

Vancouver Island Minor Lacrosse Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda
June 5, 2023
7:00 pm via Microsoft Teams

ATTENDEES

Voting Executive

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

VIMLC Executive

BCLOA Rep	Tyler Boyer
Indigenous Development	Bryan Baxter
BCLCA Rep	Kelly Fines (absent)
Commissioners	Wendy Hall, Geoff Garbutt

Association Representatives

Alberni Valley	Stephanie Prizeman
Campbell River	Mark Labowka
Comox	Chad Robinson
Cowichan Valley	Chris Claxton
Juan de Fuca	Niki Williams, Jenn Lambert
Nanaimo	Bryan Norby, Jesse Kemp
Oceanside	Paula Winnett
Peninsula	Jason Alford
Saanich	James Scott, Scott Barillaro
Victoria-Esquamalt	Amanda Welch, Bryce T

1. **Call Meeting to Order** 7:06 pm
Territorial Land Acknowledgement

2. **Adoption of Previous Minutes** Motion made by Lisa Seel-Thompson, seconded by Michelle Vecqueray, **Carried**

3. **Additions and Adoption of Agenda**
Motion to adopt agenda made by Niki Williams, seconded by Amanda Welch, **Carried**

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

5. Financial Report: **Motion:** To accept financial report as presented by Michelle Vecqueray made by Scott Barillaro, seconded by James Scott, **Carried**

Attached please find the bank reconciliation for May 2023 as well as the Budget vs Actual for the current year.

I have received all but one of the second half of association fees, with the promise of that cheque in the mail. The coming months will see the bulk of our expenses for the season.

8:56 PM

6/4/2023

**Vancouver Island Lacrosse Commission
Reconciliation Summary
Period Ending: 2023-05-31**

Beginning Balance		27,194.76
Cleared Transactions		
Cheques and Payments	(159.86)	
Deposits and Credits	<u>9,975.00</u>	
Total Cleared Transactions	<u>9,815.14</u>	
Cleared Balance		<u><u>37,009.90</u></u>
Uncleared Transactions		
Cheques and Payments	(148.75)	
Deposits and Credits	<u>-</u>	
Total Uncleared Transactions	<u>(148.75)</u>	
Register Balance as of		<u><u>36,861.15</u></u>
Ending Balance		36,861.15

VANCOUVER ISLAND MINOR LACROSSE COMMISSION
Working Budget & Actuals for 2023

ASSOCIATION	2022 #'S	Fees \$15/player	Notes	Actual Rec'd 2023
ALBERNI VALLEY	75	\$ 1,125.00	Full Fees paid	\$1,125.00
CAMPBELL RIVER	66	\$ 990.00	Full Fees paid	\$990.00
COMOX	45	\$ 675.00	Full Fees paid	\$675.00
COWICHAN VALLEY	99	\$ 1,485.00	Full Fees paid	\$1,485.00
JUAN DE FUCA	326	\$ 4,910.00	Full Fees paid	\$4,910.00
NANAIMO	322	\$ 4,830.00	Full Fees paid	\$4,830.00
OCEANSIDE	41	\$ 615.00	1st half fees paid	\$315.00
PENINSULA	141	\$ 2,115.00	Full Fees paid	\$2,115.00
SAANICH	202	\$ 3,030.00	Full Fees paid	\$3,030.00
VICTORIA-ESQUIMALT	62	\$ 930.00	Full Fees paid	\$930.00
TOTAL INVOICED/INCOMING FUNDS	1379	\$ 20,705.00		\$20,405.00
CARRY OVER FROM 2022 SEASON		\$ 17,865.26		\$17,865.26
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SEASON		\$ 38,570.26		\$38,270.26
EXPENSES	Actual 2022	Projected 2023		Actual 2023
SCHEDULE	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		
REFEREE PLAYOFF	\$ 3,510.00	\$ 6,500.00	2022 Playoff expenses were lower than average	
REFEREE TRAVEL	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 6,000.00		
FLOOR PLAYOFF	\$ 926.10	\$ 2,500.00		
BANNERS	\$ 2,038.40	\$ 2,500.00		
COMMISSIONERS	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,300.00		
ARBITER	\$ 1,280.58	\$ -	BCLA paying this year	\$0.00
ELECTRONIC GAME SHEETS (RAMP)		\$ 400.00	New Expense for 2023	\$420.00
WEBSITE (RAMP)	\$ 472.50	\$ 472.50	Annual Licensing fee - invoice	\$472.50
WEBSITE DOMAIN RENEWAL (RAMP)		\$ 131.25	5 Year renewal (\$25/yr)	\$131.25
ZOOM	\$ 224.00	\$ 224.00		\$224.00
BCLA AGM FEES		\$ 600.00	Estimate of 2 Delegates	
BCLA AGM TRAVEL/ETC.		\$ 2,000.00	2 Delegates (est. based on prior years)	
On Floor Referee Clinics		\$ 1,133.00	Peninsula/Comox/Nanaimo	\$159.86
MISC for 2023		\$ 100.00		
MISC (ADDED AFTER BUDGET APPRV)	\$ 680.93			
Total Expenses	\$ 14,667.51	\$ 26,860.75		\$1,407.61
PROJECTED FUNDS AT YEAR-END		\$ 11,709.51		

