### 2025 Minor Directorate Special Session October 25, 2025 BCLA Minor Directorate Chair Report: Gord McIntosh

As we are now in our box lacrosse off-season and have some time to look back, it is typical to see positive steps forward as well as continuing challenges and disappointments. We have areas where registration has grown significantly. This is usually due to specific efforts by the local association to expand or introduce box lacrosse to the local communities. Some smaller associations that want to expand are being shortchanged by parents not being honest with their registration addresses, leading to players playing outside their jurisdiction. I have had enquiries from 2 communities that may join us in the future. Female box has been and continues to be an area of growth. Having an interlocking league schedule between the lower mainland and Vancouver Island has helped grow and develop the Island female program, particularly in Victoria. The lower mainland teams have been helpful in making this work. It isn't perfect yet but each year it seems to get a bit better. There have been no rule changes to the Lacrosse Canada rule book since 2019, and I am not aware of any pending changes at this time. While the lacrosse sixes program was a hot topic last year, it seems to have fallen off our radar a bit. We had a good representation of tournaments available for all divisions this past year and fewer cancellations due to lack of participation than previous years. While the coach's group has shown strong leadership in dealing with coaches and verbal abuse of officials, we are hearing how difficult it is to deal with parents and families for individual associations. This includes abuse of officials from stands, abuse and harassment of association executive and just overall poor behaviour. Social media use to air comments/complaints is another source of aggravation. We need to provide associations information on what to do and how to deal with these parents and families. Association executives are volunteers that are not qualified or comfortable in most of these situations. They need some support. While we have strong numbers for officials for U7-U11, we struggle keeping our late teen and young adults as officials. While this is a time where they become busier themselves with work and school, the abuse they take from the stands and coaches is usually a determining factor in them deciding to leave our game.

We had another successful run of provincial championships in 2025. There were 4 provincial championships hosted on 3 weekends in July. Our provincial championship hosts did a wonderful job, and we thank them very much for stepping up and allowing us to put on the provincials. The minor directorate provides a number of supervisors for each provincial championship that make sure things are run properly and these people put in some long days over multiple weekends. The female provincial championships provided us some challenges to deal with that we don't expect to deal with in the future.

We have come to accept the reality of our AGM but are disappointed at the loss of the volunteer recognition program and awards that were valued by all associations. The BLCA is 4 employees who do an amazing amount of work and provide us great support. Despite this, the majority of lacrosse is done by volunteers across BC and providing them some recognition is valuable in keeping them with us. A recent survey that was sent out looks like there may be some movement on this.

There are 18 people that make up the Minor Directorate and I thank each one of them for their time and dedication to lacrosse in BC. They have been a patient and supportive group to work with and always have a view to what is best for lacrosse in the province, not just their league, zone, or commission. With the exception of our August meeting, all our MD meetings were held at the BCLA office, and we get strong in person attendance.

Thank you to the BCLA staff of Jill, Dave, Lucas and Deb in helping me get through another box lacrosse season as minor directorate chair. You are a treat to work with, and we appreciate your efforts. While still being understaffed (in my opinion), they were able to provide us with the same level of support we have always had.

Regards, Gord McIntosh BCLA Minor Directorate Chair

# MINOR BOX REGISTRAR YEAR END REPORT

### 2025

A reminder that Associations are responsible for advising RAMP and the BCLA when they change Registrar's so that the COP can be updated and they can be included in communication and training.

It was a challenge working with a new system for Box this season so gratitude to the Registrars for their perseverance through this. It helped that Field had paved the way, so we learned some things from that group however we found there was still lots of learning to be had. We are still working through some issues and will continue to learn and flex. Input and feedback are welcome.

I implemented a one-page Summary Sheet where the Registrars list their registration numbers by Division / Tier and then I go into RAMP and verify. They are now able to just email this page to me. No more printing off Team Lists for them and mailing the bundle to the BCLA Office. This is a much more streamlined process and has saved an abundance of paper.

We continue to evolve!

Regards,

Corinne Perriman BCLA Registrar

### Thompson Okanagan Minor Box Lacrosse Commission - BCLA Zone 2 - 2025 Season

### **2025 Provincials**

Having the opportunity to host the provincials at the 1U7 level in North Okanagan (Vernon/Armstrong) was great yet again. North Okanagan put on a great tournament with minimal disruptions. The ongoing communications sent from the host association to the participating teams ensured that changes and reminders were sent to all teams and contacts.

- The Female Provincials had a massive success with the Interior wining Silver in the U15B division. With many inconveniences along the way these girls battled and played competitive games. Well placed in the B division attending and winning at the provincial level was a huge accomplishment.
- Zone 2 had a successful run at the provincials sending three teams to U17, two teams U15, and four teams to U13 and one to U15 Female Provincials.
  - o For U13 there was two wins; a strong Penticton won gold in the B division. The second win being more subtle. Shuswap attending and participating in the U13C division, as an association regrowing it was good to see them commit to taking part in the provincials.
  - o The U15 division another strong Penticton team came away with the gold in B.
  - At the 17 level North Okanagan was well placed in B and had competitive games coming away against a determined Prince George team with the gold.
- Kamloops competed in A2 in U13, U15, and U17 provincials. Many games were competitive however this year they did not reach the podium.

#### **Successes:**

- The re-entry of Nicola Valley as an association, while only able to field one team, is a huge positive. Shuswap also continues to regrow its base registration.
- The Female participation with both co-ed and the female game continues to grow. Practices being held at both the top and the bottom of the Valley enables more girls to participate. Registration is not at the level to have a "league" but the ability to form teams consistently for tournaments is fantastic.
- Female tournaments, U13 Penticton and U15 and U17 North Okanagan. Both tournaments were full and well attended. Great to have local game representation of female play hugely beneficial for other girls to see the game being played.

### Challenges for the year in the zone:

- Parent behaviour once again took centre stage away from the game, which was hugely unfortunate for all the players involved.
- Officials continue to be a challenge with availability. Paying officials to travel to ensure that games are able to be played is a financial burden that teams must now work into their budgeting for the year.
- U9 full floor. Unsure what the disconnect is between the coaches, the officials and the commission however the push for full floor for this age group continues. Resulting in bullying tactics being used against teams wanting to play cross floor. At this time there is no BCLA level discipline for this action.
- Registration boundaries, with associations not upholding boundaries nor collecting the required documentation from parents to ensure that addresses provided are not fraudulent registration rates of smaller associations are impacted. We do not grow the game by eliminating associations. No solution provided at the BCLA level.
- House Model for U13 verses Advanced/Developmental this was introduced as a trial for the 2025 season.
   Unfortunately, one association was not on board and found loopholes which cause unequal playing opportunities for the kids within the division for their association. This was not the goal of equalizing the division.
- Timing of provincial declaration and tournaments many tournaments are not held until after the provincial declarations have to be submitted therefore obtaining a understanding of the strengths or weaknesses of teams outside of sone play is difficult to determine.
- Oversized rosters creating disparity in bench sizes. Multi-sport kids is the rationale for an oversized roster however it is the best for the player development?

### **LMMLC Year End Report – 2025**

The 2025 season for the Lower Mainland Commission ran a trial run using the "my lax "ranking system as well as self scheduling for in both the U-11 youth division and all the female divisions

Both trials were voted in by the Presidents of the Lower Mainland associations to minimize the issues at tiering and the amount of TBR's during the season.

LMMLC also held its first tiering meeting this season with one representative from each association for full transparency in the process and input in the information and decisions made.

The LMMLC scheduled the first ten games for these divisions, and then the teams(managers) were able to self-schedule games for the remainder of the season based on the rankings.

LMMLC ran several zoom meetings with managers and division commissioners prior implementing self scheduling.

The trial did not run without its problems. The ranking system was slow to update; teams did not always self-schedule within the perceived parameters of a ranking system. Top teams were purposely left without any teams willing to play them. We would need to implement policy and rules if we are to continue using the system. Playdowns, standings and Provincial placement were all up for discussion this season while we were trying to "marry "the two systems.

LMMLC sent out a survey to all managers, and association Presidents after the season. Please see attached results.

Combined teams and the ranking system also caused some issues during the season. The need for associations to merge or release players to create more competitive teams should be part of the consideration next season.

The benefit of having data-backed results and the flexibility of self-scheduling was also apparent. Understanding that, if this were to be implemented province-wide, there would be several changes required, including tournaments and Provincials, which is imperative.

The interest and potential of a BC Lacrosse Festival, involving all teams at one location instead of the traditional BC Provincials, is growing. It will be interesting to see the progress and evolution of a Festival in the upcoming seasons.

LMMLC continues to struggle with abuse of refs from players, coaches and spectators.

The total amount of hearings was down this year, and the new redacted ref report sent to the association President prior to the hearing seemed to help the process.

I would like to thank our two newly appointed members for their hard work and dedication in making the season run smooth, (as possible)

Dennis Windsor as head commissioner to mentor & assist commissioners during the season. Its always more work than we think its going to be.

Wendy Thomson to aid in the up and running of 'My Lax "and the implementation of self-scheduling and the general administrative issues that seem to keep growing.

Thank you to the commissioners who volunteer year after year and to the new ones needed each year.

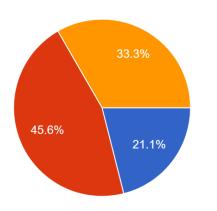
I would like also to acknowledge the continued dedication and time-consuming efforts of The LMMLC executive, Josh Wahl, Pam Mason, Nicole Kelly, Grant Morrison, Michael O'Connor, Michael Hagel, Sean Reid as well as the members of the BCLA, Minor Directorate and Officials and Coaches' groups. We all work together collectively throughout the year in an effort to ensure a successful season. Thank you, thank you, thank you. The box lacrosse season doesn't run itself and doesn't start in April or stop In July.

