



B.C. LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BCLA SENIOR DIRECTORATE SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES
October 21, 2023
Whistler, BC

In Attendance

Name	Representation	Name	Representation
Amell, Tara	PNWJLL	Mosdell, Terry	BCLA VP - Development
Borkowsky, Brian	Sr A - Maple Ridge	Northcott, Brandon	Sr C - Armstrong. Shamrocks
Campbell, Tina	Jr B-T1 - Vernon Tigers	Patron, Mike	Sr C - Port Moody
Chetner, Dan	BCLCTSG - Coaches	Rachfall, Dirk	Commissioner - Jr A
Dagan, Darcy	Sr B - North Shore	Reid, Sean	Jr B-T2 - Surrey
Dal Monte, Paul	WLA - Commissioner	Rose, Brock	Sr A - Nanaimo
Davis, Heather	Secretary - Senior Directorate (Temp)	Sadorsky, Andy	Jr B-T1 - Armstrong Shamrocks
Forlin, Denise	Jr B-T2 - Langley	Scott, Jamie	Commission - Sr B
Hampton, Ron	Jr A - Victoria	Sigfusson, Jed	Jr B-T2 - Port Moody
Horn, Paul	WLA - New Westminster	Smith, Sym	Sr C - Langley
Hughes, Bridget	Sr C - Vancouver Island	Terris, Shane	Jr B-T2 - Nanaimo
Hunter, Stan	Jr B-T1 - Maple Ridge	Watson, Andy	BCLOTSG - Vice Chair Senior Box
Hyland, Ryan	Jr B-T1 - Victoria Shamrocks	Watson, Brad	Jr B-T1 - Kamloops Venom/ TOJLL
Jensen, Glenn	Jr B - Richmond	Wilkie, Dave	Chair - Senior Directorate
Jensen, Greg	Jr B-T1 -	Williams, Wilson	Sr C - North Shore
Kidd, Dave	Jr A - Port Coquitlam	Wolfe, Angie	Jr B-T2 - Valley
Kirstiuk, Terry	Vice Chair - Senior Directorate	Wong, Joe	Commissioner LM - Jr B-T2 / TOSLL
Leies, Tyson	Jr B-T2 - Saanich Express	Wood, Rod	Sr A - Victoria Shamrocks
Massey, Noel	Jr B-T2 - Maple Ridge	Woollard, Carolyn	Jr B-T1 - Burnaby
McLucas, Beth	Commission LM - Jr B1	Woollard, Ken	Jr A - Burnaby
McMinn, Tamara	Jr B-T2 - North Shore	Yorke, Aiden	Jr A - Coquitlam

1. Welcome/ Call to Order

Dave Wilkie, Chair of the Senior Directorate welcomed in person attendees and called meeting to order at 9:07 AM.

2. Credentials report

Heather Davis, Senior Directorate Secretary (temp) provided the Credentials report. Out of a potential 94 votes, 42 were registered and 42 actual votes in attendance at the senior directorate meeting.

3. Minutes of October 1, 2022 Senior Directorate Special Session

Moved by Ken Woollard and seconded by Dirk Rachfall to approve the minutes of the 2022 Senior Directorate Special Session as circulate. **CARRIED**

4. **League Reports**

All league reports were posted on the BCLA website with email notification to all Senior Directorate Special Session participants.

l. BCLOG – report by Sean Lehman – new to role Andy Watson

m. BCLTCSG – No report – new to role Dan Chetner

Takeaway Discussions from Reports:

- Game forfeits due to lack of officials who covers the costs when travel is involved
- Officials to prioritize games with travel
- 2023 - 800 games in Senior Divisions Cancellation of 15 (1.9%)

5. **Senior Directorates Chair's Report**

Report as submitted. Hearings went well, thank you to those that participated. Reminder to forward Judy any carry over suspensions. 1 year remaining as Chair.

6. **Provincial Championship Reports**

Terry Kirstiuk – Report Provided Jr B Tier 2. Successful with low incident rate.

No report on JBT1 provincials – Held in Victoria vs Kamloops – Victoria won and moved on to the Founders. Next year to be held in the Interior. Awareness of Senior C and Junior B Teir 1 being on the same dates.

Acceptance of all reports as written and verbally supported Moved by Joe Wong, seconded by Tyson Leies to adopt reports as circulated. **CARRIED.**

7. **Proposed Amendments – Senior Directorate**

Proposed by Angie Wolfe, BC Junior B Tier 2 Valley Sturgeon Governor

Housekeeping to **entire** SENIOR DIRECTORATE OPERATING POLICY that would **REMOVE:**

Remove any reference within the Operating Policy that states **JUNIOR B TIER 3.**

Rationale: Junior B Tier 3 Leagues no longer exist.

Moved by Angie Wolfe, Seconded by Denise Forlin

Angie Wolfe spoke to the motion. There was some discussion.

