

**BC LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
2018 PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
BCLA MINOR DIRECTORATE OPERATING POLICY**

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

REGULATION 1: STRUCTURE, Commission Chairs currently reads:

Commission Chairs

- (a) Communication link between the Minor Directorate (through Zone Directors) and their Associations
- (b) Ensure good communications with the Executive and their Associations and possibly with players and parents
- (c) Maintain a good working relationship with all Associations within their Commission
- (d) Responsible to Minor Directorate and all Associations within the Commission
- (e) Responsible for schedule and guidelines for league play and Provincial play-offs in their Commission
- (f) Select their Commissioners, as per Commission Operating Policy and acts as Head Commissioner
- (g) First level of appeal on all matters within their Commission (jurisdiction, players discipline and player movement)

Add (h) to REGULATION 1: STRUCTURE, Commission Chairs currently that would read:

Commission Chairs

- (a) Communication link between the Minor Directorate (through Zone Directors) and their Associations
- (b) Ensure good communications with the Executive and their Associations and possibly with players and parents
- (c) Maintain a good working relationship with all Associations within their Commission
- (d) Responsible to Minor Directorate and all Associations within the Commission
- (e) Responsible for schedule and guidelines for league play and Provincial play-offs in their Commission
- (f) Select their Commissioners, as per Commission Operating Policy and acts as Head Commissioner
- (g) First level of appeal on all matters within their Commission (jurisdiction, players discipline and player movement)
- (h) *When player registrations dictate and local associations agree, is able to suggest cross-border teams within their league and obtain approval from the Minor Directorate as needed.***

Rationale: To assist with building teams of players in an area where players do not need to be scattered as single players to many associations, but where possible, help clubs 'join' teams for a single season.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

REGULATION 3: REGISTRATION, 3.06 currently reads:

- 3.06 For those Associations who run house league systems and combine teams for provincial play, the Association must submit to the Registrar of the Minor Directorate, the additional Provincial Team lists on the supplied electronic template. Combined Team lists must be e-mailed to the Registrar and in addition can be faxed or mailed to the BCLA prior to May 31 of the playing year. Provincial lists must include the division and level of play (i.e., Provincial Team – Bantam A2). This will ensure the team is registered with the BCLA, but will avoid duplicate billing of players by the BCLA.

Amend REGULATION 3: REGISTRATION, 3.06 that would read:

- 3.06 For those Associations who run house league systems and combine teams for provincial play, the Association must submit to the Registrar of the Minor Directorate *and the Provincial Playoff Director*, the additional Provincial Team lists on the *Provincial Verification Roster*. Combined Team lists must be e-mailed to the Registrar *and the Provincial Playoff Director as well as* the BCLA *Office* prior to May 31 of the playing year. Provincial lists must include the division and level of play (i.e., Provincial Team – Bantam A2). This will ensure the team is registered with the BCLA, but will avoid duplicate billing of players by the BCLA.

Rationale:

Addition of PPD: It is essential that the Playoff Director has this information prior to declarations so that at meeting members are aware of the teams format.

Change to type of form: Housekeeping as an ‘electronic template’ is not an accurate reflection of what is required (nor available).

Change to submission format to BCLA: Housekeeping as mailing is not timely or guaranteed to arrive by due date.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary; Sean Reid, Surrey Minor President

Add 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) All players aged 10 and up (PeeWee and above) will have a concussion baseline test completed prior to the start of each season.

Rationale: While the BCLA policy ‘acknowledges the severity of concussions’, as members of the Minor Directorate our clubs are directly responsible for the safety of our minor aged players. Life-Long effects on players can mean they are unable to play, suffer depression, addiction and reduced cognitive ability. Too often we hear of players that are still returning to play too early and as advocates for youth, we need to put policy in place to protect our children. This is a proactive solution so that parents and players don’t have to react to loose wording in a general policy that really doesn’t get to the heart of the matter.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.03 currently reads:

- 4.03 (a) Where there are two teams from one Association playing in one league, there is to be no criss-cross of players from one team to another and back after May 7 of the playing year (see Section 4.09). Where it is necessary to have players criss-cross laterally, this shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) players on a game-by-game basis only. Each player is only able to criss-cross over laterally a maximum of two (2) times. A limit of only five (5) player movements can be made prior to rosters being set. In special circumstances and with valid reason, a team may request a further movement only with the permission of the local Commission. Players are to be clearly marked as, for example, “Criss-crossed from Team 1” in game sheet notes. If said infraction occurs after May 7 of the playing year, the player would be eligible for his registered team only.
- (b) In leagues where players register to participate on a “Female Only” Box lacrosse team, said players will not be permitted to also play on ‘Minor’ (mixed) teams, or vice versa; this includes as ‘call-up’ players on a game by game basis.

Amend REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.03 that would read:

- 4.03 (a) Where there are two teams from one Association playing in one league, there is to be no criss-cross of players from one team to another and back after May 7 of the playing year (see Section 4.09). Where it is necessary to have players criss-cross laterally, this shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) players on a game-by-game basis only. Each player is only able to criss-cross over laterally a maximum of two (2) times. A limit of only five (5) player movements can be made prior to rosters being set. In special circumstances and with valid reason, a team may request a further movement only with the permission of the local Commission. Players are to be clearly marked as, for example, “Criss-crossed from Team 1” in game sheet notes. If said infraction occurs after May 7 of the playing year, the player would be eligible for his registered team only.
- (b) In leagues where players register to participate on a “Female Only” Box lacrosse team, said players will not be permitted to also play on ‘Minor’ (mixed) teams, or vice versa; this includes as ‘call-up’ players on a game by game basis. ***A coach playing a player under these conditions will be deemed as playing an ineligible player and may be suspended.***

Rationale: To support the continued development of Female Box in spite of coaches who may not support the development of same.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07 currently reads:

- 4.07 (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.
- (b) A player may play up one division higher than that in which he/she would be registered in accordance to 2.01 for the playing year only with the approval of the player’s association.
- (c) i) Any player who has played up a total of five or more league games, playoff games, sanctioned tournament games, or combination of, in any division or calibre higher than the one in which he/she is registered, must for the remainder of that year play for the higher division or calibre in which he/she played his/her fifth (5th) game.
- ii) For a goalie who has played a total of seven (7) or more league, playoff or sanctioned tournament game or combination of, in any division or calibre higher than the one in which he/she is registered, must for the remainder of that year play for a higher division or calibre in which he/she played his/her seventh (7th) game.
- In either situation above, the Home Association will determine which team in that division that the player will play on if there is more than one team in the higher division or if the player has played across multiple levels in a tiered division.
- (d) A team may participate in a higher calibre sanctioned tournament without impacting team or player eligibility unless 4.07 (c) applies.

Add the title of *PART I* to the current 4.07 (a) to (d), and add new REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07, PART II (a) that would read:

4.07 PART II

- (a) *A player may play down one division than their appropriate age group when a player size and/or ability dictate necessary as determined by a coach and approved by an Association President. If approved by the local association, the local Minor Association must approve in writing and forward to their local Commission for approval.*

Rationale: The Minor Directorate has previously had an application to process playdown requests from minor to minor, but nothing in policy supports the decisions around the requests.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

Add new REGULATION 4: PLAYING RULES, 4.07 Part II (b) that would read:

4.07 PART II

- (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 Senior 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 previously had an application to process playdown requests from minor to minor, but nothing in policy supports the decisions around the requests.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

REGULATION 7: MOVEMENT – SENIOR BOX TO MINOR, 7.01 currently reads:

- 7.01 Movement to play down in the Minor Directorate from the Senior Directorate will only be approved under the following conditions:
- i) In Zones where an ~~Intermediate~~ Junior team is available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player's home:
 - (a) The Local Minor Association must approve in writing and forward to their local commission for approval.
 - (b) Upon approval, the request must be forwarded to the Minor Directorate for approval before April 1st of the playing year.
 - (c) Upon approval of the request by the Minor Directorate, it will be forwarded to the Senior Directorate for final approval.
 - ii) In Zones where an ~~Intermediate~~ Junior team is NOT available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player's home:
 - (a) The Local Minor Association must approve in writing and forward to their local commission for approval.
 - (b) Upon approval, the request must be forwarded to the Minor Directorate for approval-

- (c) Upon approval of the request by the Minor Directorate, it will be forwarded to the Senior Directorate for information purposes.