Respectfully Sandra Margetson LMMLC Chair

### Managers and Coaches Self Scheduling & Mylax Results

Preference for 2026 box season scheduling

57 responses

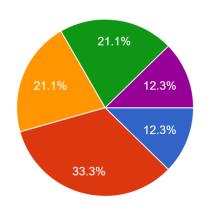


Fully Self scheduling

- Hybrid League schedules first 10 games then self scheding
- League Schedule games for entire season

### Overall Satisfaction with Self Scheduling

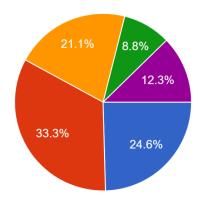
57 responses



Highly SatisfiedSatisfiedNeutralDissatisfiedHighly Dissatisfied

How comfortable were you with scheduling your own games for the self scheduling portion of the season

57 responses



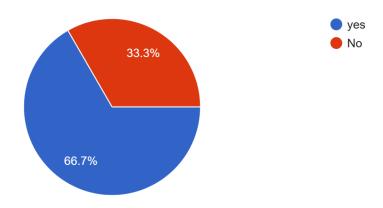
Highly SatisfiedSatisfied

Neutral

Dissatisfied

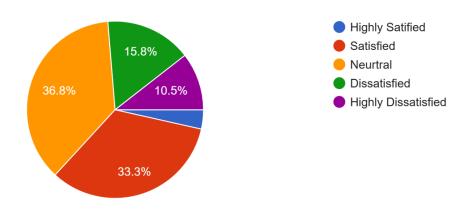
Highly Dissatisfied

Did your team get enough games scheduled to satisfy for coaches and players 57 responses

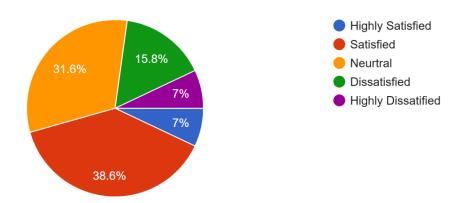


# Overall Satisfaction with the My Lax Ranking System

57 responses



Was they system accurate and met your needs to know where your team was ranked 57 responses



#### Positive Comments Self Scheduling

You could request and approve games that worked with your team, you weren't forced to play teams far away

It allowed our team to have more control over timing of games and flexibility to adjust for coaches timing and availability.

There was nothing positive about the whole process, it was a total disaster and when it came to provincials nobody knew which ranking system to use for qualifying, both of which where not accurate and had missing games or inaccurate scores

our team didn't have to play teams who were far above our skill level

I think the self scheduling worked, but limited who we played as the coaches only wanted to play certain teams over and over. The process itself was great and very easy

No TBR's! That was great!

We were able to utilize all our home game times, and we were able to make a schedule that worked for our team and coaches availability

We were able to play teams we potentially would not have played if it was league scheduling

The self scheduling allowed us to schedule games that worked for our players availability and ensured we had no TBR games. It also allowed us to account for tournaments and therefore eliminate TBR's completely. Additionally it ensured we were able to schedule all games with teams of similar caliber which was a huge upgrade from the traditional scheduling system.

It was helpful having the first month of games pre-scheduled to allow time for managers to complete other team related tasks/responsibilities. Self scheduling was beneficial as it allowed flexibility on when games were scheduled in case of any conflicts. It also allowed us to choose what teams would be the best fit for our team's development (competitiveness).

A positive aspect of self-scheduling was that it allowed us to choose the opponent we wanted to play, as well as the day and time that worked best for us.

Positive aspects to the self scheduling was that we could work around our tournaments and fundraisers so we didn't have to reschedule as many games

Getting to know the other teams coaching staff/managers. Avoiding scheduling conflicts, ultimately avoiding TBA games.

Good idea, just not implemented well

Getting to pick teams that were closer in proximity and/or skill.

### **Obstacles for Self Scheduling**

There were too many teams with the same home game day/time as us. Made it extremely difficult to schedule more than one game in a week as we constantly had to give up home for away. Further, we lost at least 4-5 home arena times due to the city using the facility or poco lacrosse hosting a tournament.

Needs to be some flexibility in terms of cancelling games as opposed to the sif league minimum games played have been reached. Some games are scheduled and facilities make changes in availability with minimal notice. I suggest one or two games may be cancelled for any reason after they are confirmed.

It wasn't locked down properly and our schedule was deleted by another team at one point with no backups.

Free for all! Commissioner was delayed in responses and the my lax rankings were missing games and had inaccurate scores which were never corrected even tho the commissioner was well Aware

With only seven teams in our division, we just kept playing the same teams anyway.

schedules were hard to organize and some teams just refused to play other teams.

Some teams didn't not have enough availability, we played the same teams often bc others had same home game time as us and didn't want to travel. We often used our practice time as an alternative time throughout the season.

I think the downfall like I said is that you only play the same teams if you're one of the higher ranked teams and those teams who maybe have a home game slot that isn't attractive to other teams or are further out in location, it's too hard for them to get any games and frustrating for them

Very early on many teams available slots filled up and I had to send many emails to various teams in order to try and get some games scheduled

It was a constant scramble to find teams to play and not much guidance on how to navigate self scheduling

The biggest issue we faced was getting teams to come out to the west side of Vancouver when our home game time was 6pm on a weekday. We went and played away games at virtually every team in our division but many would not come to play us at home.

While we did not experience any issues I saw that the Managers that didn't have experience scheduling struggled with it. It is a steep learning curve that requires switching times with other teams, strategizing around tournaments and floor closures... and if you don't have experience managing the team and scheduling games this could be very overwhelming for a volunteer.

Teams will just avoid playing certain teams. They will also play B teams when they are in the A division. B teams should not be playing A teams. Also, teams will have a different number of games once the season ends. Although the ranking system understands who the best team is even if less games have been played, it's not fair that teams can just avoid certain teams all season and play inferior teams. It doesn't help the players become better by just playing teams who can't compete with them.

We found that we often played the same three teams this season. There was not a lot of variability. Since we scheduled the games early on, we did not have the opportunity to make changes to better fit our team. It was also difficult mapping out which teams you were playing when which resulted in us playing the same team back to back on numerous occasions.

A bit tough finding teams at times

Teams from far away didn't want to play us, bottom teams wouldn't play top teams. Coaches conspired and banned together to not play are team.

teams booked all games as soon as it opened and they seem to book teams they thought they could easly beat

it resulted in us not playing certain teams at all this season, we ended up playing the same teams quite a bit

Teams refused to play us. No backstopping was done to mitigate this. Trying to get help and support from the commissioner and league for this was challenging. We had one self scheduled home game this season and my team got sick of driving to Aldergrove and Ridge weekly.

Many obstacles. Cancelled games last minute, errors in scheduling, too much work for the managers

Limited options for scheduling games. Need to know all practise days and games days before the season starts for this to be successful. Requires clubs to all have different game and practise days.

Unfortunately with the elimination of league reviews and tiering, there were teams that were clearly A calibre teams that were allowed to remain in the B division, going undefeated and routinely destroyed legitimate B teams by scores of 16-0 and 15-1, etc. These same teams went on to Provincials with there being no hope for legitimate B teams to fairly compete for gold. There was no league oversight of this. Developments teams had no interest in playing against these higher calibre and it did nothing to further the skill sets of weaker players, and was humiliating and demoralizing for young players.

Having the 10 games prior I think affected the ranking negatively.

We all don't get to play each other and it showed we shouldn't be playing the bottom teams. Or when we first played teams at the beginning of the season the score reflected we shouldn't play them again.

These teams had the same feelings. So we all stuck within our rank slightly above or below us.

It could have also been the way it was presented to us. To only play whiten our rank which may not have been accurate based on the results of provincials.

We had a great commissioner that worked hard to make sure teams were getting games.

The live document was a challenge, not everyone is familiar with technology and things kept getting deleted or added in spots it shouldn't have.

#### **Improvements Self Scheduling and Mylax**

To lock down the sheet and also the league having only one home game time made things difficult to schedule with opposing teams at times.

Throw it in the garbage

Clear guidelines and communication of what is expected

For self scheduling to work well I think there needs to be a larger pool of teams to play against, the female divisions only had 5-6 teams. When many had same home game days/times it didn't leave many options. We struggled to get our games completed for the season.

I feel a mix of league schedule and self scheduling would be best, it is Alot of work on a Volunteer parent to arrange games for a full season

One improvement could be to limit the ability to book out the entire season at once. I found that most teams booked out their whole season in the first week which defeated the purpose of being able to evaluate where you are in the rankings and then book games against teams around your level. If you opened up 3weeks at a time that could protentially help.

The league should do the scheduling to ensure all teams get a fair number of games. While we had a great experience with it, I did notice that those teams with a good network and experienced managers came out ahead with more games.

Each team should be committed to a home at home before they are allowed to double up on opponents

Don't do it. Go back to the old ways. Improve the old way of scheduling by figuring out what works and what doesn't.

Limit how far in advance and how many times you can play a team

possibly having a requirement to have teams play a minimum of one game against every team

Put some thought into mitigating these issues.

Go back to league scheduled games. Period. For the entire season. And bring back mid season tiering and tiering breaks.

Enforce that each team needs to play all of the other teams in their respective tier at least once during the regular season.

Show a more detailed calculation of each game played so teams know how they accumulate points. Provide sample calculations on the main page.

clearer outline of how the system works and what is used to determine rankings. Removing tournament games from standings unless specifically asked to be used as a league game by the teams playing.

The data was very delayed in being updated

The ranking system should be able to update in realtime. Ramp is posting the results in real time so I do not think we should be waiting 1-2 weeks for rankings updates.

I think the system makes complete sense with self scheduling

The ranking system works with the self scheduling because teams play a different number of games. If everyone just played the same teams the same number of times, we wouldn't need a ranking system

if tournament games are going to be included they should be weighed differently as tournaments tend to have different game lengths that can influence things like score and goal difference

Not all tournament games were included.

Abandon the Mylaxrankings system. No consultation with those that would be affected by it was awful.

This system must go.

There aren't enough teams in the female division to properly use this tool

Not adding tournament scores. Not everyone goes to the tournaments. It should only hold regular season games to use for ranking.

### Minor Director Zone 3 Year End Report – 2025

### Respectfully submitted by Sean Reid

Fraser Valley for the BCLA Zones includes Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Ridge Meadows and Mission.

That's the end of the 2025 box season and Zone 3 had a very impressive representation. Out of all those medal games our Zone represented in every division except for Coed U17B. That is 18 divisions overall and we were in 17. Well done.

Of the 17 divisions we played in medal games we came home with: 4 x 4th place. 7 x bronze medals, 8 x silver medals, 9 x gold medals, 5 divisions where we had two medal placings and in our Female U17A division, we swept the medals with all 3 medals in that division coming to Zone 3. Congratulations to all the teams that participated!