There are currently no Junior B Teir 3 in BC nor across Canada equivalent would be Ontario Jr C.

Impact on removal would eliminate the access for a team/league to be developed at that level in BC.

No impact to Operating Policy to have division remain.

Motion Withdrawn by Angie Wolfe

REGULATION 5: PLAYER ELIGIBILITY – GENERAL (APPLICABLE TO JUNIOR LEAGUES ONLY), 5.39 currently reads:

5.39 Any unsigned player, not on a protected or hold-out list on May 1 will become free to sign for any team.

Amend REGULATION PLAYER ELIGIBILITY – GENERAL (APPLICABLE TO JUNIOR LEAGUES ONLY), 5.39 that would read:

5.39 Any unsigned *Junior A or B1* player, not on a protected or hold-out list on May 1 will become free to sign for any team. *On June 1, any Junior B2 player that remains unsigned will become a free agent to sign for any team.*

Rationale: Players trying out for Junior A or B1 are often not cut to B2 until well into May when other players return from university. The current policy creates an automatic free agency for the cut players which can be detrimental to the catchment cities to which these players belong.

Moved by Sean Reid, seconded by Denise Forlin
Rod Wood spoke to the motion.
Vote occurred and motion was **PASSED**.

8. Election of Officers

Dave Wilkie ran the election

Vice Chair Person (2 Year Term) – Incumbent Terry Kirstiuk let his name stand to continue as Vice Chair Person. 1 Ballot Cast for **Terry Kirstiuk (2023-2025)**

Moved by Joe Wong, seconded by Heather Davis to destroy ballots. **CARRIED**

Secretary (2 Year Term) – Incumbent Wanda Warren let her name stand to continue as **Secretary**. 1 Ballot Cast for **Wanda Warren (2023-2025)**

Moved by Tyson Leies, seconded by Heather Davis to destroy ballots. **CARRIED**

9. New Business

Officials:

Andy Watson – Announcement that Sean Lehman has stepped down with the BCLOT-SD and that that role will now be filled by himself. 2023 Crisis situation in regards to Officials. 65 Officials Level 3-5 with 800+ scheduled senior games. Emphasis on certification and mentorship. Incentives and financial supports must be there to encourage officials to travel, seven (7) North Shore Sr/Jr games were cancelled in 2023 (15 games in the SD were cancelled in 2023). Travel is paid in the SD on the Island and in the Thompson Okanagan additionally also for Minor Box and Field throughout the province. The Lower Mainland Senior Associations do not. The cost of gas impacts an official's ability to attend a game.

WLA – Supports officials feedback, providing them with development and mentorship. Encourages attendance at WLA games. Possibility of providing free passes to attend games and watch the levels of officiating and techniques used.

Andy Watson – Retention and Recruitment. Utilize graduating players to reconnect with lacrosse through officiating, as previous players understand the game and player safety. Funding for mentorship is unknown as the BCLOTSG is not a society and has no access to gaming funding. BCLA (Gerry/Jill) have committed to budgeting discussion. Travel vs treatment is it the cost of travel or is it the official's

treatment that is more impactful on official retention. The combination of responsibilities to officiating, employment, schooling, and player or coaching responsibilities.

Inconsistencies – each league agreement is set to pay officials fees at a different level. League Agreement may or may not include payment of travel. Discussion of such to be had at AGMs to set budgets. Strategic scheduling, double headers, minor lacrosse days. Back to back for officials is physically tiring. Difference in game acceptance can go down to money (U17 \$55 (four games in a day) vs Jr B2 \$70 (one game)).

Discussion about 3-man system. Phased in over time. Increase the number of Level 2 officials to Level 3 (acceleration of process needed). Transparent ranking of officials, development regionally based on need. 3-man system may slow down the game and increase official development. Barriers to official development based on time it takes to level forward – Over 21 can register as a level 2 official with support, assessment, and recertification it is possible to be level 3 in second year.

ACTION requested each commissioner reach out to your leagues to have travel costs added to the budget as soon as possible. BCLA travel is set at \$0.68/ KM.

Cranbrook:

Russ Sheppard – Junior Black Wolves developing. Cranbrook Minor Lacrosse has over 200 players. Currently have multiple players represented in college programs. Juniors play in the Alberta Rocky Mountain Division as Calgary is a 3.5 hour drive. They plan to declare Junior B Teir 1, believe they will be middle placement with in the Teir 1 division. However, they would still be a BC representation Team for Founders in Jr B Teir 1. Recently won Junior B Teir 2 in both Alberta and BC. Cranbrook foresees the possibility of two Junior teams in the future. Cranbrook challenge is to develop local officials at the skill level to do Junior A games.

Please ensure Wonda Warren has your league contact information. If you are stepping down, please ensure she has your replacements information.

10. Adjournment

It was moved by Terry Kirstiuk that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.14 AM.