

**Vancouver Island Minor Lacrosse Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2024**

Attendees

Voting Executive

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

VIMLC Executive

BCLOA Representative	Tyler Boyer
Indigenous Development	Bryan Baxter
BCLCA Representative	Kelly Fines
Commissioners	Janice Parmar, Greg Toll, Cathy Coulson

Association Representatives

Alberni Valley	Stephanie Prizeman
Campbell River	Sarah Thomas
Comox Valley	Chad Robinson
Cowichan Valley	Janice Parmar
Juan de Fuca	Adam Ranns, Niki Williams
Nanaimo	Bryan Norby, Jesse Kemp
Oceanside	Renee Allan
Peninsula	Terry Hall
Saanich	Scott Barillaro
Victoria Esquimalt	Kate Blass, Lisa Seel-Thompson

- 1. Call Meeting to Order 7:04 pm**
Land Acknowledgement
- 2. Adoption of Previous Minutes:** Motion made by Renee Allan, seconded by Doug Kampen, Carried
- 3. Additions and Adoption of Agenda:** Motion made by Kelly Fines, seconded by Kate Blass, Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- A. Lessons Learned from the previous season: Motion**, made by Tim Frost, seconded by Krista Gregory, To schedule a session within the next 2 weeks to discuss this topic,
Carried

Presidents, please make sure you have gathered information from your association on what went well and what could be improved on in the future.

5. Financial Report: Michelle Vecqueray

Attached please find the bank reconciliation for July and August 2024.

At the year-end we are sitting with 13 cheques that are uncashed from the season, most relating to officials during playoffs. I will be following up with emails to each of those with outstanding cheques to hopefully have this cleared up quickly.

Attached is also the report showing budget vs actuals for the current year. The only item remaining in the current year budget is the BCLA AGM in October. Overall for the year we are close to budget with no unexpected expenses and no large variances from the original approved budget.

7:33 PM
9/8/2024

Vancouver Island Lacrosse Commission
Reconciliation Summary
Period Ending: 2024-08-31

Beginning Balance		23,956.59
Cleared Transactions		
Cheques and Payments	(2,300.00)	
Deposits and Credits	<u>-</u>	
Total Cleared Transactions	<u>(2,300.00)</u>	
Cleared Balance		<u><u>21,656.59</u></u>
Uncleared Transactions		
Cheques and Payments	(1,744.12)	
Deposits and Credits	<u>-</u>	
Total Uncleared Transactions	<u>(1,744.12)</u>	
Register Balance		<u><u>19,912.47</u></u>
Ending Book Balance		19,912.47

8:17 PM
9/6/2024

Vancouver Island Lacrosse Commission
Reconciliation Summary
Period Ending: 2024-07-31

Beginning Balance		33,352.97
Cleared Transactions		
Cheques and Payments	(9,396.38)	
Deposits and Credits	-	
	<u> </u>	
Total Cleared Transactions	<u>(9,396.38)</u>	
Cleared Balance		<u><u>23,956.59</u></u>
Uncleared Transactions		
Cheques and Payments	(2,865.00)	
Deposits and Credits	-	
	<u> </u>	
Total Uncleared Transactions	<u>(2,865.00)</u>	
Register Balance		<u><u>21,091.59</u></u>
Ending Book Balance		21,091.59