BC Provincial Medal game results where Zone 3 is highlighted in **BOLD** 

#### Co-ed

U13A1	U13A2	U13B	U13C
Gold - Port Coquitlam	Gold - Coquitlam	Gold - Penticton	Gold - West Kootenay
Silver - Coquitlam	Silver - Port Coquitlam	Silver - Port Coquitlam	Silver - Surrey
Bronze - Burnaby/North Shore	Bronze - Langley	Bronze - New Westminster	Bronze - Quesnel
4th - Saanich	4th - Delta	4th - Oceanside	4th - <b>Port Moody</b>

U15A1	U15A2	U15B	U15C
Gold - Ridge Meadows	Gold - Port Coquitlam	Gold - Penticton	Gold - Sunshine Coast
Silver - Coquitlam	Silver - Saanich	Silver - <b>Ridge Meadows</b>	Silver - <b>Ridge Meadows</b>
Bronze - Langley	Bronze - <b>Ridge Meadows</b>	Bronze - Peninsula	Bronze - Chilliwack
4th - Nanaimo	4th - North Shore	4th - Vancouver	4th - Surrey/Semiahmoo

U17A1	U17A2	U17B
Gold - Saanich	Gold - Abbotsford	Gold - North Okanagan
Silver - Langley/Surrey	Silver - Richmond	Silver - Prince George
Bronze - Port Coquitlam	Bronze - Port Moody	Bronze - Comox Valley
4th - Ridge Meadows	4th - Delta	4th - Langley/Surrey

#### **FEMALE**

Female U13A	Female U13B	Female U15A	Female U15B
Gold - New West/Burnaby	Gold - Burnaby	Gold - <b>Ridge Meadows</b>	Gold - <b>Mission</b>
Silver - Langley	Silver - Richmond	Silver - Langley	Silver - Interior
Bronze - <b>Port Coquitlam</b>	Bronze - <b>Port Moody</b>	Bronze - New West/Burnaby	Bronze - New West/Burnaby
4th - Nanaimo	4th - Port Coquitlam	4th - Coquitlam	4th - Victoria/Esquimalt

Female U17A	Female U17B	
Gold - <b>Ridge Meadows</b>	Gold - <b>Ridge Meadows</b>	
Silver - Port Coquitlam/Port Moody	Silver - Ridge Meadows	
Bronze - <b>Coquitlam</b>	Bronze - Delta	
4th - New West/Burnaby	4th - Victoria/Esquimalt	

U22
Gold - Coquitlam
Silver - Victoria/Esquimalt
Bronze - <b>Port</b>
Coquitlam/Port Moody
4th - New Westminster

We had two very strong applicants from our Zone for the U17 player of the year and with a very close analysis, the successful Zone 3 winner was Colton Craiggs from Ridge Meadows. Congratulations Colton!

There was a lot of talk along the season on whether the MyLax ranking system was considered successful for both the female divisions and the U11 divisions. There were certainly mixed opinions on whether it was successful or not. Many of the female teams loved it and expressed it clearly. In the Coed U11, the A division had few issues while the lower divisions had more trouble with fairness and equality scheduling games.

To remove this new system prematurely would be troublesome as it hasn't been given a chance with only one season. Possibly tweaking a few more things and creating a situation where there was a mandatory number of games required by all teams in a certain regional area may help. In areas that have more teams (LMMLC), possibly making it so they can schedule a minimum of 1 home game and one away game per team allowing for equal travel amongst teams. This self scheduling could be done at the start of the season. After that, they can schedule any games they wish but they must fulfill the minimal standard. This would allow for self scheduling off the start of the season opposed to waiting for the 10 scheduled games. I am sure there are several more ideas on how to improve the system and I feel we should explore those to say we have tried it to the fullest.

I also saw more 3 referee systems popping up throughout the lower Mainland this year. At times it worked very well but there are tweaks I feel we can do to improve the overall learning curve and abilities of our future referees as well as supporting the players and coaches. I think implementing a 3-person referee system at U11 is an ideal solution as this is one of our highest drop off in registration age groups and the most contentious amongst coaches and fans. I will present a concept to the MD and hopefully see what comes of it.

I was able to participate as an MD representative for both the U13 Provincials in Port Coquitlam as well as the Female Provincials in Nanaimo.

Port Coquitlam was run flawlessly as they have a team of volunteers that have been doing tournaments for years and the experience in their systems showed up once again. The games were great, and few interactions created hiccups in the process. Having three arenas under one roof also gave the feel and energy of a large-scale tournament. Thank you, Port Coquitlam and your team of tireless and hardworking people.

Nanaimo was incredible. The small volunteer team worked determinedly to ensure all action items were managed appropriately and the arenas were organized with the right people in place to assist with every need. Quick reorganization of assets put the right people in the right places, so the team play went on incredibly well in 3 separate arenas throughout the city and surrounding area. Outstanding to say the least!

The only major hiccup to Nanaimo was the lead-in where the U15A division needed to be moved and a quick pivot to Coquitlam who was fantastic in supporting the situation. Thank you, Coquitlam leadership and volunteers. Sadly, the move was unplanned and arguably out of anyone's control due to the limited amount of hotel space available. Planning for these Provincial situations in advance will need to be a focus moving forward for future seasons. I am extremely grateful for Nanaimo's team stepping up when we had no other association apply to support the female category and host the tournament. Thank you, Nanaimo volunteers!

Speaking of planning ahead for Provincial play, with FIFA being planned locally for 2026 and booking most hotel rooms from Abbotsford to Squamish during BCLA's typical Provincial play times, it would be good for all zones outside of the lower mainland to start discussing their potential to host Provincials next season. A priority to be made for 4-day events with two or more arenas under one roof to keep the feel and excitement of a Provincial tournament. I think it is time for the female divisions to truly consider breaking off from their independence and go with their respective divisions in the Co-Ed space. Having an all-female tournament has been awesome but I think the con's need to be re-examined to determine the best option going ahead. Cons considered are:

- The size of the all-female tournament brings the largest grouping of divisions (7 divisions at once) that always competing with another divisional Provincials (This year was simultaneous with U15) creating a weekend with 11 divisions operating at one time on the same weekend
- Competing tournaments separate age capable referees so they must make a choice which tournament they wish to apply to and attend
- Overall Costs associated with running four (4) Provincial tournaments opposed to (3) three The idea would be to have U13 female to combine with the U13 Co-ed Provincials creating a 6-division tournament. U15 female to combine with U15 Co-ed Provincials creating a 6-division tournament. U17 and U22 female to combine with the U17 Co-ed Provincials creating a 7-division tournament at the highest competitive level.

This setup would allow for like skilled referees to be reffing all the games at their respective levels and allow the Officials in charge to flex referees from one game to another in the same tournament with more ease. It also allows the players and families to see how good the other sides games are. It may have teams and families sticking around and watching the other games more often which will add to the desired Provincial atmosphere. It also has us looking for one less venue each year which may increase the applications from clubs who desire hosting.

Lastly, my many thanks to the people that help this BC Box lacrosse season be successful. From the members of the minor directorate, Zone 3 Association Presidents, LMMLC Board members, coaches, managers, referees and all the other volunteers that hold the pieces together to make the puzzle make sense. Until next year!

Sean Reid Zone 3 Representative

### BC Lacrosse Association Zone 4 Year End Report 2025

**Zone 4 BCLA - Fraser River Delta** is 6 active Associations: Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Langley, New Westminster, Semiahmoo, and Surrey.

The merging of teams is a normalized process now that clubs have experienced it for a couple of seasons. There are positives and negatives to merging. We derive most of our revenue from B & C teams – it is my opinion that to drive teams to A1 will not solve A1 issues nor provide a positive experience for the players who most likely will not play lacrosse past minor.

Tiering of teams is complicated and although we had all the presidents at the LMMLC tiering meeting, we still did not get every team placed to everyone's satisfaction. By and large we make our decisions based on the information we have at the time.

#### **Association Tournaments**

As in previous years 4 of 6 Zone 4 clubs held tournaments – Chilliwack U9 3v3 & 13C, New West Female U11 to 15 & U11 A2 to C, Langley U9 and U15 A1 to C, Surrey U7 & U9. Clubs are encouraged to hold tournaments; it is work but worth the effort for team and club bonding.

### **Provincial Championships Zone 4 results:**

U-13 Mixed:	_	U-15 Mixed:	
A1 Langley	Bronze	A1 Langley	Participant
A2 New West	Gold	A2 New West	Bronze
A2 Chilliwack	Participant	A2 Chilliwack	Participant
B Abbotsford	Gold		
B Langley	Participant	Female U22	
C New West	Participant	New Westminster	Silver
C Surrey	Participant	Female U17	
		17A New West/BBY	Silver
U-17 Mixed:		17A Langley	Bronze
A1 Langley	Gold	17B Surrey/Delta	Participant
A2 Langley	Bronze	Female U15:	
A2 Surrey/Delta	Gold	15A New West	4th
A2 Chilliwack	Participant	15B Langley	Gold
B Langley	Participant	Female U13	
B Abbotsford	$4^{th}$	13A Langley/Semi	Gold
		13A New West/Burn	aby Silver
		13B New West	Participant

We had two applicants for the Zone 4 U17 Graduating Player of the Year. The winner was Maxton Lowe from New Westminster. Please encourage your graduating players to apply to this scholarship and other lacrosse bursaries. Information and applications are on the BCLA website.

Many thanks to Gord MacIntosh and Sandra Margetson for fielding the bulk of the enquiries from the lacrosse community. I appreciate the work put in by other lacrosse volunteers - minor directorate board members, Association Presidents, referees and parents who worked many hours through this past season. I am in my 1st year of a 2-year term. If anyone is interested in taking on the zone 4 duties in 2026 contact me and I can give you an idea of what the job entails.

Michael O'Connor Zone 4 representative

### **Zone 5 Year End Report - 2025**

Zone 5 consists of Burnaby, Delta, Richmond, Vancouver, North Vancouver and Sunshine Coast.

Zone 5 Provincial results:

23 teams competed in Provincials from our Zone this year (14 Co-ed, 9 Female). There were 11 last year.

9 Teams medalled this season.

Positive feedback from many of the Associations. Growth across many divisions. School programs and bring a friend days are working. Lots of media around the Warriors as they get better.

The new outdoor boxes in Burnaby and the North Shore are game-changers with the new ability to train and develop all year. Vancouver has started the process and will report back in Q4, 2025.

Lots of angst around self-scheduling. This will ease as we prepare for next season. Lots of new Managers that were not properly coached through the process.

An issue that continues to get worse is the fake-addresses and registering elsewhere. This is happening as early as U11. We either address this or allow people to register wherever they want. Small Clubs will die because of this. The players are going to bigger Clubs that do not need players. Zone A teams may be the solution here.

Many Coaches feel that there needs to be more in-game engagement with referees. Coaches would like to ask and hear explanations for "big" calls that are made where players are hurt and/or players are going to be suspended.

Again, most of the feel around the Associations is one of optimism. They feel the Sport IS growing and will only continue given the Olympic exposure and more players every year playing at College/Universities.

