

**Vancouver Island Minor Lacrosse Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2025**

Attendees

Voting Executive

Chair	Tim Frost
Vice Chair	Scott Barillaro
Secretary	Krista Gregory
Treasurer	Michelle Vecqueray (absent)
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 (absent)
Commissioners	Mike Bisgrove, Greg Toll, Chad Robinson, Janice Parmar, Adam Gow, Cathy Coulson

Association Representatives

Alberni Valley	Tammy Mannix
Campbell River	Sarah Thomas
Comox Valley	Chad Robinson
Cowichan Valley	Koltin King
Juan de Fuca	Kyla Pedlow
Nanaimo	Bryan Baxter
Oceanside	Renee Allan
Peninsula	Rod Senior, Terry Hall, Simon Upshon
Saanich	Scott Barillaro
Victoria Esquimalt	Kate Blass, Bryce Taylor

1. **Call Meeting to Order** at 7:05 pm
Land Acknowledgement
2. **U13 Commissioner**
The U13B commissioner has resigned mid season, Doug Kampen has agreed to take over the role for the remainder of the season.
3. **Adoption of Previous Minutes**
Motion made by Janice Parmar, seconded by Shane Mellish, **carried**

4. Additions and Adoption of Agenda

Motion made by Janice Parmar, seconded by Rennee Allan, **carried**

5. Business Arising from the Minutes: none

6. Financial Report: Michelle Vecqueray

Motion to accept financial report made by Rennee Allan, seconded by Greg Toll, **carried**

Please note that I am currently out of the country and have prepared this report as of April 23rd. Since the month is not completed there is no updated bank reconciliation. I will provide both the April and May Bank Recs at the June meeting.

Current Bank balance is \$29,471.46, with one cheque outstanding.

All associations have paid their first half fees. Thank you!

VANCOUVER ISLAND MINOR LACROSSE COMMISSION

Approved Budget 2025

As at April 23, 2025

ASSOCIATION	2024 #'S	Fees /player	Notes		Variance
ALBERNI VALLEY	64	\$ 960.00		\$480.00	(480.00)
CAMPBELL RIVER	50	\$ 750.00		\$375.00	(375.00)
COMOX	109	\$ 1,635.00		\$825.00	(810.00)
COWICHAN VALLEY	126	\$ 1,890.00		\$945.00	(945.00)
JUAN DE FUCA	387	\$ 5,805.00		\$2,910.00	(2,895.00)
NANAIMO	415	\$ 6,225.00		\$3,120.00	(3,105.00)
OCEANSIDE	66	\$ 990.00		\$495.00	(495.00)
PENINSULA	164	\$ 2,460.00		\$1,230.00	(1,230.00)
SAANICH	244	\$ 3,660.00		\$1,830.00	(1,830.00)
VICTORIA-ESQUIMALT	96	\$ 1,440.00		\$720.00	(720.00)
TOTAL INVOICED/INCOMING FUNDS	1721	\$ 25,815.00		\$12,930.00	(12,885.00)
CARRY OVER FROM 2024 SEASON		\$ 17,283.66		\$17,283.66	
Uncashed 2024 cheques written off		\$ 560.12		\$560.12	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SEASON		\$ 43,658.78		\$30,773.78	(12,885.00)
EXPENSES	Actual 2024	Projected 2025			
SCHEDULE	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,500.00		\$1,000.00	(1,500.00)
REFEREE PLAYOFF	\$ 5,540.00	\$ 6,000.00		\$0.00	(6,000.00)
REFEREE TRAVEL	\$ 1,580.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$0.00	(2,000.00)
FLOOR PLAYOFF	\$ 2,988.12	\$ 3,200.00		\$0.00	(3,200.00)
BANNERS	\$ 2,932.16	\$ 3,200.00			(3,200.00)
COMMISSIONERS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,100.00		\$0.00	(3,100.00)
RAMP officiating (Formerly Arbiter)	\$ -	\$ -	BCLA paying this year	\$0.00	0.00
ELECTRONIC GAME SHEETS (RAMP)	\$ 420.00	\$ 450.00		\$420.00	(30.00)
WEBSITE (RAMP)	\$ 498.75	\$ 550.00	Annual Licensing fee	\$498.75	(51.25)
WEBSITE DOMAIN RENEWAL (RAMP)	\$ -	\$ -	5 Year renewal (\$25/yr)	-	0.00
ZOOM	\$ 240.69	\$ 300.00		\$240.69	(59.31)
BCLA AGM FEES	\$ 70.00	\$ 140.00	Estimate of 4 Delegates - Oct 25	\$0.00	(140.00)
BCLA AGM TRAVEL/ETC.	\$ 2,558.81	\$ 3,000.00	4 Delegates (est. based on prior years)	\$0.00	(3,000.00)
On Floor Referee Clinics	\$ -	\$ -	not approved for 2024	\$0.00	0.00
Referee Mentorship	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	New Budget Item in 2024 / Managed by Tyler	\$0.00	(500.00)
MISC	\$ 232.38	\$ 250.00	Stamps, Bank fees, cheques	\$142.88	(107.12)
Ramp - Tournament/BCLA addition		\$ 250.00	New addition Passed at Apr 7/25 Meeting		
Total Expenses	\$ 22,060.91	\$ 25,440.00		\$2,302.32	(23,137.68)

