very close to teetering on not strong enough numbers. Will remain hopeful but will keep my eyes

peeled on what Comox has for numbers to understand our options for those competitive divisions. Will not be interested in any team merges and will give player release options to parents in our struggling divisions

We also have at least 7 new parents and alumni players needing/wanting coaching clinics and have let Travis know

As for our floor availability we did lose a lot to pickleball and if we had an association with every division declaring a team this would cause a major concern for us, as they've left us with very little to work with.

We plan to re evaluate our outdoor box situation this year and see what we are looking at cost wise to fix and begin that long fundraising journey to give our association something to look forward to in a few years!

C. Comox Valley

We have held try-it-out sessions the past three weekends and have one more scheduled. Attendance has been pretty good with about 40 kids each time. Registration has started off a bit slower than last season, we are currently at 47 which is about 45% of last year's total. We expect to declare one co-ed team in each age group.

Numbers by division:

U7 - 3 U9 - 5 U11 - 15 U13 - 10 U15 - 6 U17 - 8

D. Cowichan Valley

U7- 11 U9- 15 U11- 9 U13-19 U15- 4 U17- 15 U22 female - 2

Our U15 age division is typically slow to register because they are mainly hockey kids. We also will likely release the U22 girls as I do not anticipate we will have enough for a team. Our U7s will be playing in house with Nanaimo again this year as well.

E. Juan de Fuca

Assessments are underway, with U13, U15 and U17 all wrapping up the assessment portion this week and coaches cuts starting next week. Our first "Try Lacrosse" and "Bring a Buddy" sessions start on February 13th and U11 assessments begin on February 23rd.

We are currently sitting at 292 co-ed registrations (plus 22 Female), which is 85% of our total from last season. We're expecting to have an increase in registrations for the U7 and U9 divisions over the next couple of months. Those registrations have typically been slower to come in in past years. We're not expecting U13 and up to change much since assessments have already almost been completed.

Co-ed

U7 – 27 players

U9 – 59 players

U11 – 74 players (4 teams)

U13 – 58 players (3 teams)

U15 – 32 players (2 teams)

U17 – 42 players (2 teams)

Female

U11 - 2

U13 - 1

U15 - 15

U17 - 4

Total = 22

F. Nanaimo

Our recent drop-in sessions have been a great success! This past weekend, we hosted a **Girls Try Lacrosse** event, inspiring a group of young athletes to join our program for the upcoming season.

As our organization continues to grow, we are on track to reach an all-time high in registrations this year—a testament to the enthusiasm and dedication within our lacrosse community.

We are looking for guidance at U-11, either we have one team participate in the pilot LMMLC U-11 program and three teams participate in the North Island league OR we create an in-house league at U-11. Our goal is to support a better playing experience and provide meaningful competition for North Island athletes. For more information see attachment.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to an exciting season ahead!

U7 - 38 Enrolled

U9 - 72 Enrolled -- 73??

U11 - 69 (6 possible waitlist)

U13 - 45 (1 possible waitlist)

U15 - 36 Enrolled

U17 - 25 (3 possible waitlist)

U11F - 26 Enrolled

U13F - 28 Enrolled

U15F - 30 Enrolled

U17F - 24 (2 possible waitlist)

U22F - 19 Enrolled

G. Oceanside

Oceanside starts drop ins Feb 3rd! We have had a lot of interests from older kids looking to join which is great!

Our numbers are typical for this time of year, however, I am looking to declare a team in each division again. I am not sure if we are needing to merge but always willing to work with the possibility. I have a multitude of coaches wanting to take coaching courses and our head coach has been in talks with Travis at BCLA to host a course in

Oceanside. We're hoping this can happen within the next few weeks.

Our registrar is away but here's what is recorded in the spreadsheet:

U7-3

U9-2 potential of 10 more

U11-9 potential 6 more

U13-3 potential 13 more

U15-5 potential 10 more

U17-5 potential 11 more

The drop ins inquiries are older kids not counted in the list above and there's been 6 for U 15/17!!