Opportunity exists to develop a High School 6s program where schools are not currently playing Lacrosse.

Regards Michael Hagel Zone 5 Rep

### Zone 6 (Vancouver Island) August Year End Report 2025

# Respectfully submitted by Tim Frost, Zone 6 Chair

I am writing this as my final report as chair of the VIMLC. I have enjoyed working on behalf of the Vancouver Island Commission as an Association Executive, Commissioner, and then Commission Chair since I started in an executive role almost a decade ago. I am happy with the many accomplishments during my time, but I feel the time is right to step down and allow some new energy to lead the way for the next decade. In particular, I have enjoyed working with some incredibly dedicated volunteers who provide countless hours of dedicated volunteer service to run our associations, leagues, commissions, and directorates. I also have tremendous respect for and have forged strong friendships with my peers who sit at the Minor Directorate. I wish you all success in the future.

This year was another successful year. While we continue to learn with a number of new executives, we are gaining some much-needed experience at the association level. We still struggled with persistent issues that have plagued us for some time, such as parent/spectator behavior and referee availability, although we have seen improvements around spectator behavior.

Our total number of referees was down, and for the third year in a row, we had to cancel games due to a lack of referees. Unfortunately, we are seeing some referees graduate to junior and senior Lacrosse and then decline to referee as much minor lacrosse. This is unfortunate, especially given the investments made by minor lacrosse in presenting these same referees with the development opportunities and games required to gain the necessary experience to referee at the higher levels. I hope my successor will find more success in partnering with the referees' group to tackle the systemic problems with referee recruitment and retention.

It would not be a final report from me without pointing out for what seems like the seventh time that BC Lacrosse needs to reinstate the volunteer technical support group or finally do away with the constitution and bylaws that govern the fictional activity and support that should be available to the volunteers of this organization. We need to have more to support volunteers and, in particular, provide resources and guidance to new executives about best practices for running associations and commissions.

This year, we appeared to have better spectator behavior, perhaps fed by the new bylaws we placed to give the commission more tools to deal with unruly spectators and fans.

We have seen great growth in female lacrosse with two very vibrant groups (based in Nanaimo and our coop teams out of VELA). We still struggle with interlock league play and equity for teams traveling to the Island. We may want to strengthen our interlock league agreement to ensure teams travel equitably. Still, many teams cancel games or choose not to travel yet avail themselves of travel games when Island teams travel to the LMMLC.

Our development divisions had a lot of fun, and it is great to see lots of new participants, particularly in the U7/U9 divisions.

Our competitive divisions had a great season, and a number of Island teams qualified for Provincials with the following teams winning medals in Provincial play:

- U17 A1 Gold Saanich
- U17 B Bronze Comox
- U15 A2 Silver Saanich
- U15 B Bronze Peninsula
- Female U22 Silver VELA

Congratulations to our Zone 6 Player of the Year – Liam MacDonald from Comox Valley Lacrosse.

Congratulations to all of the teams for the strong showing and a special thanks to Nanaimo for hosting a fantastic female provincials in 2025.

Tim Frost Zone 6 Chair

### **Zone 8 Year End Report 2025**

2025 was somewhat typical of our challenges in the North. Our schedule was always a work in progress but thanks to our commissioner, John Stevens, and association presidents, we managed to have a successful season. Every association, with the exception of Ft. St. John, hosted games, with Prince George hosting playdowns. Numbers at a younger age continue to be encouraging; however, numbers at the U17 level were weak. Games for this group were at the exhibition level, mixing players from different associations.

It was nice to see more teams declare for provincials this year and show some good success. Prince George U17 B won silver; Prince George participated in U15 B; Prince George participated in A2 U13; Williams Lake participated in U13 C; and Quesnel U13 C won Bronze. We should be encouraging teams to participate in provincials. It shows our players what there is to strive for, as well as being a great team experience. Those are results and participation that our zone can be proud of. Also, congratulations to Cohen Bloom on being the successful winner of Zone 8 player of the year and receiving a \$500.00 scholarship and backpack. Looking ahead to next year, our associations should be considering applying for hosting provincials, as it looks as if the Lower Mainland will be overwhelmed with the World Cup being hosted in part in Vancouver. We have many associations with great facilities and we have proven in the past that our associations can do the job.

To conclude, I would like to thank everyone who has helped this past year: our executive, association presidents, referees, coaches, other volunteers, and most of all the players.

Submitted by, Richard Paciejewski Zone 8 Director

### FEMALE BOX CHAIR YEAR END REPORT 2025

The 2025 female box lacrosse season was a very busy one, highlighted by many local tournaments, interlock play and provincial championships.

There were numerous successful tournaments throughout the province and many female players who were not on female teams or playing in a female league took advantage of the Minor Director Operating Policies that allowed them to apply to play with a female team in a tournament. As Female Box Chair, I processed several of these applications and the tournament coordinators were very supportive of these players. The one issue that did need to be clarified is that when these applications are submitted, it is up to the tournament host to place a player on the most appropriate team. Some applicants thought they could choose the team they wanted to be placed on.

For the most part the inter-locking league was successful with many island teams getting the opportunity to play against mainland teams. There were also some exhibition inter-locking games scheduled against zone teams from the interior. However, due to logistical issues with travel, most of these games ended up being canceled. Hopefully this can be improved upon next season. The other problem that occurred this past season is that some inter-lock games were scheduled on tournament weekends, long weekends or Team BC weekends. This is contrary to the "Inter-locking League Agreement" and as a result some games were canceled This is something that needs to be addressed before the 2026 season so I will be convening a zoom meeting to discuss it before our AGM.

The 2025 season cumulated with the Provincial Championships in Nanaimo. This year, for the first time, a team from the Thompson-Okanagan Minor Lacrosse Commission competed in female provincials. Thank you to the hard work by the TOMLC and to the Minor Directorate for making this happen.

The Female provincials was a huge undertaking with 41 teams and over 90 games. Unfortunately, because of this and issues with accommodations, the U15A division had to be moved to Coquitlam. I would like to thank Cathy Coulson, the Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association, and the many volunteers for hosting such a successful tournament under such difficult circumstances. I would also like to thank the Coquitlam Minor Lacrosse Association for helping out on such short notice and hosting the U15A division.

Due to the growth of female lacrosse and the shear number of teams declaring for provincials, the current format is no longer feasible and will have to be changed for next year. This will be a topic for discussion at the female planning meeting in October.

Finally, I would like to thank the respective zone female coordinators, Grant Morrison, Shane Mellish and Penni King. There are many issues that come up over the course of a season and these volunteers are to to be commended for their time and commitment to make it a successful one.

John Hamilton Female Box Chair



### **2025 Year End Report Vice Chair Minor Directorate**

The 2025 Box season wrapped up with Provincial Championships hosted in the Lower Mainland, Okanagan and on Vancouver Island. 190 teams across the province declared they were willing to compete in Provincials this year. In the Mixed divisions we had 83 teams approved for Provincial Championships and 41 for the Female Divisions. This is a 15% increase for Mixed and a 10% increase in Female from 2024. The majority of this expanded growth was recognized in the B and C divisions. The breakdown of each championship is indicated in the graphic below.

• U13 A1: 6	• U15 A1: 6
• U13 A2: 8	• U15 A2: 6
• U13 B: 10	• U15 B: 8
• U13 C: 10	• U15 C: 6
• U17 A1: 5	• F U22: 6
U17 A1: 5 U17 A2: 8	<ul><li>F U22: 6</li><li>F U17 A: 5</li><li>F U17 B: 6</li></ul>
22.1.2.2	• F U17 A: 5

This year we were able to hold the Coaches/Managers meeting virtually due to the roster verification process being handled in advance thanks to the staff at the BCLA. This change was viewed as a positive move which not only increased efficiency but also resulted in cost savings for many individuals. The implementation of RAMP for Provincial Championships this year was also a valuable tool and marked improvement in many aspects.

We are still waiting for some documentation and invoices from some hosts and supervisors so I cannot speak about the financial aspects at this point. There were some situations that arose during Provincials that brought some unique challenges, but all are being managed through the appropriate processes.

#### U13 Provincial's Port Coquitlam July 3-6

Big shout out to Host Director Heidi Davis and her team of highly motivated volunteers along with President Josh Wahl. Gord McIntosh and Dee Bowley-Cowan served as the Co-Supervisors. This combination developed a highly effective system that addressed all challenges and provided key oversight. Stacy Hemmerling was invaluable as the experienced Commissioner. Rob Arden and Jeff MacAuley worked together to cover all aspects under the Coaching Representative umbrella. OIC's Brent Rippberger and Dylan Taylor were extremely professional in their roles and provided an elevated level of officiating structure. Wuilbert Jaramillo and Sean Reid also attended as members of the Minor Directorate and were invaluable providing support in a multitude of areas. Port Coquitlam Minor Lacrosse Association should be commended for their successful Provincial Championship.

The final medal results were:

#### <u>A1</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Port Coquitlam	Coquitlam	Burnaby/Nort Shore

#### **A2**

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Coquitlam	Port Coquitlam	Langley

<u>B</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Penticton	Port Coquitlam	New West

<u>C</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
West Kootenay	Surrey	Quesnel

#### **U15 Provincials Langley July 10-13**

Kara Eastgate served as the Host Director and was well supported by President Alex Vanichuk along with local volunteers. Sandra Margetson and Wuilbert Jaramillo were the Co-Supervisors for this Provincial Championship. Commissioner Dennis Windsor and Coaching Representatives Michael O'Connor, Jeff MacAuley and Rob Arden also supported this team.

The OIC's were Matteo Fernandes and Spencer Pollack who oversaw the officials throughout the championship tournament. Bravo to LMLA for ensuring this Provincial Championship was a positive well-organized event for all athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators.

The final medal results were:

#### <u>A1</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Ridge Meadows	Coquitlam	Langley

#### <u>A2</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Port Coquitlam	Saanich	Ridge Meadows

В

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Penticton	Ridge Meadows	Peninsula

<u>C</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Sunshine Coast	Ridge Meadows	Chilliwack

#### Female Provincials Nanaimo July 10-13

We have experienced some fantastic growth in female box lacrosse which has resulted in 7 divisions for Provincial Championships. This year that yielded 41 teams scheduled for competition. We are grateful to NDLA for their willingness to host these championships this year. Host Director Cathy Coulson did an amazing job with here group of volunteers and was supported by President Bryan Norby.