PROJECTED FUNDS AT YEAR-END

\$ 18,218.78

\$ 28,471.46

Projected Net Gain (Loss)

\$ 375.00

\$ 10,627.68

7. Zone 6 Reports

A. Chair Tim Frost

It is great to see us in full swing of another season. So far it appears that all is going well with routine issues such as minor player suspensions.

We have been busy processing the last of the release requests and play down requests from associations - but effective May 7 there will be no further player movement.

A reminder of some of the upcoming key dates;

May 1	Coaches must be registered on Form 100B and registration fees paid at the BCLA office (BCLCA 1.02, BCLCA 11.01)
May 7	Last date to send "C" team lists to the League Commissioner (MD 5.04) No more criss-cross of players between teams in the same division (MD 4.03) Last day to permanently transfer players to another team within the same playing caliber or league (MD 4.09)
May 11	Final date of registration of coach for playoffs (BCLCA 2.03, BCLCA 11.01)
May 15	One copy of each player's registration form and all copies of the Team Registration Lists submitted to BCLA Office (MD 3.05) No more player registrations to be accepted unless approved by Commissioner (MD 3.06) Last date to send list of grandfathered players to the Minor registrar (MD 8.09)
May 31	Last date for house league areas to send additional Team Lists for combined teams marked "Tournament/Provincial Team" to BCLA Office (MD 3.04)
June 1	No Team Movement (MD 5.03)
June	Mid month is the deadline for Provincial declaration forms to be received at the BCLA office, not to be confused with the May 31 team list requirement. The declaration form is separate and additional (dates set by MD). Mid month is the deadline for Zone Directors to receive nominations of Zone Lacrosse Players (dates set by MD).
June 20	Last day for a Commissioner to approve registration of new players (MD 3.06) Final payment of current year's registration fees is due (MD 3.08)

B. Minor Directorate Rep Brande Terris no report

C. Vice Chair Scott Barillaro no report

D. BCLCA Rep Kelly Fines

Morning all, nothing to report other than we are trying to put a level 1 clinic together for this Saturday. I won't be able to make it today as I am coaching tonight.

E. BCLOA Rep Tyler Boyer

The season has gotten underway, and as usual there are the typical challenges faced at the beginning of the season - gamesheets needing more attention, kicking off the rule book rust, creativity to have games covered, etc. - but for the most part we are off to a great start. We sure could use a few more experienced Level 2 officials though - retention of those older teenagers /young adults are large contribution factors.

As most are aware, we have continued to deal with officials to ensure game sheets end up accurately reflecting the course of the game. It's a multifaceted effort from many parties - the timekeepers and teams - but we are working towards it together. I've stepped in a few Minor games myself and have worked with the timekeepers so hopefully they're able to take those lessons into the next games they do.

As mentioned in a previous email out to all, please ensure we are coordinating game changes with the referee allocator to ensure that new proposed time and date works. This is especially important if a game is being rescheduled to another association so we can ensure coverage.

We are trying to capture a few more Officials here to ensure that we have a bit more capacity to have games covered. Associations need to ensure they, or their head referee, are on top of getting the appropriate numbers of officials registered in clinics in March to run games. We cannot be doing this into April / May.

F. Indigenous Development Coordinator Bryan Baxter

Nothing to report

G. Female Coordinator Shane Mellish

The Female League is starting well with the expected complications.

The interlocked schedule is very difficult.

There are more teams, shorter season, and less arena time.

We advocate for everything we think we can reasonably get and in the end, we take what the lower mainland gives us.

I think the workload on the Female Commissioner is way too much.

The Island will want to consider a solution.

How we are doing it now is not sustainable we will burn out the commissioner

H. Web Master Stephanie Prizeman

Webmaster report:

Thanks to commissioners for their communication with game changes - and to those who are making changes themselves! More knowledge about the site will help with the handover when my term is done in the fall!