VANCOUVER ISLAND MINOR LACROSSE COMMISSION
APPROVED BUDGET 2024
As at August 31, 2024

ASSOCIATION	2023 #'S	Fees \$15/player	Notes	Actual Rec'd 2024	Variance
ALBERNI VALLEY	82	\$ 1,230.00		\$1,230.00	0.00
CAMPBELL RIVER	65	\$ 975.00		\$975.00	0.00
COMOX	66	\$ 990.00		\$990.00	0.00
COWICHAN VALLEY	123	\$ 1,845.00		\$1,845.00	0.00
JUAN DE FUCA	344	\$ 5,160.00		\$5,160.00	0.00
NANAIMO	349	\$ 5,235.00		\$5,235.00	0.00
OCEANSIDE	51	\$ 765.00		\$765.00	0.00
PENINSULA	167	\$ 2,505.00		\$2,505.00	0.00
SAANICH	233	\$ 3,495.00		\$3,495.00	0.00
VICTORIA-ESQUIMALT	79	\$ 1,185.00		\$1,185.00	0.00
TOTAL INVOICED/INCOMING FUNDS	1559	\$ 23,385.00		\$23,385.00	0.00
CARRY OVER FROM 2023 SEASON		\$ 15,959.57		\$15,959.57	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SEASON		\$ 39,344.57		\$39,344.57	0.00
EXPENSES	Actual 2023	Projected 2024		Actual 2024	
SCHEDULE	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,500.00		\$2,000.00	(1,500.00)
REFEREE PLAYOFF	\$ 4,565.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$5,540.00	540.00
REFEREE TRAVEL	\$ 1,629.77	\$ 2,000.00		\$1,580.00	(420.00)
FLOOR PLAYOFF	\$ 2,474.94	\$ 2,500.00		\$2,988.12	488.12
BANNERS	\$ 2,665.60	\$ 2,700.00		\$2,932.16	232.16
COMMISSIONERS	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 3,100.00		\$2,500.00	(600.00)
RAMP officiating (Formerly Arbitrator)	\$ -	\$ -	BCLA paying this year	\$0.00	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 - Oct 24		(750.00)
BCLA AGM TRAVEL/ETC.	\$ 3,360.95	\$ 3,000.00	4 Delegates (est. based on prior years) - Oct 24		(3,000.00)
On Floor Referee Clinics	\$ 159.86	\$ -	not approved for 2024	\$0.00	0.00
Referee Mentorship		\$ 500.00	New Budget Item / Managed by Tyler	\$500.00	0.00
MISC	\$ 156.82	\$ 50.00	Stamps, Bank fees	\$232.38	182.38
MISC (ADDED AFTER BUDGET APPRV)					
Total Expenses	\$ 22,610.69	\$ 24,242.75		\$19,432.10	(4,810.65)

PROJECTED FUNDS AT YEAR-END \$ 15,101.82 \$ 19,912.47

Projected Net Gain (Loss) \$ (857.75) Actual Net Gain(Loss) \$ 3,952.90

**\$3750 held for BCLA AGM Oct'24

6. Zone 6 Reports

- A. Chair Tim Frost** Nothing to report
- B. Minor Directorate Rep Brande Terris** Nothing to report
- C. Vice Chair Doug Kampen** Nothing to report
- D. BCLCA Rep Kelly Fines** Nothing to report
- E. BCLOA Rep Tyler Boyer** Nothing to report
- F. Indigenous Development Coordinator Bryan Baxter** Nothing to report
- G. Female Coordinator Shane Mellish**

From the Island perspective

The interlocked schedule was a success for most teams, associations and games. There were a few glitches.

There were a few issues with teams not committing to play a couple of the scheduled games. And one of the Island teams turned out not to be viable.

I think for the Interlocked schedule to work and for all games to be played the rescheduling of any games needs to go to the commission chair level. It did not work with commissioners being responsible for the reschedule of interlocked games.

On the Island to declare a team an association needs to have at least 9 registered players. This will work for Island vs Island games but for an interlocked schedule we need a higher number. (maybe 13-ish)
Teams will not be happy traveling to the island to play a team of 9 or 10. The agreement will not survive that.

Proposed addition for the Island Policy

Having all the teams hosted at one association is working ... so far. I think the worry is that associations have not committed to a timeline (how many years) that they are willing to continue to release these players to Victoria Esquimalt. In order to continue hosting in future years the host association will need to invest to keep the teams playing.
They will need stuff like

- Team uniforms
- Goalie Gear
- Balls
- Increased floor time
- Need to develop addition referees

I think it is important that teams involved in the Co-Op commit to a guaranteed number of years for their involvement.

My worry is that one association ends up with enough female players to form a small team and so they decide to pull their players out of the Co-Op agreement. This would affect female players from the other association. We need associations to commit to a minimum number of years in a row for the Co-Op to be hosted by the same association. (Maybe 5 years - ish)

Female JR.

I do not think the Female U22 teams are well served with the league as we have it. The presidents of the association with U22 players need to discuss if they would be better served being just part of the mainland schedule. All (or at least most) of the mainland U22 Female teams already travel to the Island for games so I think we could sell a fully integrated league for U22 to the mainland. I think the only real change would be that the Island teams would need to travel a couple more times. Island U22 teams did ask for more travel games.

Overall I thought it was a very successful season

H. Web Master Stephanie Prizeman Nothing to report

7. Association Reports

A. Alberni Valley

Nothing to report

B. Campbell River

Working with the school district again to get some dates and schools signed up for the intro to lacrosse program this fall/winter

Otherwise not much going on

Our AGM will be in late Oct/early November. Hopeful for parents to step up so we don't have such a small executive next year. This season was a tough one

C. Comox Valley

We are planning our AGM for mid-November and will need to fill one spot on our executive then.

We are working on a schedule for learn to play sessions through the school district's phys ed department. Last winter we visited 12 elementary schools and we are planning to do the same this year.