We will host as many games as possible weekends and weeknights when necessary. Our arena is available April 22nd-June 15th. A week earlier due to heating maintenance.

H. Peninsula

Total 120

U7 = 6

U9 = 22

U11 = 22

U13 =29

U15 = 21

U17 = 20

We have finished introducing lax to every class in one local elementary school and it went well. We started try lacrosse bring a friend sessions for U7-U11 last Thursday and will continue for the next two Thursday's. We had a good turnout and lots of smiling kids.

Our U13-U17's have just had one session at Eagle Ridge dry floor thus far but have lots scheduled for Feb and early March. Plan to have teams sorted by early March.

As I mentioned at our last meeting our new covered box has had some construction delays. The latest information I received today said most likely May or June and I will be updated once they determine a more concrete completion date.

l. Saanich

Season planning is well underway. U13 evaluations are complete. U15 and U17 evaluations should be complete by February 15 or sooner.

We currently have 196 registrants. This is approximately the same as last season. This is about 94% of the registration we had last season so we are on track. We should see some growth in U7 and U9 over the next two months

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U7 = 12

U9 = 19

U11 = 43 (2-3 Teams depending additional registration)

U13 = 32 (2 Teams)

U15 = 43 (2 Teams)

U17 = 36 (2 Teams)
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We plan to launch our call for officials next week and form a pre-registration list for when BCLA announces clinic dates. We received our draft floor permit from the District of Saanich and should lock that in within two weeks. Our hope is to start practices in March, weather permitting.

J. Victoria Esquimalt

We are historically late with registration numbers as families wait to see if there will even be a team declared at a division before registering. We've been working to push early registration by implementing late fees earlier in March.

U7 one team

U9 one team

U11 one team

U13 4 players to release

U15 one team

U17 no players registered as this is our gap year finally aging out

U11F 4 girls registered, possibly playing up

U13F one team

U15F one maybe two teams

U17F one team

U22 one team

I have the actual numbers ready for the meeting.

8. New Business

- **A. Preliminary Declarations** Discussion of number of players and teams for each association
- **B.** Combo Team Requests No requests have been submitted yet, please refer to our Bylaws for procedure on how to do so
- **C.** Commissioner Nominees Thank you for all of the submissions, VIMLC will assign people in late February or early March, then the BCLA will ratify our choices by March 13. The commissioners' teleconference is March 27.
- D. Scheduling Committee Update Some changes were made to the document based on feedback from Associations. We spent a good part of the meting discussing declarations and tiering, specifically Island vs Lower Mainland declarations and the C division. The committee has provided good insight in to the challenges and constraints of scheduling.
- E. Season Schedule Parameters tabled to next meeting, once BCLA dates are confirmed
- **F. U7/U9 Roster Size** Discussion on the pros and cons of holding 2 concurrent games or one big game, dependent on roster size. As a group we will decide at the next meeting which format to use this season so that there is consistency between associations and at all games played.
- G. U7/U9: 2 Simultaneous Games discussed with Roster Size

H. MYLAX Ranking, LMMLC Pilot The LMMLC has decided to evaluate a new concept in U11 and in Female - to mimic what Ontario does for ranking teams. This involves hiring an external agency to digest scores and mathematically produce rankings for all teams. There is potential to extend this idea to imply a complete overhaul of BCLA policies and tiering, would be presented at the next AGM.

This is presented for information purposes only, there is no decision required by the Island at this time.

- Presidents' Meeting An invitation was extended by Jesse Kemp for association presidents to attend a meeting with other presidents from around BC, the next meeting is February 24. The focus is collaboration between Zones around concerns with BCLA policy and finances.
- 9. Next Meeting: Monday, March 3, 2025 at 7 pm
- **10. Motion to Adjourn** at 8:27 made by Tim Frost, seconded by Krista Gregory