Co Ed exhibition games vs mainland - for now are going on paper. We are not connected to the mainland's system. Will advise if/when this changes - we are supposed to be linked this season so we can do tournaments etc on RAMP. As of right now, teams outside of our league would have to get a log in from me and set themselves up on our system as teams do at the start of the season.

One reminder for associations - please have a look at your team handouts for process for game changes. There are some out there that have teams include the scheduler and island head ref and other folks on all steps. The process we have used the past few years is teams ask commissioner for permission to change a game (and give reason), they work with the opposing team to find a date, and they work with their association referee and floor allocators to ensure that date potentially works. The commissioner will approve and make the change or forward to the webmaster to make the change.
Thanks

Scheduler Liaison:

We will await any tiering decisions!

Motion to accept reports as presented made by Rennee Brown, seconded by Bryan Norby, **carried**

8. Association Reports

A. Alberni Valley

Hello season is off and running with the usual lil hiccups but all and all fairly smooth so far, having issues with lack of referees to fill in games in the valley to prevent paying travel costs and basically being a pain in the butt for our head ref! We have put 14 players through the course in last 2 years and because of various reasons we only have 2 available this year to help out very frustrating but our association sees we need to fix this and are working on this! our combo teams with Oceanside are working well together and so far parents are and players are happy. Thank you Renee the president from Oceanside and Kelly Fine's for putting on coaching courses this year
It's been great and very much needed! That's all from the valley thanks for everything & everyone for what they do for this great game

B. Campbell River

We've officially been back in the arena for home games this past weekend. Had to navigate some rescheduling due to lack of refs and our head ref being away. Still have

to get some home games rescheduled but our new managers are working hard to sort through finding new days within the struggles that it's already a jam packed season. With only development divisions again. We have new volunteers and coaches. Just navigating new roles and how to be creative with what we are working with. Kids are having fun!

I do think it would be helpful for commissioners to also throw back a list of coaches/manager contacts after they receive that from our teams so it's easier to communicate for game content. We did have a little hiccup in the beginning as we didn't have the proper contacts. Sunday morning power calls getting yelled at isn't the most fun way to start the day.

We have a few coaches still needing level 1 certifications.

C. Comox Valley

Our teams have all had a great start to the season. We have been through a few game reshchedules but they have all gone as smoothly as can be expected.

Our young refs are getting games in and we have been able to have experienced refs at games to help mentor them.

We have enough certified coaches to run our non-competitive teams but are in real need of a Level 2 clinic to fill out our U15 bench.

The kids are looking forward to tournaments on the Island starting with the Tim White this weekend in Nanaimo.

D. Cowichan Valley

Not much to report in Cowichan.

U7 is playing out of Nanaimo one Sunday a month, and having a blast as always so thank you Bryan for putting that together

Everyone else is happily engaged in league play.

Some concerns about neutral site games and parents, we've had some issues at KP so just reminding families to be kind to the refs would be great!

We had a sports fair on the weekend and had our head coach in a dunk tank, kids had a blast :).

E. Juan de Fuca

We couldn't be happier that the season has started! Getting assessments completed, and players assigned to 24 teams was no small feat!

I echo Bryan's thoughts on U11 this year. It was easier to create balanced teams for that division for us, with having all the A players on one team. Overall, it has been good so far, although based on scores, it's been a little more challenging for a few of our teams when playing some teams. For it to truly run smoothly, it would be best if the other larger associations have an A team so the players on their B

teams are true B players. Our A team has played 5 games total so far. One against Nanaimo, two against Semiahmoo, and two against Delta. They won all games against Semiahmoo and Delta, and lost to Nanaimo. Competition has been great and it's been a really great experience for the players. I feel confident that all of the U11 players are getting the development they need, based on their skill level, and that this will help in their transition into U13.

We have had a few discipline issues that have easily been dealt with thankfully.

Our biggest hurdle right now is our floor time being taken away from us at JDF Arena. As Wendy mentioned, the Grizzlies hockey team is deep in the playoffs so ice hasn't been removed in The Q Centre. This is creating a huge domino effect, as all of the Shamrocks teams as well as the Westshore Bears take priority over us. They now need to use JDF Arena for practices, which is reducing our time there. We've had to reschedule many games to Kerry Park, and if the Grizzlies continue to win, we may have to reschedule our Travis Bateman tournament. Luckily, we are working with Westshore Parks and Rec, as well as Sooke Arena to get that tournament rescheduled if necessary. We've had some hiccups rescheduling games at Kerry Park, but I think we've worked it all out now to keep everything running smoothly.

