

**BC LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
2019 PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
BCLA MINOR DIRECTORATE OPERATING POLICY**

Proposed by Tim Frost, Juan de Fuca Minor Lacrosse/VIMLC Midget Commissioner

REGULATION 3: REGISTRATION, 3.11 currently reads:

- 3.11 In recognition of BCLA Operating Policy Regulation 16: Concussion Awareness and Education:
- (a) Member Associations must develop and have an active policy that establishes a “Concussion Policy”. This policy should contain training for coaches and trainers (where applicable), a reporting process and return to play guideline.
 - (b) ~~All players aged 10 and up (PeeWee and above) will have a concussion baseline test completed prior to the start of each season.~~
 - (c) Optional for the 2019 Season, and mandatory thereafter.

Amend REGULATION 3: REGISTRATION, 3.11 that would read:

- 3.11 In recognition of BCLA Operating Policy Regulation 16: Concussion Awareness and Education:
- (a) Member Associations must develop and have an active policy that establishes a “Concussion Policy”. This policy should contain training for coaches and trainers (where applicable), a reporting process and return to play guideline.
 - (b) Optional for the 2019 Season, and mandatory thereafter.

Rationale: Parachute, a national Canadian charity founded in 2012, promotes researched, evidence-based and expert-advised resources and tools that can help to prevent serious harm or death from preventable injuries. Parachute wants Canadians from coast to coast to coast in this great nation to safely work, play, and enjoy their families and friends to the fullest throughout a long and healthy life.

Canadian Concussion Collaborative is a Medical advisory group whose mission is to create synergy between health organizations concerned with concussions to improve education about concussions, and the implementation of best practices for the prevention and management of concussions.

Parachute Canada has a Concussion Expert Advisory Committee that has worked with the Canadian Concussion Collaborative and they have jointly issued the following statement concerning baseline testing for concussions

“Baseline testing of youth and adult athletes that do not have access to dedicated sideline licensed healthcare professionals working with team physicians within a comprehensive concussion protocol is not recommended.” For the full statement please reference
<http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/injurytopics/BaselineTestingStatement-Parachute.pdf>

To summarize – there is no evidence that the practice of mandating baseline testing serves to help in the prevention and management of concussions. It creates a significant cost burden on families with no credible evidence that it aids in the diagnosis or treatment of concussions.

The primary focus of any concussion management program should be on

1. Recognizing & Removing any athlete that is suspected to have a concussion
2. Appropriate medical assessment, management and return to Sport
3. Preseason Education to emphasize prevention and management

REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07 Part 1 – Playing Up (a) currently reads:

4.07 Part 1 – Playing Up

- (a) A player may play up one division or calibre higher than that in which he/she is registered on a game by game basis only in the discipline they are registered in (ie, Female Box or Mixed-Minor Box) with the approval of the coach or if unavailable, another team representative as defined by the Form 100, of the team the player is registered with. In the case of players playing up a division, if an “A” player is going to play up to a “B” or “C” team, only a maximum of two (2) players per game playing up to a higher division is allowed.

Amend REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07 Part 1 - Playing Up (a) that would read:

4.07 Part 1 – Playing Up

- (a) A player may play up one division or calibre higher than that in which he/she is registered on a game by game basis only in the discipline they are registered in (ie, Female Box or Mixed-Minor Box) with the approval of the coach or if unavailable, another team representative as defined by the Form 100, of the team the player is registered with. In the case of players playing up a division, if an “A” player is going to play up to a “B” or “C” team, only a maximum of two (2) players per game playing up to a higher division is allowed, *in all other cases a maximum of 4 players may play up per game to higher division team.*

Rationale: Housekeeping as this is the practice that is followed.

REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07 Part II – Playing Down (b) currently reads:

- (b) Upon approval, the request must be forwarded to the Minor Directorate for approval.

Players granted an opportunity to play down, will have their players statistics reviewed during the season of play (for penalties, scoring, etc). The MD will communicate the names of players playing down to the League Commissioners, who will need to keep statistics and report to the MD any anomalies seen during review of game sheets, or at a game. Upon review by the Minor Directorate, a previously approved application to play down from Minor to Minor can be reversed at any time during the season of play.

~~*On application to the Minor Directorate, by May 31 of the playing year,*~~ an over-age player MAY be eligible for playdowns, playoffs, Zone/Commission Championships or for Provincial Championships play. The MD determination will include at least the following; penalties review, scoring, participation.