6. Zone 6 Reports:

A. Chair Tim Frost:

It has been another busy month. Many thanks to those that covered for me while I was away. Welcome to Geoff Garbutt who is stepping in to cover for Adam Gow who has had to take some time off to deal with a significant loss. Our thoughts are with Adam.

We are moving towards the conclusion of our season and will meet as an executive to finalize the playoff formats for all divisions. At the MD meeting the following decisions have been made for provincials;

- U17 A1 – 2 Island team declared(JDF & Saanich). There is 1 berth for the Island at provincials
- U17 A2 – 2 Island teams declared (Nanaimo & Peninsula). There is 1 berth for the Island at Provincials
- U17 B – 4 Island Teams declared (Campbell River, Cowichan, JDF & Saanich). There is 1 berth for the Island. Second Place team will play a wild card game against the LMMLC for a berth at Provincials. Cowichan will get an automatic berth as host.
- U15 A1 – 2 Island teams declared (Saanich & JDF). Saanich will get a berth as host, JDF will get the zone 6 berth.
- U15 A2 – 1 Island team declared and Nanaimo will represent Zone 6 in the Provincials.
- U15 B – 7 Island Teams declared (Comox, Cowichan, JDF, Oceanside, Peninsula 1 & 2, Saanich). Saanich will get a berth as host, The top 2 (excluding Saanich) will represent Zone 6.
- U15 C (No Provincials)
- U13 A1 1 island Team declared – Nanaimo will represent Zone 6.
- U13 A2 3 Island teams Declared – (Cowichan *, JDF, Saanich) – Top 2 teams will go to provincials. (* Cowichan may appeal tiering decision with MD)
- U13 B 6 Island Teams declared (Alberni *, Comox, Nanaimo, Saanich 1&2, VELA) – Top 2 will go to provincials. (*Note Alberni must resolve BCLA fine and form 100 submission to be eligible. If Cowichan A is successful in appeal to MD they may play B)
- U13 C 1 Island Team declared – JDF* will represent zone 6 (*subject to MD appeal from Saanich 2 – If Saanich 2 gets moved to C they will playoff against JDF for the berth)
- U17 Junior – 2 team declared (Nanaimo, VELA). 1 Berth for zone 6
- U17 Female – 1 team declared Nanaimo will represent Zone 6 at Provincials
- U15 Female – 1 team declared Nanaimo will represent Zone 6 at Provincials
- U13 Female- 1 team declared Nanaimo will represent Zone 6 at Provincials

Please refer to Island Policy for playdowns and how we will seed the playoffs. Any questions – please work with your league commissioners. There were 2 appeals to the Minor Directorate regarding tiering placement, Cowichan will play as placed in A, Saanich has not yet heard back from the MD.