D. Cowichan Valley

We are gearing up to host drop ins, and working on ordering New Jerseys. Outside of this, I have nothing to report for Cowichan!

E. Juan de Fuca

Not too much to report for box. We have our AGM set for November with quite a few positions up for nomination. We have our assessment times set so we will start planning for box assessments once our field assessments are completed. We have been reviewing our coach and manager comments from the past season and planning on how to work on the concerns/problems we had from the last season.

F. Nanaimo

Nanaimo had a fantastic season this year.

Some highlights and successes:

-U7 jamboree days. Fun had by all that attended

-U9 "Friday Night Tykes". Kids loved this as they had a huge crowd to play in front of.

Parents had nothing but positive feedback

-our partnership with Nanaimo minor hockey

-"Try Lacrosse" for female athletes. We had a huge turn out and a large number from that group registered. Info was distributed through our school district.

Some things to work on for next season.

-U11 was difficult. Lots of associations not happy with the level of competition.

-U17 group forces hold a large roster. With mixed development and veteran players. Would like to look at possibly creating "regional teams" to improve the level of competition for higher level players
-need to continue to work on parents/coaches vs referees.

G. Oceanside

Oceanside is grateful for the season we had and everyone's excited for 2025 season!! AGM is beginning of November and for the first time in history we will be hosting an awards night at the same time. Great way to acknowledge players and volunteers.

Thank you to everyone that kept the season running smoothly and we look forward to continually growing every season!

H. Peninsula

Just started the demolition of our old Centennial lacrosse box today with plans for completion of our new covered box in time for next season.

Planning our AGM for early November. Nothing more to report at this time.

I. Saanich

We will have our AGM on October 6. We had it in late September last year and it actually helped provide more time to plan in the fall. However, the long weekend pushed us by a week. Most Board members will return. We will have a few holes to fill including a VP.

We plan to offer Sunday night drop in development sessions on Sunday nights starting in October at Pearkes Fieldhouse. They were well received last season and enable kids playing other sports to keep a stick in their hands. It also will enable us to try to attract new players in advance of registration.

Saanich also intends to explore the idea of a "Technical Director" this season. Our Head Coach position eventually became largely administrative. I would like the Association to work on a basic curriculum that can help turn good volunteers into good coaches (particularly those who did not play growing up). We think we have a potential volunteer willing to take on the role but would consider a small honorarium for this if necessary.

Like JDF, we made our requests for assessment times. Our goal is to move them up to January and early February if possible so we have better information prior to declarations.

Look forward to hear about "lessons learned" from last season. I started a list that hopefully will turn into a Discussion Paper we can share and discuss.

J. Victoria Esquimalt

Not much to report on coed other than we have a few "Try Lacrosse for Free" sessions scheduled for October to get a jump start on registration. Our AGM is set for November. We have quite a few policy changes up for vote.

As for female, I agree with a lot of what Shane said. I've discussed these points with some of the co-op associations. This is the shortened version of my take on the subject:

We've seen that hosting the girls at one association is more than just successful. The South island had 102 players register for female only divisions in 2024. Before we hosted the girls together, we had 42 registered in 2022. We are seeing close to 30 new players every season. This has carried over into field and the two local high school academies. We came close to declaring a female U11 team after years without one south of Nanaimo.

All of our female teams traveled to the mainland for their scheduled games. All teams were viable with oversized rosters in each division. We believe large rosters are the only way to ensure we can compete in and commit to the interlocking agreement. The girls had a great time playing the LM.

VELA would be proud to continue to host the female divisions until we can host teams at separate associations. I have some ideas as to how to build the female program and still get teams back to their catchment association.

There are additional monetary and volunteer expenses to add to the list of host requirements.

Regardless of how we move forward, I think we need someone to act as a female scheduler on the island to help support current volunteers like the female commissioner and schedulers. We will also need to consider options for centralized registration or a built in option on the registration forms to copy the information to VELA any time "female only" is selected at sign up. South island volunteers logged hundreds of hours just juggling registrations and payments.

As for U22F, we'd like to pursue that discussion in a separate meeting.

Motion to accept reports as presented made by Rennee Allan, seconded by Niki Williams,
Carried

8. Commissioner Reports: no reports at this time

9. New Business

A U11 Tiering Committee Motion made by Tim Frost, seconded by Rennee Allan, *To ask Brande Terris to chair a committee to discuss this issue, which will begin within the next 3 weeks.* **Carried**

10. Next Meeting: Monday, October 7, 2024 at 7 pm

Note: we will discuss the proposed bylaw changes for the BCLA AGM

11. Motion to Adjourn at 7:22 pm made by Tim Frost, seconded by Niki Williams, **Carried**