While the teams were being determined through the playdown process, the stark realization that accommodations for the travelling teams were presenting a major challenge. Although providing accommodations has never been a responsibility of the BCLA/Minor Directorate, a service was offered as an option through a third-party provider. Later in the planning stages, we were informed by this third-party provider that they were unable to secure enough rooms to meet the demands. This resulted in a tough decision by the Minor Directorate to relocate one division (U15 A) to the association (Coquitlam) that was willing to do so. There were many factors that led to this decision along with concessions to support all teams competing. Ultimately, one team withdrew from this division for Provincials.

Co-Supervisors Tim Frost and Brande Terris oversaw the Female Provincials in Nanaimo. These two put in long hours for 4 days and brought valuable experience and judgement throughout the championship. Adam Gow was the Commissioner, Dan Chetner and Kelly Fines provided coaching oversight with Dallas Lister and Sarah Dymtruk serving as the OIC's for this event. Sean Reid, Shane Mellish and Dylan Taylor also provided tremendous support through this championship. I would also like to acknowledge Gord McIntosh for stepping up on short notice to serve as the Supervisor for the U15 A branch in Coquitlam. He was assisted by Jessica Lancaster from Port Moody Minor Lacrosse Association as well.

### The final medal results were:

### <u>U22</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Coquitlam	Victoria/Esquimalt	Poco/Port Moody

### <u>U17 A</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Ridge Meadows	Poco/Port Moody	Coquitlam

### <u>U17 B</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Ridge Meadows #2	Ridge Meadows #1	Delta

### <u>U15 A</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Ridge Meadows	Coquitlam	New West/Burnaby

### <u>U15 B</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Mission	Interior	Burnaby/New West

### <u>U13 A</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Burnaby/New West	Langley	Port Coquitlam

### <u>U13 B</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Burnaby	Richmond	Port Moody

#### U17 Provincials North Okanagan July 17-20

Miranda Marchand was the Host Director for this championship and along with the group of North Okanagan volunteers and President Colin Marchand, this championship was very well run. Richard Paciejeski and John Stevens were the Co-Supervisors that provided sound, sage leadership. Lynn Spraggs served as the Commissioner with Rob Arden and Jeff MacAuley filling the busy roles as coaching coordinators. The OICs for this championship were Jason Syrotuck and Adam Donald. Wuilbert Jaramillo once again took on a big role in another Provincial Championship and Heather Davis also volunteered her time throughout the weekend.

The final medal results were:

#### <u>A1</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Saanich	Langley/Surrey	Port Coquitlam

#### <u>A2</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
Abbotsford	Richmond	Port Moody

<u>B</u>

Gold	Silver	Bronze
North Okanagan	Prince George	Comox

There was a good balance of medal winners with large associations earning hardware, host associations winning gold and seeing the smaller clubs outside the Lower Mainland such as West Kootenay, Prince George, Quesnel, Comox and Sunshine Coast is great news for our sport.

I would also like to give a huge shoutout to the BCLA staff for their tireless support and dedication to the young athletes that we are here to support. Deb Heard, Dave Showers, Lucas Greene and Jill Krop performed an incredible amount of work and oversight leading up to, and throughout four Provincial Championships. The output of this team of four is phenomenal and I am grateful for their work ethic and patience.

Dave Samson

Vice Chair Minor Directorate

Provincial Championship Director

### **2025 U17 Provincials Report**

The 2025 U17 Co-ed provincials from July 17-20 were successfully hosted by North Okanagan Minor Lacrosse. Games were held at 3 arenas - Kal Tire Place, NorVal Arena (Armstrong), and Hassen Arena (Armstrong). The distance between arenas did not cause any problems and there were no complaints from teams having to travel the short distance to attend games.

The host club and its volunteers, led by Miranda Marchand, did a great job of organizing and helped the tournament run smoothly. Miranda has a lot of experience in running tournaments at this level and made it very easy for me and other Minor Directorate members to concentrate on our own tasks. The hosts had a raffle table to greet participants and spectators as they came into Kal Tire Place and a 50/50 draw. Sign-in for the team dressing rooms was conducted in the traditional fashion. No issues here. Security volunteers were visible in their BCLA vests, and no interactions were reported to me.

I appreciate a number of organizational changes that have been made that have saved the supervisors' time and effort:

- Fair play hats organized with labels already attached.
- Coaches choosing game MVP's. We used to have problems with the way sheets were filled in or not submitted at all.
- RAMP saves a lot of time and paperwork. Still new to me but looks like a great system. As always, we had some issues come up that needed our attention.
- Interaction between parent groups where I had to have coaches address their parents on acceptable behaviour. Things calmed down after that.
  - Making sure scorers' table has info on game time allotments.
- If a team has a protest or appeal, it needs to be done officially, not talking unofficially behind the scenes.
- 2 Gross Misconducts, 1 coach and 1 player, were disappointing to see, but we will let the system take its course.
- We had a few alcohol related incidents that we had to deal with. Associations need to remind their parents pre-provincials what expectations are.

It takes a huge community to make a Provincial Championships a successful endeavor and our lacrosse community showed up!

Thanks to my fellow Minor Directorate members John Stevens, Wuilbert Jaramillo (the RAMP Boss), and Heather Davis. Thanks to Coaches' Reps Rob Arden and Jeff Macaulay. It's always great to volunteer with you. Thanks to our OIC's Jason Syrotuk and Adam Donald. You did a great job of supporting your officials. Thanks Lynn Spraggs for being our commissioner and keeping on top of discipline issues. Thanks to BCLA staff for your planning and organization. It sure made our job a lot easier.

Submitted by, Richard Paciejewski Provincial Supervisor - Minor Directorate

### **MD Tournament Year End Report - 2025**

- There were 46 tournaments hosted by 22 associations.
- There were 18 associations that did not host a tournament. (based on BCLA list of Lacrosse Associations)
- There were 37 mixed only tournaments
- There were 5 females only tournaments.
- There were 4 tournaments that had mixed and female.
- There were 1690 tournament registration requests by our teams
- There were 88 tournament registration requests by 41 Alberta Teams and 1 Saskatchewan Team
- There were two requests by the Vancouver Stealth development program??????
- We had many teams that applied for every tournament they were able to. (This should stop.)
- We had several people apply for 20+ separate tournaments (for the whole association) (This should stop).
- > There was one tournament added mid-season.

### 46 tournaments hosted by 22 out of 40 associations

	tournament		2025	2024	2023	
Mixed (Male & Female)	Division	Tier	# of Tournaments	# of Tournaments	# of Tournaments	
	<u>U7</u>		7	7	9	
	U9		14	13	13	
		A1	5	4	4	
U11		A2	7	4	5	
011		В	11	10	11	
		С	5	3	5	
		A1	2	3	3	
U13		A2	5	3	4	
013		В	7	6	8	
		С	3	3	3	
		A1	3	3	3	
U15		A2	6	3	5	
013		В	7	6	6	
		С	2	2	2	
			4	3	3	
U17		A2	5	4	4	
		В	4	6	6	
Female (only)	Division	Tier	2025	2024	2023	
U9			1	2	2	
114.4		Α	2	4	_	
U11		В	3	4	5	
1142		Α	3	4	E	
U13		В	4	4	5	
U15			3	4	5	
			4	4		
114.7		Α	2	4	2	
U17		В	3	4	3	
JR			2	2	2	

### Notes from this season:

There were some improvements from past seasons as the tournament hosts from the large tournaments reached out and accepted teams earlier which made it better for tournaments that are not on the lower mainland. Teams had been waiting to get accepted into the lower mainland tournaments before committing to other tournaments. Having the hosts continue to accept the teams in a timely manner will help tournament across the province.

One serious issue that should be addressed for next season is the tournament application process. Currently, it is a free-for-all in how applications are made.

It is too easy to apply, you don't have to be from the team, and you don't need to know if the team will even attend if selected.

There were several examples of one person applying for many teams for all tournaments possible. And several examples of teams applying for every tournament even though they will only attend one or two. We need to make it so that teams only apply to the tournaments they are willing to commit to patriciate in.

This makes it very difficult for the tournament coordinators. The contact info from the person that did the applications is not the contact for the respective teams so it is very hard to make contact with the teams and tournament coordinators may think they have a huge number of applicants to make the tournament viable even though teams may not have committed.

BCLA should have rules around who can apply for tournament entrance and how many tournaments they can apply for. A possible solution for this would be to restrict the tournament application portal from anyone other that a Team Coach or Team Manager and even then, only after a team meeting so everyone is committed to participating in the tournament(s) that are applied for.

This year we tracked two additional requirements for Tournament Coordinators. Sending us their Tournament Rules and this was very successful. All tournaments sent in their rules and made appropriate adjustment when asked.

We also asked for the Minor Box Tournament Major Penalty Summary Report to be completed for all tournaments for U11 and above. We only received from 10 tournament. This needs to be tracked with consequences for not submitting.

Respectfully submitted by,

Shane Mellish Tournament Administrator (Minor)

### **Minor Directorate Coaches Technical Group Year End Report 2025**

I first off would like to thank all the people involved in the Coaches Technical group and the BCLA office for all the work they do throughout the year.

This season once again brought out allot of craziness with all involved ...Player, Coaches, Officials, Parents. In Minor we conducted multiple discipline hearings for coaches this season with suspensions ranging from warnings and extra training to a year suspension for Ryan Minty (Oceanside) for multiple suspensions for abuse and a 10-year suspension for Peter Youngblut (West Kootenay) for kicking a player. I would like to thank all the minor coaches' reps for their many hours that were spend having to deal with these issues.

The Coaches Technical group is working hard to find more clinicians especially in all the areas outside the lower mainland. I would ask all clubs to look for someone in your own association that may want to do this so we can have more clinics and be able to train more coaches. We are also looking at more ways to make clinics easier to attend.

I would like to thank all the host clubs that took on all the provincial and a huge thank you to all the volunteers that spent many hours of their time to make them all successful.

Rob Arden Vice Chair Coaches – Minor

#### Vice Chair of Minor Officials - Year-End Report

This year saw the continued and expanded use of RAMP, in collaboration with the BCLA. Overall, the implementation was approximately **70% successful**, but more training is needed outside the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island.

A key challenge remains getting game sheets signed before managers close them off and ensuring online game sheets are completed in real time. Some scorekeepers are still recording on a scratch pad and entering data after the game ends. This is problematic, as officials are not waiting around for delayed entry. To address this, commissions will need to enforce live score sheet updates, which will, in turn, allow the officials group to focus on ensuring game sheets are completed accurately and promptly.