Amend REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07 Part II – Playing Down (b) that would read:

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Players granted an opportunity to play down, will have their players statistics reviewed during the season of play (for penalties, scoring, etc). The MD will communicate the names of players playing down to the League Commissioners, who will need to keep statistics and report to the MD any anomalies seen during review of game sheets, or at a game. Upon review by the Minor Directorate, a previously approved application to play down from Minor to Minor can be reversed at any time during the season of play.

An over-age player MAY be eligible for playdowns, playoffs, Zone/Commission Championships or for Provincial Championships play. The MD determination will include at least the following; penalties review, scoring, participation.

Rationale: Housekeeping as players do not need to apply we will just review as necessary.

Proposed by Gord McIntosh, BCLA Minor Directorate Chair

REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07 Part II – Playing Down (b) currently reads:

- (b) ~~Upon approval, the request must be forwarded to the Minor Directorate for approval.~~

Players granted an opportunity to play down, will have their players statistics reviewed during the season of play (for penalties, scoring, etc). The MD will communicate the names of players playing down to the League Commissioners, who will need to keep statistics and report to the MD any anomalies seen during review of game sheets, or at a game. Upon review by the Minor Directorate, a previously approved application to play down from Minor to Minor can be reversed at any time during the season of play.

On application to the Minor Directorate, by May 31 of the playing year, an over-age player MAY be eligible for playdowns, playoffs, Zone/Commission Championships or for Provincial Championships play. The MD determination will include at least the following; penalties review, scoring, participation.

Amend REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07 Part II – Playing Down (b) that would read:

- (b) Players granted an opportunity to play down, will have their players statistics reviewed during the season of play (for penalties, scoring, etc). The MD will communicate the names of players playing down to the League Commissioners, who will need to keep statistics and report to the MD any anomalies seen during review of game sheets, or at a game. Upon review by the Minor Directorate, a previously approved application to play down from Minor to Minor can be reversed at any time during the season of play.

On application to the Minor Directorate, by May 31 of the playing year, an over-age player MAY be eligible for playdowns, playoffs, Zone/Commission Championships or for Provincial Championships play. The MD determination will include at least the following; penalties review, scoring, participation.

Rationale: The Minor Directorate has had final approval for age down requests and has denied requests in the past. The requests have been approved by local Commissions, who have knowledge of the individual request and Associations making the request. If the Commission feels the request is fair and legitimate, why should the MD feel any different. The MD will still oversee the requests through the year and give final approval for Provincials.

Proposed by Beth McLucas, Lower Mainland Minor Lacrosse Commission Chair

REGULATION 5: COMMISSION COMPETITION, 5.04 currently reads:

- 5.04 In Midget, Bantam and PeeWee, where “C” leagues are formed, no association may declare a “C” calibre team with more playing experience than the following:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| PeeWee | – 2 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players. |
| Bantam | – 3 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players. |

Midget – 4 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players.

Example (PeeWee) 15 registered players
Total number of years of experience is 24 years: $(15-3) \times 2 = 24$.

A team list, including player's years experience, must be sent to the League Commissioner by the Association Registrar by May 7 of the playing year, who must in turn notify the Association President if the numbers are not in compliance.

Failure to comply with sending in a team list with years experience may result in the Home Association being fined \$100.00 per day that it is late, up to a maximum of \$500.00.

Amend the first paragraph of REGULATION 5: COMMISSION COMPETITION, 5.04 that would read:

5.04 In Midget, Bantam and PeeWee, where "C" leagues are formed, no association may declare a "C" calibre team with more playing experience than the following, *not including years of play in Mini Tyke or Tyke:*

Rationale: Removing Mini Tyke and Tyke years of play within the calculation as most clubs play within house in these divisions and don't actually play full games, they play more jamborees or modified games for example 3 on 3.

Proposed by Pam Mason, BCLA Minor Directorate Vice Chair

Amend REGULATION 5: COMMISSION COMPETITION, 5.04 that would read:

5.04 In Midget, Bantam and PeeWee, where "C" leagues are formed, no association may declare a "C" calibre team with more playing experience than the following:

PeeWee – 2 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players.
Bantam – 3 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players.
Midget – 4 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players.

Example (PeeWee) 15 registered players
Total number of years of experience is 24 years: $(15-3) \times 2 = 24$.

A team list, *from the online database*, including player's years experience, must be sent to the League Commissioner by the Association Registrar by May 7 of the playing year, who must in turn notify the Association President if the numbers are not in compliance.

Failure to comply with sending in a team list with years experience may result in the Home Association being fined \$100.00 per day that it is late, up to a maximum of \$500.00, *and may result in the team's removal from league play until in compliance with above years' experience is received.*

Rationale: There is an issue with how the team list is being sent to the Commissioners and not in the correct format. Associations need to ensure that their team is in compliance to play within the League that they declared.