Amend REGULATION 7: MOVEMENT – SENIOR BOX TO MINOR, 7.01 that would read:

- 7.01 Movement to play down in the Minor Directorate from the Senior Directorate *can be applied for if* the following conditions *exist*:
- i) In Zones where an Junior team is available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player’s home:
 - (a) The Local Minor Association must approve in writing and forward to their local commission for approval.
 - (b) Upon approval, the request must be forwarded to the Minor Directorate for approval before April 1st of the playing year.
 - (c) Upon approval of the request by the Minor Directorate, it will be forwarded to the Senior Directorate for final approval.

Movement to play down in the Minor Directorate from the Senior Directorate *will be approved under the following conditions*:

- ii) In Zones where an Junior team is NOT available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player’s home:
 - (a) The Local Minor Association must approve in writing and forward to their local commission for approval.
 - (b) Upon approval, the request must be forwarded to the Minor Directorate for approval-
 - (c) Upon approval of the request by the Minor Directorate, it will be forwarded to the Senior Directorate for information purposes.

Rationale: The application/approval process for areas where originally there were (Intermediate)/Junior teams (Intermediate removed by Senior Directorate and BCLA in 2017) compared to where there are NOT Junior teams, necessitated a change to the wording in this Regulation as we do not simply approve anyone that applies from within the Lower Mainland or on the Island. Normally, these applications are made due to a players size and/or ability and the MD must always keep the correctly aged (midget) players size in consideration.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

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

- 7.02 Criteria for Approval:
- (a) Players must be within **365 days (one year)** of Midget eligibility.
 - (b) Cannot be from an area where there traditionally is an Intermediate or Junior team already registered. When there is no Juvenile Team: over-age Female Box Players will be permitted to play down; male Box Players with one-year experience or less will be permitted to play down.
 - (c-i) In Zones where an Intermediate/Junior team is available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player’s home: Cannot be more than two (2) over-age players per team unless the Minor Association is less than two (2) years old. If the Association is more than two (2) years old, then the maximum number will be four (4).
 - (c-ii) In Zones where an Intermediate/Junior team is NOT available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player’s home: Cannot be more than four (4) over-age players per team.
 - (d) Over-age players are not eligible for playdowns, playoffs, Zone/Commission Championships or for Provincial Championships play.

NOTE: Applications for movement will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, taking a player's size and skill level into consideration.

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

7.02 Criteria for Approval:

- (a) Players must be within **two (2) years** of Midget eligibility.

Rationale: With the removal of Intermediate in 2017, we need to recognize the potential size disparity for school aged players, where it exists and provide them an opportunity to participate in lacrosse.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

Amend REGULATION 7: MOVEMENT – SENIOR BOX TO MINOR, 7.02 (b) by removing the word “Intermediate” that would read:

7.02 Criteria for Approval:

- (b) Cannot be from an area where there traditionally is an Junior team already registered. When there is no Juvenile Team: over-age Female Box Players will be permitted to play down; male Box Players with one-year experience or less will be permitted to play down.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

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

- 7.02 (c-i) In Zones where an ~~Intermediate~~ Junior team is available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player's home: Cannot be more than two (2) over-age players per team ~~unless the Minor Association is less than two (2) years old~~. If the Association is **more** than two (2) years old, then the maximum number will be four (4).
- (c-ii) In Zones where an Intermediate/Junior team is NOT available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player's home: Cannot be more than four (4) over-age players per team.

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

- 7.02 (c-i) In Zones where an Junior team is available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player's home: Cannot be more than two (2) over-age players per team. If the Association is **less** than two (2) years old, then the maximum number will be four (4) **players**.
- (c-ii) In Zones where an Junior team is NOT available within a two hour drive (as defined by Google Maps) from the player's home: Cannot be more than four (4) over-age players per team.