Online registration was used for the first time in box lacrosse this year. From the officials group's perspective, it was a clear success. Only a small number of members encountered difficulties, and the BCLA office was able to bill clubs for those few remaining cases. The real benefit was having pre-clinic access to officials—allowing us to send and complete pre-clinic materials in advance. This led to a 90% reduction in no-shows. In the past, we had significant issues with both no-shows and unregistered officials arriving at clinics. This improvement meant learning facilitators could be better prepared and class sizes could be effectively managed.

We also introduced the **floor component** for all Entry, Level 1, and Level 2 officials. Overall, it was successful, though some officials did not participate due to time constraints. The officials group will review this in the off-season to determine if the floor component should remain mandatory at all levels.

#### **Tournaments & Provincials**

Most tournaments this year had qualified OICs (Officials-in-Charge); however, there were some that did not. As a reminder, all tournaments in BC must have a qualified and approved OIC, confirmed by the officials group. At the few tournaments I attended without a qualified OIC, notable problems arose—for example, in one case, the clock equipment was not operating correctly. With an OIC on-site, this could have been easily resolved and used as a valuable teaching opportunity for the officials present.

The officials group sees tournaments as an important platform to provide **hands-on guidance and additional instruction** to our officials. We do not get enough instructional time throughout the season, and tournaments—by their nature—bring a high concentration of games and officials together in one place.

A strong example of this was the **Delta U11 tournament** at the beginning of the season. We were invited to use the event as part of our **official's development program**. The OICs on-site, along with several learning facilitators, delivered **numerous hours of in-game supervision, feedback, and support** to the officials in attendance.

All four provincial tournaments this year were represented by **Northern BC**, **Interior BC**, **Vancouver Island**, **and the Lower Mainland**. One of the greatest challenges for an OIC is bringing together a crew of officials from across the province—many of whom have never worked together—each with different styles and standards of officiating, and molding them into a **cohesive**, **consistent team**. The greatest reward comes in the **medal games**, when you see two officials from different areas come together and deliver an outstanding performance.

I would like to personally thank for your efforts and many hours of work before, during, and after the tournaments.

Jason Syrotuk (U17), Adam Donald (U17), Matteo Fernandez (U15), Spencer Pollock (U15) Sarah Dmytruk (Female), Brent Rippenberger (U13), Dylan Taylor (U13)

For those unfamiliar, the role of an OIC begins **in late May or early June**. Each tournament has one designated OIC, paid a small stipend by the BCLA. A few years ago, the officials group introduced the **assistant OIC** role, as the job is too big for one person, especially when events span two or three arenas.

#### OIC duties include:

- Recruiting qualified officials to work the tournament
- Gathering references and conducting pre-selection evaluations
- Participating in 2–3 provincial planning meetings to ensure all tournaments are staffed and standards are consistent
- Communicating expectations to assigned officials
- Coordinating travel and accommodations with the BCLA office
- Scheduling games (often with incomplete information and multiple unknowns)

#### Once on-site, OICs:

- Arrive the day before to inspect arenas and equipment
- Attend the coaches meeting
- Hold team meetings with officials
- Monitor as many games as possible, offering pre-game and post-game discussions
- Oversee game reports to ensure they are completed correctly and on time
- Spend evenings scheduling the next day's games and writing supervision reports (often finalizing schedules close to midnight)

#### Post Tournament, OICs:

• Completes supervisions on all officials for the tournament as a recap of their development through the week.

This role is **demanding**, **time-consuming**, **and critical** to the smooth running of tournaments.

**Abuse of officials** continues to be a serious concern. At present, I am not convinced that the officials group and the broader lacrosse community share the same definition of "abuse of an official." Until we achieve alignment on this issue, the problem will persist—officials will continue to quit, and the cycle will continue.

It is troubling that **coaches**, **presidents**, **and commissioners all appear to have direct access to speak with officials about games**. This is not professional practice, particularly when the official is a minor who may not fully understand the consequences of their words when answering questions from perceived superiors. Often these questions are **leading and misguided**, leaving officials feeling powerless and questioning themselves. We must do better to protect officials and the **integrity of the game**. Allowing outside influences to sway an official's judgment is damaging to the sport.

An important discovery this year was that BCLA's discipline guidelines do not align with Lacrosse Canada's penalty levels. On several occasions, an official was asked to reduce a Match on Official (Rule 62 – Abusing Officials) to a Gross Misconduct (Rule 48/62). Upon investigation, I learned that commissioners have more options for suspensions and hearings with a Gross Misconduct than with a Match on Official. It must be stressed that a Match on Official is the highest penalty an official can give, and it must be treated with the utmost seriousness.

### Off-Season Work

The officials group will be working with **RAMP** again to address inconsistencies in the **game sheet penalty codes**. We also intend to collaborate with the **coaches group** to find effective solutions for **eliminating abuse from the game**.

Thank you to **everyone who has supported the officials group** this season—your efforts have been noticed, and they are greatly appreciated.





### **U13 PROVINCIAL OIC REPORT:**

This year, the U13 Provincials took place from July 3rd to July 6th, 2025, in Port Coquitlam. The host association was the Port Coquitlam Minor Lacrosse Association. Over the four days, the tournament featured a total of 77 games across four divisions: A1, A2, B & C, with 34 teams participating. This year, a total of 29 officials were used during the weekend. Four of these officials were dedicated solely to shot clocking during round-robin games. The officials in the tournament represented various leagues across the province, with representation from the four commissions. The facility used for this tournament was the Poco Community Arena. This facility was great because it had all three arenas in one central location, which made allocating and scheduling a much easier task.

During the tournament, several challenges arose. The first challenge was that both OICs received feedback on the selection of local and provincial rest during the tournament on several occasions. The second challenge was that some tournament members attempted to work outside their lanes and dictate next steps for the official post-game proceedings. The third challenge during the tournament was that both OICs were forced to deal with poor official conduct, which ultimately led to the removal of an official. However, upon reflection, it could've been handled differently. This experience has served as a valuable lesson in human management. The fourth challenge was that officials occasionally made last-minute cancellations when allocating games due to changes in their abilities. That said, thankfully, no officials who were already presidents at the tournament. We're willing to be flexible and have their schedules adjusted, or we can accommodate other officials who become available at short notice. We are internally grateful for their flexibility. Lastly, there were some challenges using the ramp system this year, as this was the first tournament using the system. There were several glitches across the board. Officials struggled to read or access the platform during games, and team personnel often made last-minute roster changes.

Additionally, commissioners were unable to review the game sheet post-game. However, as a provincial group, we were able to work through and manage this process with great success. Thank you for the positive teamwork and communication.

The accommodations were adequate for the travelling officials. That said, it was booked in two separate blocks. The officials who were working on the floor stayed in Poco, which was nice and close to the rinks. However, Dylan and I stayed in Surrey and commuted, with travel times of about 15 minutes each way, which was sufficient. We want to acknowledge all the officials who worked with us over the weekend. They put in a lot of hard work and grew a lot over the weekend. However, that said, we would like to recognize the following people in their work, and they were rewarded with on-floor medal assignments:

<u>U 13 C Bronze:</u> Josh Jaramillo and Brendan Pawliw <u>U13 C Gold:</u> Matteo Fernandez and Josh Jaramillo <u>U13 B Bronze:</u> Gage Dunning and Jeremy Duncan <u>U13 B Gold:</u> Brody McKiddie and Nathan Jaramillo. <u>U13 A2 Bronze:</u> Reed Watson and Kallie Cooper <u>U13 A2 Gold:</u> Gage Dunning and Bryan Norby

**U13 A1 Bronze:** Nathan Jaramillo and Karl Christiansen

U13 A1 Gold: Matthew Smith and Jean Beaton

In closing, we would like to thank the BCLA Office and staff for their work in helping us organize the tournament. A thank you to Gord, Dee, Wuilbert, Sean, Rob, Jeff, and the hosting committee of Poco. Thank you for your continued support in time for lacrosse.

Respectfully

Brent Rippberger U13 Provincial OIC Dylan Taylor U13 Assistant Provincial OIC

# U15 Provincials Final Report

By Spencer Pollock

# **Outline**

Summary - last
Referee selection
Meeting and planning
How games went and referee selection for finals
Facilities
Association hosting
Closing remarks

# Summary

This report summarizes the 2025 U15 Provincials, highlighting key aspects of referee selection, planning, game execution, facilities, and host association performance. The event was largely successful due to effective communication, a balanced mix of referee experience, and excellent support from the Langley Minor Lacrosse Association and venue staff. Some areas for improvement include earlier and more consistent communication with officials regarding provincials applications, and better management of shot clock duties to avoid relying on officials playing in the tournament. Overall, the tournament was well-officiated and provided a positive experience for participants.

### Referee Selection

Referee selections were relatively straightforward. Having access to the Google Form answered for selection made things quite easy. That said, there were a lot of emails sent from referees not on the list requesting they be added to the selection list just 2 weeks before provincials. Emails were sent at the beginning of the year telling officials to apply, however I would say an additional 25% of officials on the final list were added in the 2 weeks leading up to the championships. I would recommend communicating with officials throughout the season to apply to provincials or at least a gentle reminder mid season (however I know this should come from head referees).

Being the same weekend as Female provincials, there was a decent amount of coordination between Matteo, Sarah, Dallas and I that led up to provincials. This was critical to making sure we had separate lists of referees and there was no major overlap.

The selection included a good mix of newer officials to provincials, and some senior officials who have attended in previous years. I think this mix is critical to the success of provincials and I

personally highly recommend it in future years. This mix is critical because having new officials on floor with experienced officials helps with the new officials' anxiety with provincials as well as necessary for the passage of experience and mentorship. That said, also giving two newer officials the opportunity to referee a game together is another critical experience for the officials to grow and develop their own game, which can be done when they've had the experience from prior provincials or better when passed on when reffing with more expertised officials during provincials.

# Meeting and Planning

In the weeks leading up to the championships, there were numerous meetings held between both my partner Matteo and myself as well as with Dallas and Sarah for coordination with Female provincials. These meeting sessions were vital to ensuring that both Matteo and I as well as Dallas and Sarah were on the same page.

Separately, Matteo and I were in solid communication in the weeks leading up, both lending a hand to communication with officials leading up.

During the weekend we were constantly phoning and texting to ensure things were going smoothly. We also had communication with officials during the weekend, as well as consistent communication with tournament staff and BCLA directors for the tournament.

I would like to call out and thank Kara, Jeff and Dennis for their outstanding work ethic and support.