Island Playdowns key dates

Division	U17	U15	U13	Female (U13-U17)
Last League Game	Sat July 8 * Need to potentially move these games	Sun June 25	Thu June 15	June 11
Playdown Start	Friday July 7	Friday June 30	Fri June 16	Friday June 16
Playdown End	Sunday July 16	Sunday July 9	Sunday June 25	Sunday June 25
Provincials Start	July 27	July 20	July 6	July 6

From a league perspective – we are still seeing incidents of unacceptable behaviour both on and off the floor. If the parent and spectator behaviour does not improve we will ban

spectators from arenas for playoffs. Presidents it is your responsibility to step in and manage your parent / spectator behaviour.

Some changes coming in the near future from the CLA;
U13/U15/U17 0 will continue to have nationals (ie Team BC)

- Eliminate Off Ball contact in all minor lacrosse. (2024) - Will impact U15/U17
- Reduce Open Floor hits
- U11 and Below - Equal Pressure (ie place and push) adopted nationally
- U13 is when they will introduce "full contact"

Female League – while we are seeing growing pains – this program has been hugely successful with over 80 games played between island and Mainland Teams. We will work to make it better next year including better logistics for game scheduling. I have asked BCLA to look into travel grants that may be available to offset team travel costs.

B. Minor Directorate Rep Brande Terris:

I attended the minor directorate meeting with Tim. Nothing more to report from that meeting, Tim covered it all. I would ask each president to send me quick email once their seasons are over (by end of July) with a recap of their associations seasons. How did the non competitive teams do, how are your numbers compared to last year? How did your competitive division teams do, and what are your thoughts on where your association is going for 2024?

C. BCLCA Rep: Kelly Fines:

As the season progresses we still have coaches not getting the message. I have 3 more hearings coming up for official abuse. I would ask all presidents to please ask their head coaches to speak with all their coaches. As we are witnessing this year we have a severe ref shortage and if these coaching issues are not resolved it's only going to get worse. We are rescheduling games or cancelling games because of this situation.

D. BCLOA Rep Tyler Boyer:

As playdowns draw near, we see that the intensity and emotions of the game start to increase. We have had a fair amount of game reports recently done for non-playing personnel being ejected. A reminder to the Associations to relay the importance of respectful dialogue, controlling emotion and respecting boundaries. As well, please ensure that coaches know that when they are running a door on the bench, they are not to be speaking directly to the officials; that is a job of a Head Coach only.

Recently a coach, jumped onto the floor after being ejected from a game and went out of his way to physically bump into, and therefore physically assaulted, one of our officials. I want to raise this issue to the VIMLC as this is the first case of physical assault that has occurred to one of our officials in our Zone in my time in this role. This is disgusting, disturbing and completely unacceptable. I hope that all Associations will take a stand against this behaviour and undertake necessary action against this individual. I am asking that the association involved assess appropriate further action to this individual, on top of any discipline that may come from his incident from the BCLA or VIMLC level. Repercussions have to come from the Association in addition to the BCLA. An incident like this **needs** attention. An example needs to be made of this type of incident. We are losing officials at an extremely alarming rate, and **they do not need to be subject to any possibility of a physical event.** It has been a hectic month getting games covered up and down the island. Lots of games and travelling for all officials. We have managed fairly well, however, we have had to reschedule a few games due to official shortages. This is the first time since before the pandemic that we have had to do this.

Electronic game sheets continue to cause headaches, as could be seen in the Commissioner reports. Issues include improperly recording penalties called, Majors being recorded as Match, players being recorded that did not receive the penalty, etc. I am continuing to preach to the Head Refs, and officials I am in direct contact with, to review the game sheet on the Scorekeeper's device in the box and make corrections there. I keep relaying the importance of having these done correctly and accurately, which makes everyone's life easier involved in these games.