Rationale: Housekeeping. Years and numbers in text are reversed from originally intended regulation.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

Add new REGULATION 7: MOVEMENT – SENIOR BOX TO MINOR, 7.02 (d) that would read:

- 7.02 (d) *Players granted an opportunity to play down, will have their players statistics reviewed during the season of play (for penalties, scoring, etc). The Minor Directorate will communicate the names of players playing down to the League Commissioners, who will need to keep statistics and report to the Minor Directorate 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 Senior to Minor can be reversed at any time during the season of play.*

Renumber current 7.02 (d) to (e).

Rationale: The Minor Directorate requires a mechanism in place to reverse decisions on these approvals where we find players have too many majors (ie, fighting) or are key players changing outcomes of games. The intention of allowing these participants is not to drastically change the make-up of teams, but rather give an individual an opportunity they may not otherwise have.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

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

- 7.02 (d) Over-age players are not eligible for playdowns, playoffs, Zone/Commission Championships or for Provincial Championships play.

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

- 7.02 (d) *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.***

Rationale: The proposer feels it most unfair that players be permitted to play with a team all season long for both league and tournament play and then for finals be refused the same opportunity that has been granted.

Proposed by Beth McLucas, Lower Mainland Minor Lacrosse Commission Chair

REGULATION 8: MOVES, 8.04 currently reads:

- 8.04 If a player who has played the two previous consecutive seasons with the same association, other than the one where he/she current resides, and during that time, either met the release requirements described in Minor Directorate Regulation 8.09 or lived within that association's boundaries, the player is considered grandfathered with that association and has the option of signing with that association as a grandfathered player or registering with his/her new home association, where they currently reside.

Amend REGULATION 8: MOVES, 8.04 that would read:

- 8.04 *Where there is a team within the player's association, Minor (mixed) and/or Female, but the **player** has played the two previous consecutive seasons with the same association, other than the one where he/she current resides, and during that time, either met the release requirements described in Minor Directorate Regulation 8.09 or lived within that association's boundaries, the player is considered grandfathered with that association and has the option of signing with that association as a grandfathered player or registering with his/her new home association, where they currently reside.*

Rationale: This covers players in both minor (mixed) and female who have a team within their own club and has been released.

REGULATION 10: TEAM SIZE, 10.01 currently reads:

10.01 No team under the jurisdiction of the Minor Directorate shall have more than 22 signed players, except with special permission of the Commission. Such exceptions shall be ratified by the Minor Directorate. Any team carrying more than 22 players will only be permitted to bring 22 players to Provincials ~~*and will not be permitted to use call-up players for the Provincial Tournament.*~~

Amend REGULATION 10: TEAM SIZE, 10.01 that would read:

10.01 (a) *Per Rule 14 of the CLA Rulebook, no Midget, Bantam, PeeWee, Novice, Tyke or Mini-Tyke team (mixed Minor or Female Box) under the jurisdiction of the Minor Directorate shall have more than 20 signed players, except with special permission of the Commission. Such exceptions shall be ratified by the Minor Directorate. Any team carrying more than 20 players will only be permitted to bring 20 players to Provincials. and will not be permitted to use call-up players for the Provincial Tournament.*

Rationale: In support of this CLA rule (which carries a penalty in the CLA Rule Book), it is time that clubs committed to carrying only 20 players and releasing players as necessary; this will allow for more playing time for all participants.

Add new REGULATION 10: TEAM SIZE, 10.01 (b) that would read:

10.01 (b) *No Female Junior team, under the jurisdiction of the Minor Directorate shall be permitted to sign more than 25 players. Only 20 players (18 runners and 2 goalies) will be permitted to be listed on a game sheet for league and tournament play. Only 20 players will be permitted to be verified for League Playdowns/Championships and Provincial Tournament play.*

Rationale: Recognizing the age group, this follows the same player numbers as used (in Senior Directorate) for Junior Lacrosse elsewhere in BC. Making this list pare down to only 20 for Provincials allows teams to carry through season to determine commitment of players for Provincial play. Note that this would not require ratification by the Minor Directorate.

REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.03 currently reads:

12.03 All Zones will play down to the following allotted number of teams:

Zone 1	1 team
Zone 2	1 team
Zone 3, 4, 5	3 teams
Zone 6	1 team
Zone 7	1 team
Zone 8	1 team
Host Association/ <i>Commission</i>	1 team

* Any vacancies may be filled by the Provincial Minor Directorate.

Amend REGULATION 12: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.03 that would read:

12.03 All Zones will play down to the following allotted number of teams:

Zone 1	1 team
Zone 2	1 team
Zone 3, 4, 5	3 teams
Zone 6	1 team
Zone 7	1 team
Zone 8	1 team
Host Association	1 team

* Any vacancies may be filled by the Provincial Minor Directorate.

Rationale: If the provincial host does not have a team in a particular division, the vacant spot does not necessarily go to a team in that particular commission. It is up to the MD on how the host spot will be allocated.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

REGULATION 14: TOURNAMENTS, 14.01 currently reads:

14.01 Invitational tournaments are encouraged at all levels as a means of giving enjoyment and encouragement to teams and players. Associations or commissions wishing to host invitational tournaments must apply to the Minor Directorate by the date on the annual application form which will sanction the tournament, and pass the information to all associations, Commissions and league Commissioners. The Minor Directorate will review all applications and maintain a master schedule to determine which tournaments will be sanctioned. The sanctioned list will then be published to all members so the registration process can begin.

Amend REGULATION 14: TOURNAMENTS, 14.01 that would read:

14.01 Invitational tournaments are encouraged at all levels as a means of giving enjoyment and encouragement to teams and players. Associations or commissions wishing to host invitational tournaments must apply to the Minor Directorate by the date on the annual application form which will sanction the tournament, and pass the information to all associations, Commissions and league Commissioners. The Minor Directorate will review all applications and maintain a master schedule to determine which tournaments will be sanctioned. The sanctioned list will then be published to all members so the registration process can begin.

In years where it is likely, based on numbers of teams registered in league play, that a division/tier may not have provincials (i.e Midget C) a second Tournament Application process may be put in place by the Minor Directorate. This will be communicated on an annual basis through Commissions.

Rationale: Teams in divisions/tiers where there is no Provincial opportunity can find themselves in a situation where their end of season is lacking games. This is not meant to take over the Provincials and if there is an event available in a division/tier, a tournament will not be approved.

Proposed by Angie Schwan, BCLA Minor Directorate Secretary

REGULATION 16: SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS/JAMBOREES, 16.01 currently reads:

16.01 A skills development session or jamboree is an event intended to introduce players to the game or to enhance player skill and development. It must be free of charge for all participants. It may include development drills and other activities for the enjoyment of the participants.

Amend REGULATION 16: SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS/JAMBOREES, 16.01 that would read:

- 16.01 A skills development session or jamboree is an event intended to introduce players to the game or to enhance player skill and development. It *should* be free of charge for all participants. *A minimal charge to cover floor time is acceptable.* It may include development drills and other activities for the enjoyment of the participants.

Rationale: Logically, these events should be no charge, but the Minor Directorate sees an added opportunity for more of these events if hosts can cover basic expenses (in full or in part).

Proposed by Gord McIntosh, BCLA Minor Directorate Chair

REGULATION 18: SUSPENSIONS, 18.03 (d) currently reads:

- 18.03 (d) A member may receive an initial verbal notification of a fine, suspension or decision directly face to face, or by telephone. This must be followed by a formal written notification presented, ~~faxed,~~ e-mailed ~~or mailed and post marked~~ within seventy-two (72) hours to the member after initial verbal notification.

Amend REGULATION 18: SUSPENSIONS, 18.03 (d) that would read:

- 18.03 (d) A member may receive an initial verbal notification of a fine, suspension or decision directly face to face, or by telephone/*e-mail/text*. This must be followed by a formal written notification presented *or* e-mailed within seventy-two (72) hours to the member after initial verbal notification.

Rationale: Faxing or mailing suspension notifications is obsolete.