We have been seeing lots of support for our older teams from our younger players which has been great to see! Big crowds always makes the games fun, and we're seeing it even for weeknight games.

F. Nanaimo

The season is off to a strong start, and it's been encouraging to see the energy, sportsmanship, and commitment across all levels of play. While we've experienced some challenges with the female interlock schedule, our allocator and female commissioner have been working diligently to ensure these athletes receive the opportunities they deserve.

Our U7 and U9 games are in full swing, bringing smiles and excitement from our youngest players—a true testament to the spirit of the Creator's Game.

The U11 division is a standout this year. Thanks to proper tiering, we've seen dramatically closer scores across the North Island division, creating more balanced and enjoyable games for all participants. In addition, our U11 A team is experiencing success in competition against other A teams on the mainland, a strong sign of appropriate placement and development.

We've also made efforts to improve the coaching experience this year. Our in-house coaching clinic has contributed to more positive and constructive coach behavior across the board, which is making a noticeable impact on the sidelines.

Another important focus for us is parent behavior. We encourage all associations to continue reminding families of proper etiquette when watching games. Respectful, supportive spectators create a better experience for everyone—especially the players.

One area of concern is our U17 A2 team. Currently, they're playing exclusively against A1 opponents and are consistently facing losses by margins of 15 goals or more. This kind of imbalance can negatively affect player morale and long-term participation. Looking ahead to next season, it's worth considering that if there's only one A2 team in the division, their schedule should ideally include a mix of A1 and B teams to support development and enjoyment.

Finally, we're excited to be hosting the Tim White Tournament next weekend. We look forward to welcoming teams in the A1, A2, and B divisions at the U15 level for what promises to be a competitive and spirited event.

Thanks again for your continued efforts in supporting the game and our young athletes.

G. Oceanside

Oceanside is enjoying the season! Combo teams are working well keeping practices balanced between both associations.

Preps for U-11 Shark Bite and U9 Shark Attack are well underway and we're excited to host these events again!

Oceanside has had the privilege to host 1 coach clinic and another one is scheduled for this Saturday May 10th. It's a struggle to get a response from Dave but as soon as I email Jill about it I get an instant response from Dave. We're hoping for an easier system for convenient clinics and encouraging more coaches. Thank you to Kelly Fines for facilitating.

Thank you to all the commissioners for your support of our managers and coaches as they navigate their way through the new season!!

H. Peninsula

The season has started out relatively well so far for our Peninsula teams. There have been a few bumps along the way but thankful concerns were taken seriously and addressed promptly.

We are looking forward to hosting our Father's day tournament and many are busy preparing for that weekend of June 14 & 15.

If there is a need for more floor time in the South Island have your floor allocator reach out to me and I will try assist with slots at Panorama.

I. Saanich

So far, so good. Things seem to be proceeding well. I've watched U7, U9, U11 and U15A games so far. I plan to make rounds to watch the other teams over the next two weeks. I have not heard of any serious issues with any team. There are some minor

internal disciplinary matters I will work with my VPs to address. This mostly revolves around appropriate parent behaviour, which is a recurring theme each season it seems.

We continue to update our policies. The new Discipline Policy and Process document will be approved and implemented this month. I also have a working group provide input on updated Association bylaws so we have time to prepare them for our AGM in the fall. We also plan to send out a short mid-season survey to all teams asking questions about Association administration, team management and player experience. We will follow that up with a more detailed year end survey.

J. Victoria Esquimalt

Every year I'm humbly reminded of the massive volunteer effort it takes to pull off a box season. It's been a great season so far.

I will echo the comments made about the interlocking challenges for female. I think communication from the mainland is where we are lacking. Teams not knowing if they are traveling over until a couple days beforehand makes it nearly impossible to have the "required" 15 players available. The girls love the games but the island facing backlash for elements that are out of our control isn't realistic. We truly appreciate Cathy and Shane for their time and support.

Our policies and procedures are in place from last season, and it's made a difference overall for how we approach issues with parents and players. It's been especially great for our U15B team and coaches who are having a better season with the policies in place.

We are still desperate for a Level 2 coaching clinic in the south. The local associations worked together to get a level 1 scheduled, but we can't find a local facilitator to host a level 2. We will be putting a VELA coach through the facilitation certification so we can better support the area in coach development.

Our two U15F teams continue to have internal issues but we have scheduled our head refs to officiate their games against each other to ensure sportsmanship and safety. I will be attending their game tonight so I will do my best to engage during the meeting.

Motion to accept reports as presented made by Tim Frost, seconded by Krista Gregory, **carried**

9. Commissioner Reports

A. U7 North no report

B. U9 South

So far the season had kicked off to a fairly decent start. Of course lots of game changes do to tournaments, but I think I'm figuring that all out.