We continue to have some issues in regards to the game changes or cancellations procedure. The past few weekends we have had multiple games where they were cancelled but the officials were not aware and showed up to the arena due to Arbiter not being updated. There were a few instances in past weeks where too short notice was being given for changes to games and locations. Further thoughts and discussions should be had on handling these procedures more efficiently for next year.

E. Indigenous Development Coordinator Bryan Baxter:

I wanted to let everyone know that Ladysmith Primary School is hosting an Aboriginal Day at their school on June 22nd. I have been invited to demonstrate an introduction to lacrosse that will include a brief history of the game, demonstration of the basic skills and an opportunity for students to try and a mention of opportunities through lacrosse including scholarships and the North American Indigenous Games. If an association would like to supply any literature

for their clubs, let me know in advance and I would be happy to present it. There are conversations regarding the First Nations Lacrosse Association (FNLA) and how they might assist Indigenous groups here in BC (and elsewhere in Canada) with the development of Indigenous lacrosse. The FNLA is currently centered out east and they administer assistance to First Nations programs there. There has been some real growth in Indigenous participation with coaches, officials and athletes here in BC and groups are investigating how the FNLA might help them grow the Indigenous side of the game. I have been trying to bring the groups together with the FNLA.

F. Female Coordinator Lisa Seel-Thompson:

Nothing additional to report beyond what Tim & Brande have all ready shared. The interlocked schedule with the Lower Mainland was viewed positively, but had growing pains. We have asked the MD for help to access travel grants to offset costs. Associations and individuals are encouraged to send letters of support for the continuation of the interlock league to John Hamilton at the BCLA. The long term goal is to grow the game enough that the girls have a league of their own on Vancouver Island.

G. Web Master Stephanie Prizeman:

Game changes - lots of them.

Not much wiggle room for folks to rearrange games.

A few issues with RAMP that I believe to be user error - RAMP has not been "down" to my knowledge - I'm using it daily - I believe teams' issues stem from use of an incorrect or old game code, or team code rather than game sheet code. Reminder that I'm not the scheduler, or the arbiter scheduler liaison - at this point in the year there should be no liaising with the scheduler except for when we get to play downs potentially.

Commissioners - please double check your junk mail as sometimes the commissioner email is being caught up in folks junk mail. The VIMLC email is a forwarding service, so it will go right to your inbox, but some services seem to put it right in the junk.

Motion to accept Reports as presented made by Niki Williams, seconded by Jason Alford, **carried**

7. Association Reports:

A. Alberni Valley:

We hosted our U11 tournament Mother's Day weekend - only 5 teams, which was disappointing, but it was a great time and all the teams had fun!!! So many smiles and laughs throughout the weekend - that's what it's about.

We have had to move one U15 game due to unavailability of referees, and have a variety of small issues we are working on.

B. Campbell River:

We are looking forward to hosting our U17 Fathers Day Rally on the weekend of June 17th. It will be a 5 team tournament, not the size we were hoping for but it should still be a good time. There will be one online 50/50 draw held for the entire weekend. I will be forwarding to you all a QR code that will enable you to enter the draw. Perhaps you can share it with your membership. We are hoping for a jackpot of at least \$2500 for a lucky winner! Like other organizations, we are also expecting vacancies on our executive board for next year as a lot of the current members kids are aging out, this includes myself in the presidents' Role. We will be talking about this challenge at our next executive meeting on the 12th and working towards our annual AGM.

The only competitive team we have this season is our U17's, they are reporting a lot of technical issues with RAMP and have been doing both paper and electronic sheets as per Doug's request. Doug is aware of the issues I am told, things like penalties showing as blank in our app as the guest team.

C. Comox Valley:

Our U15 and U11 teams played in the Tim White and Travis Bateman tournaments in May. As always, both tournaments were well run and competitive and the players and families had a great time. Our U9 team is looking forward to the upcoming Oceanside tournament this weekend.

Our division managers have been able to navigate the RAMP scoresheet and scheduling changes without too much trouble and so far referee availability has worked out well for our home games.

As I've mentioned before, over half of our registered players are new to the game and we continue to get positive feedback from parents about how the season is going and the game in general.