# Referee Games and Referee Medal Selection

Overall, games were well officiated and there were no major issues (aside from the one player crosschecking Brent Rippberger, but that was handled accordingly and reported as such). Games were on time or slightly behind schedule (due to overtime) but there was for the most part, more than enough time for officials to change/switch out and get ready for their own games. Quite a few times we had to rely on ourselves or a few other officials to handle shot clock, which was not ideal, as most of the younger officials were playing in the tournament we could not always use them and were told from the local allocator by the coaches that they could not shot clock "more than 1 game per day" which made assigning difficult. Overall, the games went smoothly and we were able to evaluate most of the games between Matteo and myself. The final medal selection for officials was straight-forward. Both Matteo and I had our idea for officials by the Friday night, and solidified them the Saturday evening sending out the final games. We were relatively on the same page, and had only maybe 2 officials that we went back and forth with, but not for too long (just on who we thought would be better pairings with their partners and with the teams on floor to set them up for success).

# **Facilities**

The Langley Events Center and Fieldhouse was a fantastic location to host the provincials at. The combination of both the main floor and the fieldhouse, and having all games hosted on site, made things much easier than other tournaments I've done there in the past. Tournaments should be hosted at the same location so as to make it easier for teams and officials to travel between arenas and games with no travel time outside of their initial travel to the rink at the start of the day and leaving at the end.

The facilities were clean and well maintained, with staff working during the day to keep things clean. Additionally, volunteer security was monitoring the location constantly and having those extra sets of eyes helped when push came to shove.

# Association and Hosting

The Langley Minor Lacrosse Association's hosting and assistance was very well done. Langley provided a great location, support and amenities to all teams and officials from everything that I witnessed. They were more than happy to help us in any way they could, they provided Gatorades, water, muffins, snacks to all officials. They provided lunch and dinner to the OIC's, volunteers and other staff. Langley hosted a fantastic tournament and I would recommend (if I can) that they be considered for more provincial tournaments in the future because of their care for both officials and teams when hosting a tournament.

# Closing Remarks

With some closing notes, I think both Matteo and I did a good job as head officials for the U15 Provincial Championships. If we had a bit more time leading up to the tournament, we could have had our officials picked a bit sooner and had resources done and ready ahead of time, as opposed to close to the date like we did this year. We communicated well both to one another and also to the officials of the tournament and staff whenever we could. We handled difficult situations well, we gave advice and experience to the officials after games and only intervened during games when absolutely necessary (example: stopping the game to remove a fan that had already been removed). Also, due to critical officials, we never had a game that started without an official on the floor, and games were almost always on time because of this (aside from an overtime). I personally would OIC again in the future and assist provincials with my experience from this carrying forward. I thank BCLA, Dallas and Angie for the opportunity to assist with these 2025 U15 Provincial Championships.

I, Jason Syrotuck, had the pleasure of being Lead OIC with Adam Donald as Assistant OIC at U17 Provincial Championships in North Okanagan (Vernon and Armstrong), overseeing 23 teams in 3 divisions and working with 20 of our top officials from across the province.

Prior to the tournament, confirming the number of hotel rooms was critical for the planning of the event, and it delayed the formal invitation to the selected officials. TOJLL Playoffs taking place on the same weekend removed a large portion of local officials that were either officiating or playing at the TOJLL playoffs. Avoiding that conflict would increase the opportunity for officials in that region for development, and ultimately reduce the costs required to bring in the sufficient number of officials from other regions.

Championships held in different regions will have different needs for travelling officials and should be identified as part of the host selection process, awarding championships in higher populated areas means fewer travelling officials are required, and less populated areas require more travelling officials. Travel logistics costs for officials were close to optimal given the home cities of the officials selected.

The officials under 19 at this event could not check themselves into the hotel rooms, which caused a bit of friction, but everyone checked in and stayed as planned. BC Hockey runs annual events with officials who are minors in hotels, so I've reached out to them about how they do that so we can find a best practice for everyone involved.

3 Official System (3 OS) was not used at this event. Given this is the highest calibre of minor lacrosse in our province, and some officials had more 3 OS experience than 2 OS, I think 3 OS should be set as the standard for U17 championship games to allow us to do our best job in the most important games of the season. I understand that bringing more officials could dramatically increase costs, but with the 11 officials already staying in hotels during the event, the small relative additional cost to deploy 3 OS for the 12 cross-over and medal games seemed like a missed opportunity.

Emphasis going into the tournament for officials and coaches was primarily about communication, on and off the floor. In preparation for a hot weekend in the Okanagan, we established an Official's timeout for water breaks approximately half way through every period where players were always welcome to go to their benches. Teams were notified at the coaches meeting and we wanted to be consistent through the entire event. During this water break, officials would make themselves available for any questions with a quick walk by both benches. Officials and coaches were explicitly told conversations at the ends of periods were not permitted in any way, and the mid-period break was the opportunity for communication. I believe this procedure benefitted the game and improved our communication with benches throughout the entire tournament. This procedure is very similar to what the RMLL implements in their regular season play.

Other pre-tournament information was gathered from the officiating staff through an online form. Responses to that included the officials' self-attested strengths and weaknesses, as well as situations that Adam and I could answer prior to the tournament. It included a quiz to ensure we could be consistent in key situations. Crease rules required some clarifications, and some other good "what if" situations that were discussed at our pre-tournament zoom meeting with all the officials.

The tournament coordinators at North Okanagan treated us very well, with water and fruit in dressing rooms, as well as meals available throughout the day including sandwiches, lasagna, chili. Big thank you to them for welcoming our staff and taking care of us during the weekend. BCLA executive was great to work with and enjoy the games, there were some situations that required some correction, which highlighted the need for a video review policy, which I would recommend BCLA start with reviewing BC Hockey's policy found here (https://www.bchockey.net/member-info/regulations/bc-hockey-policy-manual).

On-floor performance of our staff was overall strong. Standard of play was not an issue, even with officials from across the province, officials had a good feel for when physicality was legal, when minor interference infractions were needed, and when penalties were required. Mistakes were certainly made, some in judgement and some in rule knowledge, but for the most part these had minimal negative impacts to the games.

One mechanical emphasis that was new for most of the staff was to focus on managing the players immediately after goals. For lead officials to stay light on their feet and surveil for any hotspots, and for trail officials to step forward immediately after the whistle to have a presence if needed, and to stay engaged with all the players on the floor until lead gets the ball out of the net, delaying reporting the goal until lead has taken over managing the floor. These mechanics were put to use immediately in a few games, allowing us to avoid post-goal penalties, even as tensions rose.

The biggest differentiator that separated top officials was positioning and energy. Officials who worked hard around the crease made more accurate calls, and gave themselves credibility to sell those calls. Officials transitioning to trail who followed the play closely were more able to protect the shooter better and have a verbal and physical presence with the players. Officials that ran with the play while transitioning from trail to lead caught more infractions than those that rushed to get into lead positioning when players were still in the neutral zone.

We had 3 goalkeeper equipment inspections and I believe the assessment for "conformity" was inconsistent. It's clear we need a better explanation and guidance from Lacrosse Canada on what is considered legal or illegal, or to establish our own.

Jason Syrotuck U17 Provincial Championship - Official in Charge

### Medal Game Assignments:

A1 Gold: Ryan Beauchamp, Caleb Hartwig
A1 Bronze: Marcus Friesen, Nathan Sutter
Benji Dos Santos, Gage Dunning
Danny Ortutay, James Knoke
Ty Clark, Nathan Jaramillo

**B Bronze:** Kristen Armstrong, Kieran Noppen

#### Recommendations to improve future championship events:

- Request from Lacrosse Canada, or failing that, establish within BCLA, clarity on the meaning of "conformity" regarding goalkeeper equipment including example pictures and details of legal and illegal equipment. Covering elements such as; the inclusion of foam vs plastic components of leg pads, appropriately sized equipment relative to the size of the person, etc.
- 2) Establish expected officiating travel requirements for BCLA as part of the host selection process. Championships outside of the Lower Mainland and Greater Victoria areas will require more officiating accommodations and executing those logistics should start earlier.
- 3) Propose expectation for 3 OS at championship events, could be limited either by division, or for cross-over and medal games. Situations may come where it is impossible, but we should strive to provide the best experience possible during the most important games. The volume of games makes complete 3 OS coverage in remote areas unrealistic.
- 4) Establish a procedure and best practice for officials under 19 to travel to events requiring hotels. Other sports manage this and it's worth the effort to reward our highest performing officials so they attend these premier development events.
- 5) Support the creation of a Video Review Policy within BCLA, and ensure that the review process must include officiating leadership/executive in the determination of the outcome.