Amend REGULATION 5: COMMISSION COMPETITION, 5.04 that would read:

- 5.04 In Midget, Bantam and PeeWee, where “C” leagues are formed, no association may declare a “C” calibre team **unless they are able to declare both an A (A1 or A2) and B calibre team**, with more playing experience than the following:

PeeWee	– 2 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players.
Bantam	– 3 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players.
Midget	– 4 years times the number of registered players except the 3 most experienced players.

Example (PeeWee) 15 registered players

Total number of years of experience is 24 years: $(15-3) \times 2 = 24$.

A team list, including player’s years experience, must be sent to the League Commissioner by the Association Registrar by May 7 of the playing year, who must in turn notify the Association President if the numbers are not in compliance.

Failure to comply with sending in a team list with years experience may result in the Home Association being fined \$100.00 per day that it is late, up to a maximum of \$500.00.

Rationale: Player development. In larger, well established Associations, there is often a number of athletes that have played many years of lacrosse (i.e., A 2nd year Bantam player who has been playing since Mini Tyke will have 9 years’ experience), but may not have developed the skills nor the physical stature required to play in the higher calibres of the division. LTAD must be taken into consideration to ensure that each athlete is playing in the correct calibre based on development and not solely on years of experience. Should a C team be declared and that team clearly is not in the correct calibre then the Commissioner of that division can make the appropriate changes.

Essentially, removing this policy if an Association declare both A and B calibre teams. It then turns C into what it should be – development.

REGULATION 5: COMMISSION COMPETITION, 5.05 currently reads:

- 5.05 In Midget, Bantam, Pee Wee, and Novice, "A1", "A2", "B", and "C" leagues may be formed and are the required declarations to be used for league and tournament play. In Female Junior, Female Midget, Female Bantam, Female Pee Wee and Female Novice, an A and B league may be formed and are the required declarations to be used for league and tournament play. Where an association has two or more teams in any one league, those teams must be equally balanced by calibre and strength, with the exception of “A1” with the local commission approval. Failure to obtain approval before the start of the season from the local commission will make the teams ineligible for Playdowns and Provincial Championships. In PeeWee and above, “A1”, “A2” and “B” leagues shall be recognized by the BCLA for Provincial Championship purposes. All Female teams must be balanced when in a non-tiered league

Amend REGULATION 5: COMMISSION COMPETITION, 5.05 that would read:

- 5.05 In Midget, Bantam, Pee Wee, and Novice, "A1", "A2", "B", and "C" leagues may be formed and are the required declarations to be used for league and tournament play. In Female Junior, Female Midget, Female Bantam, Female Pee Wee and Female Novice, an A and B league may be formed

and are the required declarations to be used for league and tournament play. Where an association has two or more teams in any one league, those teams must be equally balanced by calibre and strength, with the exception of “A1” with the local commission approval. Failure to obtain approval before the start of the season from the local commission will make the teams ineligible for Playdowns and Provincial Championships. *If an Association properly declares at the start of the season and a team is ordered to move up (or down) a tier by their local Commission, and the Association already has a team in the tier they are being ordered to move to, those teams affected do not need to be re-balanced.* In PeeWee and above, “A1”, “A2” and “B” leagues shall be recognized by the BCLA for Provincial Championship purposes. All Female teams must be balanced when in a non-tiered league

Rationale: Associations who declare properly at the start of the season, but end up having a strong (or weak) A1, A2, B or C teams, shouldn’t be penalized by having to go through the struggles of re-balancing when ordered by the local Commission to move a team up (or down).

Proposed by Pam Mason, BCLA Minor Directorate Vice Chair

REGULATION 7: MOVEMENT – SENIOR BOX TO MINOR, 7.02(e) currently reads:

- (e) ~~*On application to the Minor Directorate, By May 31 of the playing year,*~~ an over-age player MAY be eligible for playdowns, playoffs, Zone/Commission Championships or for Provincial Championships play. The Minor Directorate determination will include at least the following: penalties review, scoring, participation.

Amend REGULATION 7: MOVEMENT – SENIOR BOX TO MINOR, 7.02(e) that would read:

- (e) An over-age player MAY be eligible for playdowns, playoffs, Zone/Commission Championships or for Provincial Championships play. The Minor Directorate determination will include at least the following: penalties review, scoring, participation.