D. Cowichan Valley:

Cowichan had two teams on the road in Penticton and Kelowna this past weekend. U17 got to play cross island rivals Saanich it was a great game. U13 competed hard in Penticton.

We are similar to Penlax where we are expecting vacancies on our board after this season. work is starting to fill the positions at the agm.

Also, we too are getting grumblings about the scoresheets.

Work is ongoing for the hosting of the U17 provincials.

Some of the usual hiccups have occurred over the season but I have worked to iron them out and move things forward.

I want to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication to lacrosse and lacrosse on the Island. It can be thankless work at times and it takes strong will

to hang in there and take on the various positions within the VIMLC and the associations.

Seeing our Island teams competing on the mainland and finding success is awesome and I feel it is greatly attributed to the hard work behind the scenes to provide lacrosse for the players here.

E. Juan de Fuca:

JDF was successful in hosting our annual Travis Bateman Memorial Tournament last weekend and will be hosting the Rumble on the Rock PW tournament this coming week.

Our teams have all been busy attending tournaments and bringing home some medals which is always great!

One major concern that has come up is the U17B team only has 11 games scheduled, not the promised 14. I was just informed of this and haven't had a chance to inquire as I was at the Wingrove all weekend. Hoping we can discuss and resolve as this is very disappointing for our graduating players.

Lastly, I will report that people prefer paper game sheets...

F. Nanaimo:

Not much to report on as of now. Our female division is amazing, driven by an incredible group of volunteers. Who have successfully navigated the "growing pains" of being a part of the lower mainland league. Our girls are better for it. Everyone looking forward to play downs and provincials.

G. Oceanside:

We have our Shark Attack U9 tournament coming up this weekend. 10 teams playing. Sounds like it will be a fun weekend!

The U9 team has finished their season games this weekend. It sounds like they had a great time.

Our U15 team has attended the Tim White tournament and Penticton Barn Burner.

H. Peninsula:

Our U7/U9 Tourney is scheduled for Fathers Day weekend June 17-18 and we are excited to see the future generation of lacrosse players running around!!

U15B2 is on their way back from their Tourney in Penticton and U17 is on their way back from Kelowna.

We are already thinking about next season with regards to filling expected vacancies on the executive board, tournaments, getting back into the schools for recruitment etc.

We are not getting a lot of positive feedback about RAMP. It's tough to know

whether it is growing pains or not, but it hasn't been well received.

I. Saanich:

We have had teams at almost every division participate in tournaments.

The tournament registration system has been improved in the last few years but is still lacking in some ways, we had one U13 team that was applied to two tournaments and denied when our other U13 team was accepted at two different tournaments.

We hosted our internal 3 on 3 festival the weekend of May 6/7 and had beautiful weather.

All of our competitive teams have declared for provincials.

J. Victoria/Esquimalt:

The mission to grow the game safely is daunting but rewarding. We just finished our inaugural Call of the Wild tournament. It was mayhem in the best way. The kids had fun. Aside from a few coaches badgering refs and 4 teams showing up without mouthguards, it was a great success. We will put it on again next season. We also had a developmental U7 event, Friday Night Mini Tykes, with JDF. The thought behind it was to have the kids from different associations play together on mixed teams, eat ice cream, and run around like maniacs so they'd bond. If we get them to be friends as U7s, maybe they'll stay friends as more competition is introduced. Our U17F team volunteered to coach the tiny teams which worked out so well. We will open it up to more associations next season.

We have a few teams that declared for provincials. We are currently planning with Saanich to cohost the U15 provincials in July.

In summary, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. It's either the end of the season or an oncoming train. ;)

Motion to accept Reports as presented made by Jason Alford, seconded by Brande Terris, **carried**

8. Commissioner Reports:

A. U7/U9 Phil DiBattista

We had a couple of U7 and U9 tournaments that are just wrapping up and a few that are in the next two weeks.