# Appendix: Roster and Complete Assignments.

	Kal Tire 1 6am-10pm	R1	R2	SCO		Sunbelt Armstrong 6am-10pm	R1	R2	SCO		Hassen Arm	strong 6am-10pm	R1	R2	SCO
Thursday															
9:30-11:00					9:30-11:00					9:30-11	00				
11:00-12:30	Langley Surrey/v Ridge Meadows	Benji Dos Santos	Georgia Stowards	Gage Dunning	11:00-12:30	West Kootenay v Langley/Surrey	Josh Point	Brendan Pawliw	Rylan Yargeau	11:00-1	2:30 Vancouver v	Coquitlam	Matteo Fernandes	Colten Colmorgen	Cohen C-M
12:30-2:00	NW/Bby v Saanich	Jaysen Maclean	Gage Dunning	Kristen Armstrong	12:30-2:00	Mission v Pt Moody	James Knoke	Danny Ortutay	Rylan Yargeau	12:30-2	:00 Penticton v F	idge Meadows/Pt Moody	Ty Clark	Nathan Sutter	Cohen C-M
2:00-3:30	Chilliwack v Abbotsford	Benji Dos Santos	Kristen Armstrong	Jaysen Maclean	2:00-3:30	Delta v Kamioops	Josh Point	Marcus Friesen	Rylan Yargeau	2:00 - 3	30 Nanaimo v R	ichmond	Aiden Hertslet	Matteo Fernandes	Keziah Marchand
3:30-5:00	Coquitlam v Prince George	Gage Dunning	Brendan Pawliw	Jaysen Maclean	3:30-5:00	Langley/Surrey v Comox	Georgia Stowards	Kieryn Noppen	Cohen C-M	3:30 - 5	:00 Juan de Fuc	v North OK	Ty Clark	Colten Colmorgen	Keziah Marchand
5:00-6:30	Ridge Meadows v NW/Bby	Nathan Jaramillo	Ryan Beauchamp	Benji Dos Santos	5:00-6:30	Ridge Meadows/Pt Moody v West Kooter	James Knoke	Marcus Friesen	Cohen C-M	5:00-6:	0 Poco v Saan	ich	Danny Ortutay	Nathan Sutter	Keziah Marchand
6:30-8:00	Richmond v Chilliwack	Kristen Armstrong	Ryan Beauchamp	Sylas Holmgren	6:30-8:00	Pt Moody v Delta	Ty Clark	Kieryn Noppen	Cohen C-M	6:30-8	00				
8:00-9:30	Prince George v North OK	Nathan Jaramillo	Jaysen Maclean	Sylas Holmgren	8:00-9:30					8:00-9:	10				
Friday	KalTire	R1	R2	SCO		SunBelt/NorVal	R1	R2	SCO						
8:00-9:30					8:00-9:30					8:00-9:	10				
9:30-11:00	Nanaimo v Chilliwack	Ryan Beauchamp	Kristen Armstrong	Marcus Friesen	9:30-11:00	Vancouver v JDF	Jaysen Maclean	Georgia Stowards	Cohen C-M	9:30-11	00				
11:00-12:30	Comox v West Kootenay	Marcus Friesen	Brendan Pawliw	Gage Dunning	11:00-12:30	NW/Bby v Langley Surrey	Benji Dos Santos	Nathan Sutter	Cohen C-M	11:00-1	2:30				
12:30-2:00	Ridge Meadows v Poco	James Knoke	Caleb Hartwig	Kristen Armstrong	12:30-2:00	Langley /Surrey v Penticton	Nathan Jaramillo	Kieryn Noppen	Matteo F	12:30-2	:00				
2:00-3:30	Kamloops v Pt Moody	Gage Dunning	Ryan Beauchamp	Sylas Holmgren	2:00-3:30	Juan de Fuca v Prince George	Georgia Stowards	Danny Ortutay	Nathan Sutter	2:00 - 3	30				
3:30-5:00	Delta v Mission	Caleb Hartwig	Ty Clark	Sylas Holmgren	3:30-5:00	Comox v Ridge Meadows/Pt Moody	Jim Point	Nathan Jaramillo	Georgia Stowards	3:30 - 5	:00				
5:00-6:30	West Kootenay v Penticton	Brendan Pawliw	James Knoke	Sylas Holmgren	5:00-6:30	Richmond v Abbotsford	Nathan Sutter	Kieryn Noppen	Cohen C-M	5:00-6:	10				
6:30-8:00	Poco v NW/Bby	Kristen Armstrong	Marcus Friesen	James Knoke	6:30-8:00	Prince George v Vancouver	Matteo Fernandes	Benji Dos Santos	Owen Lee	6:30-8	00				
8:00-9:30	Saanich v Langley/Surrey	Gage Dunning	Ty Clark	Marcus Friesen	8:00-9:30	North OK v Coquitlam	Josh Point	Danny Ortutay	Owen Lee	8:00-9:	10				
Saturday	Kaltire	R1	R2	SCO		NorVal	R1	R2	SCO						
8:00-9:30	Ridge Meadows/Pt Moody v Langley/Surrey	Ryan Beauchamp	Josh Point	Danny Ortutay	8:00-9:30	Kamloops v Mission	Gage Dunning	Kristen Armstrong	Cohen C-M	8:00-9:	10				
9:30-11:00	Penticton v Comox	Danny Ortutay	Brendan Pawliw	James Knoke	9:30-11:00	Abbotsford v Nanaimo	Nathan Sutter	Marcus Friesen	Kieryn Noppen	9:30-11	00				
11:00-12:30	Saanich v Ridge Meadows	Benji Dos Santos	James Knoke	Danny Ortutay	11:00-12:30	Coquitlam v Juan de Fuca	Caleb Hartwig	Georgia Stowards	Cohen C-M	11:00-1	2:30				
12:30-2:00	Langley/Surrey v Poco	Nathan Jaramillo	Ty Clark	Ryan Beauchamp	12:30-2:00	North Ok v Vancouver	Matteo Fernandes	Kieryn Noppen	Cohen C-M	12:30-2	:00				
Saturday	Kaltire	R1	R2	SCO		NorVal	R1	R2	SCO						
2:00-3:30	Port Moody v Richmond	James Knoke	Ryan Beauchamp	Nathan Sutter	2:00-3:30					2:00 - 3	:30				
3:30-5:00	Abbotsford vs Richmond	Benji Dos Santos	Caleb Hartwig	Nathan Jaramillo	3:30-5:00					3:30 - 5	:00				
5:00-6:30	A1 Semi 1st vs 4th	Danny Ortutay	Nathan Sutter	Marcus Friesen	5:00-6:30	B semi 1st pool1 v 2nd pool2	Ty Clark	Brendan Pawliw	Kristen Armstrong	5:00-6:	10				
6:30-8:00	A1 Semi 2nd v 3rd	Nathan Jaramillo	Marcus Friesen	Benji Dos Santos	6:30-8:00	B semi 1st pool2 v 2nd pool1	Kristen Armstrong	Josh Point	Ty Clark	6:30-8	00				
Sunday	Kaltire					Kaltire									
9:00-11:00	GOLD B - PG vs North Ok	Ty Clark	Nathan Jaramillo	Josh Point	9:00-11:00	BRONZE B - Comox vs LangleySurrey	Kristen Armstrong	Kieryn Noppen	Georgia Stowards						
11:00-1:00	GOLD A2 - Richmond vs Abbotsford	Benji Dos Santos	Gage Dunning	Brendan Pawliw	11:00-1:00	BRONZE A2 - Port Moody vs Delta	Danny Ortutay	James Knoke	Georgia Stowards						
1:00-3:00	GOLD A1 - Saanich v Langley	Ryan Beauchamp	Caleb Hartwig	Nathan Jaramillo	1:00-3:00	BRONZE A1 - Ridge vs Poco	Marcus Friesen	Nathan Sutter	Georgia Stowards						
			1		1	-									

Name	City
Georgia Stowards	North Okanagan
Nathan Jaramillo	Kelowna
Josh Point	North Okanagan
Jim Point	North Okanagan
Nathan Sutter	Comox
Ryan Beauchamp	Campbell River
Gage Dunning	Victoria
Ty Clark	Victoria
Marcus Friesen	Langley
James Knoke	Port Moody

Name	City
Benji Dos Santos	Surrey
Danny Ortutay	Chilliwack
Kieryn Gilles-Noppen	Chilliwack
Brendan Pawliw	Prince George
Kristen Armstrong	Penticton
Caleb Hartwig	Delta
Matteo Fernandes	Burnaby
Aiden Hertslet	Ridge Meadows
Jaysen Maclean	Port Alberni
Colten Colmorgen	North Okanagan

# Female Provincial Championships – Officials/OIC Report

From the officials and OIC perspective, Nanaimo did a fabulous job hosting the Female Provincials this year. The three facilities were very well set up, with two designated change rooms for both female and male officials, clean restrooms, and extremely helpful volunteers.

There was no shortage of snacks, meals, and drinks at each arena for the officials, with gluten-free and vegetarian options available upon request. Water and Powerade were provided in the change rooms, and snacks and meals were available all day in the tournament office.

Over the four days, we had 93 games in six facilities, with the U15A division hosted on the mainland across three different floors and Nanaimo hosting games in three arenas as well. To cover all 93 games, we required 58 officials. Of those, we utilized 24 officials to cover the medal games in both Nanaimo and on the mainland.

### Challenges

The officials group was excluded from discussions regarding the removal of the U15A division. Several logistical challenges were overlooked in that decision-making process. I first learned of the removal through a rumor from a parent on a lower mainland team, which was later confirmed by the Vice Chair a few hours afterward.

This last-minute change caused major disruption, as many of the originally assigned officials were traveling with U15A teams. This left us short-staffed with very limited notice. Additionally, misinformation circulated to the point where we were hesitant to make concrete changes in case the information proved incorrect. Communication from the Vice Chair was poor and often failed to address critical questions for the officials group.

At one point, we were told that the mainland clubs would "take care of the officials," omitting the officials executive from any discussions entirely. While I understand these were difficult decisions to make, room availability information had been known months in advance, and better communication could have avoided many of these issues.

### **Moving Forward**

If I could change one thing for future Female Provincial tournaments, it would be to have all games in one location and to assign an OIC for each venue. Having three arenas in Nanaimo but only two OICs—while also being responsible for allocating officials for the U15A games on the mainland—was extremely challenging. Dallas and I were often up past midnight finalizing allocations and arranging carpooling for out-of-town officials.

With the growth of the female game, I believe it's time to consider restructuring. Possible options include:

- Splitting the Female Provincials into separate A and B tournaments, or
- Integrating them into the Co-Ed Provincials.

This year, we essentially ran four provincial tournaments in four days—U13 A & B, U15 A & B, U17 A & B, and U22. While I understand the original reasoning for having all female teams together on one weekend, I don't believe this format is sustainable. As a former female minor player myself, I love seeing the growth of the female side of box lacrosse over the past 10 years, but with that growth comes the need for change.

If the female tournament is to remain in its current format, it should have its **own dedicated weekend**. Pairing it with any Co-Ed tournaments places significant strain on the officials group.

Finally, in the future, it would be wise to book accommodations for the officials group as soon as the tournament location is confirmed. In almost all cases, accommodations will be required, and securing them early will prevent the last-minute scramble we faced this year.

### **Medal Game Officials**

- **U22 Gold** Gage Dunning, Jaysen Maclean
- **U22 Bronze** Angie Reid, Bryan Norby
- U17A Gold Nathan Sutter, Gavin Pendergast
- **U17A Bronze** Colton Merner, Eric Forbes
- U17B Gold Charleton Li, Wes Tyre
- **U17B Bronze** Bryan Norby, Jaysen Maclean
- **U15A Gold** Ryan LaCroix, Maclean Milne
- **U15A Bronze** Karl Christiansen, Matthew Smith
- U15B Gold Katelyn Hiltz, Marcus Parmer
- **U15B Bronze** Maisie Bruce, Taylor Jones
- **U13A Gold** Declan Kirby, Charleton Li
- **U13A Bronze** Garrett Watson, Maisie Bruce
- **U13B Gold** Jaysen Maclean, Cruiz Heemskerk
- **U13B Bronze** Erik Forbes, Brendan Pawliw

### **Acknowledgements**

I would like to commend Cathy Coulsen and Danica Palmer, along with their crew, for doing an outstanding job under difficult circumstances. Your efforts were critical to the success of the event. I can clearly see that if you had been on the mainland with the U15A teams, the tournament would have had a significant void without your presence.

Thank you also to Sean and Kelly for supporting us from the BCLA side and for having our backs.

Finally, the biggest thank you goes out to our officials who participated in this tournament. You all did a fantastic job, and the officials group truly appreciates your hard work, flexibility, and dedication.