Rationale: Housekeeping as players do not need to apply we will just review as necessary

Proposed by Ryan Hyland, Juan de Fuca Minor Lacrosse Association President

REGULATION 8: MOVES, 8.10 currently reads:

- 8.10** For those players attending a specialized school (i.e., hockey school) that is far enough from their principle residence that they must live away from their immediate family and be billeted, will provide proof of school attendance in way of a school transcript. The billeted address will be recorded in the comments section in the registration database if the home address is being used as the address. The player will be placed where the commission feels it would be in the best interest of the *league* and then the *player*. At the end of the school year, if the player wishes to move back to his/her original home association before the June 20th deadline, 8.06 shall apply.

Amend REGULATION 7: MOVEMENT – SENIOR BOX TO MINOR, 7.02 (c) that would read:

- 8.10** For those players attending a specialized school (i.e., hockey school) that is far enough from their principle residence that they must live away from their immediate family and be billeted, will provide proof of school attendance in way of a school transcript. The billeted address will be recorded in the comments section in the registration database if the home address is being used as the address. The player will be placed where the commission feels it would be in the best interest of the *player* and then the *league*. At the end of the school year, if the player wishes to move back to his/her original home association before the June 20th deadline, 8.06 shall apply.

Rationale: This reduces the undue hardship placed on billet parents and the young athlete. Athletes choose to attend a school away from home to further their education in a specific field and are already stressed due to being away from home at such a young age. Having a Commission decide where they are going to play will place more stress upon the billet parents as well as the young athlete to a point where they decide not to play box lacrosse altogether. In addition, these young student athletes will have less time to focus on their studies or even potentially obtain a part time job due to the potential travel demands. This is not just about the lacrosse player, but also the young athlete developing beyond lacrosse. This does not align with the BCLA Constitution which states:

(d) To improve, encourage and advance box and field amateur lacrosse in all its divisions and levels.

(e) To promote, foster and develop the playing of lacrosse throughout the province.

(f) To encourage the growth of lacrosse as a sport, and in doing so, provide an opportunity for improved physical health and welfare.

Proposed by Pam Mason, BCLA Minor Directorate Vice Chair

REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.05(a) currently reads:

12.05 Eligibility.

- (a) To be eligible to play in a Provincial Championship tournament, a player must have played in a minimum of four league, sanctioned tournament games or play-off games, or combination of, during the current year with the team they are registered with. A copy of the original team registration form will be used to verify the declared team roster at the coaches meeting. In addition, for call-ups to be eligible, they must have
 - (i) Played 4 games in total at a higher division and/or calibre than the team they are registered with. In the case of Female Junior-age players, the four (4) game requirement may be waived under the following circumstances:
 - (a) A written request must be sent by the player to the Female Box Lacrosse Chair and the Provincial Playoff Director no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the start of Female Box Lacrosse Provincials.
 - (b) A copy of the player's school records must be submitted for review.
 - (c) The player must have been registered with the team prior to May 7 of the current playing season.
 - (d) If approved, the written notification (CoP or E-mail) must be submitted with the team's verification roster at the time of the Provincials Coaches meeting.
 - (ii) Proof of game sheets must be provided to the Playoff Director.
 - (iii) A maximum of two (2) "A" players may be added to a "B" or "C" roster after June 1st to play in their provincials. This includes call-ups for provincial play.

Amend REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.05(a) that would read:

12.05 Eligibility.

- (a) To be eligible to play in a Provincial Championship tournament, a player must have played in a minimum of four league, sanctioned tournament games or play-off games, or combination of, during the current year with the team they are registered with. A copy of the original team registration form will be used to verify the declared team roster at the coaches meeting.

In the case of Female Junior-age players, the four (4) game requirement may be waived under the following circumstances:

- (a) A written request must be sent by the player to the Female Box Lacrosse Chair and the Provincial Playoff Director no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the start of Female Box Lacrosse Provincials.***
- (b) A copy of the player's school records must be submitted for review.***

- (c) The player must have been registered with the team prior to May 7 of the current playing season.*
- (d) If approved, the written notification (CoP or E-mail) must be submitted with the team's verification roster at the time of the Provincials Coaches meeting.*

In addition, for call-ups to be eligible, they must have

- (i) Played 4 games in total at a higher division and/or calibre than the team they are registered with. In the case of Female Junior-age players, the four (4) game requirement may be waived under the following circumstances:
 - (a) A written request must be sent by the player to the Female Box Lacrosse Chair and the Provincial Playoff Director no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the start of Female Box Lacrosse Provincials.
 - (b) A copy of the player's school records must be submitted for review.
 - (c) The player must have been registered with the team prior to May 7 of the current playing season.
 - (d) If approved, the written notification (CoP or E-mail) must be submitted with the team's verification roster at the time of the Provincials Coaches meeting.
- (ii) Proof of game sheets must be provided to the Playoff Director.
- (iii) A maximum of two (2) "A" players may be added to a "B" or "C" roster after June 1st to play in their provincials. This includes call-ups for provincial play.