Of note I have heard several complaints/ conversations about what coaches teach their athletes about contact in the U7/U9 divisions. This shouldn't be a conversation we are having to have but it is unfortunately headed that way. I may have to reach out to a few teams/ presidents to get this sorted out.

Lots of game changes this year (more than normal) most related to weather but a noticeable amount due to the timing of games. Of course most of the season is working with new managers and coaches so there is always a learning curve.

B. U11 Wendy Hall

- Port Alberni's Ice Breaker tournament was held May 12 - 14
- Juan de Fuca's Travis Bateman tournament was held May 26 - 28
- 29 league games were scheduled for May
- so far this season there's been a total of 17 majors, resulting in 9 suspensions served over 17 games
- I've contacted coaches and association presidents about the need to control the goal differential in games. This is not a competitive level - we need to promote sportsmanship and encourage players to return

C. U13 Goeff Garbutt

Getting my feet wet as an interim Commissioner. Thanks to Tim and Doug and Stephanie for the assistance.

Carrying on with a few ongoing items on behalf of Adam including a fairly serious coach/ref issue. In the past three weeks very few majors and two coaches issues. A couple of items reported from the Rumble on the Rock Tournament but nothing too serious. I hope the teams that participated had a good experience. For Association Presidents, please advise your team managers that I can't do anything with respect to the activities of refs and if there are game issues that they should use the JOCAP reporting so as to provide feedback to our officials. Managers are continuing to report some RAMP issues with entering Schreiner sheets but I think it's a combination of user inexperience and error when using the game codes.

For Association Presidents, can you please let your teams that I will not be responding to emails or contacts from parents or coaches. I will work through Managers but only Managers.

It has been a great experience so far and look forward to continuing to assist with the U13 group.

D. U15 Andy Stuart

A good season so far.

I attended the Tim White Tournament in Nanaimo. A huge thank you to the Nanaimo organizing committee. The number of comments from lower mainland teams on the amazing experience is positive and a way to ensure off island teams continue to attend in the future.

There have been 30 suspensions, mostly for a Major penalty in the last 10 minutes of the 3rd period. There have been 4 coach suspensions. I sent out a recent email challenging coaches to have better communication with officials in the second half of the season with a goal or no more suspensions.

E. U17 Doug Kampen

The season is well underway with all the usual aches and pains

23 player suspensions for a total of 63 games

3 coach suspensions for a total of 8 games

All game conflicts have been rescheduled, this process continues to be a huge drain on time and energy for all involved.

One of the most time consuming and frustrating items that continues this season is the mistakes made on RAMP. Entry errors, and incomplete information are frustrating. I don't know if this is just first year growing pains or something with the program, but almost every game I am having to email referees and/or managers for clarification.

Thanks to Geoff Garbutt for stepping in at U13 to help out

F. Female Brande Terris

Things have levelled off with regard to game changes and rescheduling. Overall the interlocking schedule has had some growing pains but as Tim said over 80 games have been played between island and lower mainland teams this year, plus the tournaments and island vs island games. We are working on some ways to make things run smoother next season.

Motion to accept Reports as presented made by Lisa Seel-Thompson, seconded by Chris Claxton, **carried**

9. New Business:

A. RAMP App and game sheets: Tabled until after the season is over. A committee will be formed to discuss benefits and drawbacks and determine how we move forward.

B. Tiering decisions: VIMLC has received feedback from parents on the tiering process. The commission has guidelines which are similar to other jurisdictions, on how teams are moved up or down. If any association would like a different process, the bylaws can be reexamined. Decisions are not made lightly, we are trying to do what is best for all teams and players in the league, based on the calibre of the teams. The VIMLC appreciates association support when talking to parents about what the policies are and how they are followed.

C. 2024 scheduler: Dallas Lister will not be doing the schedule next season. After this season is over a posting will go out for the position. If anyone knows of someone who would like to apply for the job please pass this information on to Tim.

10. Next Meeting: Monday, July 10 at 7 pm

11. Motion to Adjourn at 7:43 pm made by Niki Williams, seconded by Chad Robinson, **carried**