Only issues I've had come up is managers not taking the exact steps for changing the game, and I've had to remind them that they need to set up everything before I can approve.

The only other thing that came up was a team showed up with a lack of players and ended up needing to borrow from the other team. I was able to deal with that internally.

C. U9 North

I have sorted out my email and am now getting all communications, so pretty much caught up on everything I missed at the start of the season

Only issue so far is Nanaimo 4 did not show up for a game in Parksville on Saturday. I am hoping both teams will want to reschedule that if possible. I believe Nanaimo is required to pay for refs and floor time but not sure if box policy is the same as field lacrosse in that matter.

Other than that, games are going well, haven't heard any complaints. A couple of rescheduled games most due to the shark attack tournament, a few still waiting to be scheduled but managers are working together to find a suitable date/time

D. U11 South

Here's the report for U11 South up to and including yesterday May 3:

There are 10 U11 teams and 1 U11A team.

Games played:

U11 - 14

U11A - 2

Majors assessed: 7

There's been quite a few game changes, driven by tournament conflicts and the fact that the Victoria Grizzlies hockey team has advanced to playoffs. This has delayed removal of the ice from the Q Center which means more requirements for use of the JdF arena by various sports groups....which impacts floor time available to JdF lacrosse teams.

E. U11 North

There are 7 U11 teams and 1 U11A team.

Games played:

U11 - 5

U11A - 2 league + 3 exhibition games

Majors assessed: 4

2

There's been quite a few game changes, driven by tournament conflicts, and refs not available, so far 2 games to be rescheduled and 2 near misses where an official was found at the last minute. At this point I still have 2 TBAs to be scheduled.

games played - 11
major penalties - 5
suspensions - 2

I have seen three of the four teams play so far and judging by what I have seen in person and on the game sheets there is no reason to re-tier any of the teams in A.

H. U15

have had 7 majors with one Match and 2 other suspensions. There is a strong possibility one team should move

I believe one team for sure needs to move down possibly 2. I also believe 2 need to move up as they are blowing away the other teams.

I am looking forward to the Tim White tournament next weekend should be a blast!!!

All team rosters were received prior to first games.

- Games Played: 24
U17 A – 8
U17 B – 14
 - Majors: 14
U17 A – 5 (1 Match)
U17 B – 9 (2 Match)
- Suspensions: 4
U17 A – 2 (4 games)
U17 B – 3 (9 games)

5 Carryover suspensions served as of May 3. None remaining.

Most scores seem competitive within each tier. On average B is within 5 goals spread or less. A1 is very close, unfortunately only one A2 team and they are being outscored by very large deficits as was similar last season.

From what I see currently I believe teams are in correct tiers.

High Stick majors seem to be the lead major so far this season.

J. Female

Sigh....it's been a lot!

There was some kind of miscommunication or lacking communication between the LMMLC and the VIMLC. This has made for a relatively large and challenging mess getting interlock games to come to fruition.

I would like to extend a massive thanks to both VELA and Nanaimo managers and coaches for their patience, determination and understanding as I have worked with Shane to try and find solutions to all the issues. What an amazing group!

Things are getting better - Steph walked me through entering games on the LMMLC which has been a big help and there has been a little more communication with Mainland Commissioners. Unfortunately, some games will not be happening as either the Mainland has no floor, the Island has no floor or the time line just doesn't accommodate for a reschedule.

Female games that I've seen have been great and everyone is smiling! Not a ton of majors, teams seem to be balanced and games are relatively close.

10. New Business

A. Tiering Process A preliminary meeting will be held Thursday, May 8 for commissioners and VIMLC executive. We will then notify association presidents if we are considering retiering any of their teams. Presidents will have 48 hours to submit any information they would like to be considered regarding those teams. The final tiering meeting will be Sunday, May 11 to determine if any changes will be made.

B. RAMP Portal Modest improvements have been seen with the new system. It does give us the ability to create "Portal Games", ie put a non-island team in to a game sheet and vice versa. There is also a feature which can be used to apply suspensions, and the system will notify a commissioner when a suspension is due. However, commissioners still have the final authority for handing out suspensions according to our guidelines. This feature is not yet activated.

Note that RAMP can not be used for tournament game sheets, as this is not part of our licencing agreement with RAMP. A tournament in Richmond is going to trial using RAM game sheets to see if it is something to use in the future.

11. Next Meeting: Monday, June 2, 2025 at 7 pm

12. Motion to Adjourn at 7:27 pm made by Tim Frost, seconded by Krista Gregory, **carried**