Rationale: Junior players are not considered call ups it is just for their eligibility.

Proposed by Pam Mason, BCLA Minor Directorate Vice Chair

REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.05(a) currently reads:

12.05 Eligibility.

- (a) To be eligible to play in a Provincial Championship tournament, a player must have played in a minimum of four league, sanctioned tournament games or play-off games, or combination of, during the current year with the team they are registered with. A copy of the original team registration form will be used to verify the declared team roster at the coaches meeting. In addition, for call-ups to be eligible, they must have
 - (i) Played 4 games in total at a higher division and/or calibre than the team they are registered with. In the case of Female Junior-age players, the four (4) game requirement may be waived under the following circumstances:
 - (a) A written request must be sent by the player to the Female Box Lacrosse Chair and the Provincial Playoff Director no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the start of Female Box Lacrosse Provincials.
 - (b) A copy of the player's school records must be submitted for review.
 - (c) The player must have been registered with the team prior to May 7 of the current playing season.
 - (d) If approved, the written notification (CoP or E-mail) must be submitted with the team's verification roster at the time of the Provincials Coaches meeting.
 - (ii) Proof of game sheets must be provided to the Playoff Director.
 - (iii) A maximum of two (2) "A" players may be added to a "B" or "C" roster after June 1st to play in their provincials. This includes call-ups for provincial play.

Amend REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.05(a) that would read:

12.05 Eligibility.

- (a) To be eligible to play in a Provincial Championship tournament, a player must have played in a minimum of four league, sanctioned tournament games or play-off games, or combination of, during the current year with the team they are registered with. A copy of the original team registration form will be used to verify the declared team roster at the coaches meeting. In addition, for call-ups to be eligible, they must have
 - (i) Played 4 games in total at a higher division and/or calibre than the team they are registered with, *of which one game must have been with the team that they are participating in provincials with.* In the case of Female Junior-age players, the four (4) game requirement may be waived under the following circumstances:
 - (a) A written request must be sent by the player to the Female Box Lacrosse Chair and the Provincial Playoff Director no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the start of Female Box Lacrosse Provincials.
 - (b) A copy of the player's school records must be submitted for review.
 - (c) The player must have been registered with the team prior to May 7 of the current playing season.
 - (d) If approved, the written notification (CoP or E-mail) must be submitted with the team's verification roster at the time of the Provincials Coaches meeting.
 - (ii) Proof of game sheets must be provided to the Playoff Director.
 - (iii) A maximum of two (2) "A" players may be added to a "B" or "C" roster after June 1st to play in their provincials. This includes call-ups for provincial play.
 - (iv) *For all circumstances – a maximum of 4 players may be added to roster for provincial play.*

Rationale: Housekeeping as only 4 players are permitted to be added for provincials. And a player must play at least one game with the team they are being called up to for provincials.

Proposed by Gord McIntosh, BCLA Minor Directorate Chair

REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.05(h) currently reads:

- (h) Any team ratified by the Minor Directorate and allowed to carry more than **22** players for regular league play will only be permitted to bring **22** players to Provincials and may be permitted to use call-up players for the Provincial Tournament with the permission of the Provincial Director.

Amend REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.05(h) that would read:

- (h) Any team ratified by the Minor Directorate and allowed to carry more than **20** players for regular league play will only be permitted to bring **20** players to Provincials and may be permitted to use call-up players for the Provincial Tournament with the permission of the Provincial Director.

Rationale: This brings the policy in line with 10.01, which was approved at the 2018 AGM

Proposed by Gord McIntosh, BCLA Minor Directorate Chair

REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.12(a)(i) currently reads:

12.12 **(a) TIE-BREAKER RULE –ROUND ROBIN**

In the event of a tie in points in playdowns and Provincial Championships, the following shall be used to determine final standings:

- (i) Two teams tied, the winner of game or games between the two teams advances. If still tied, the team ~~which scored the first goal in the tied game~~, is to be declared the winner of that game.

Amend REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.12(a)(i) that would read:

12.12 (a) TIE-BREAKER RULE –ROUND ROBIN

In the event of a tie in points in playdowns and Provincial Championships, the following shall be used to determine final standings:

- (i) Two teams tied, the winner of game or games between the two teams advances. If still tied, the team *with the fewest penalty minutes in playdown or round robin play*, is to be declared the winner of that game.

Rationale: Scoring the first goal of the game is inconsequential and irrelevant to the outcome of the game. Fewest penalty minutes has more impact on what has transpired in the game and rewards fair play.
