



# PACIFIC COAST FIELD LACROSSE LEAGUE

## Tuesday, Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Meeting Minutes – Women's & Youth

Call to Order 7:08pm

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#### Roll Call

##### Attendees (28):

Brad Romano – Chair	Burnaby – Rhonda Manson
Stacy Paterson – Vice Chair Women's	Chilliwack – Logan Engel
Lynda Callard – Treasurer/Registrar	Delta – Michael Miele
Angie Wolfe – Secretary	Langley – Charlie Jones
Susan dos Santos – Youth Officials Allocator	Mission – Imat Grewel, Tej Grewal, Matthew Flury
Angie Reid – Women's Field Head Official	New West – Don Ocampo, Lara Tayler
Ryan Nose – BCLA Vice Chair Field Officials	Port Coquitlam – Kristen Sheidow, Erica McEddie
Shanda Collins – YU7 Commissioner	Ridge Meadows – Jaime Yerbury
Andria Milliard – WU7/WU9 Commissioner	Surrey – Jeff Glass, Karen Piper
Pam Mason – YU11 Commissioner/Richmond	Valley – Karen Cameron
Wendy Thompson – WU11 Commissioner	Vancouver – Alex Miller
Adanacs – Sean Droulis, Bradley Foster	

##### Absent (9):

Cal Davies – Vice Chair Youth	Jackie White – WU13 Commissioner
Nicole Kokoska – Director at Large	Victoria Nicolson – YU15 Commissioner
Mary Clare – Head Commissioner/YU17/YU19	Dennis Windsor – WU17 Commissioner
Roger Paterson – YU9 Commissioner	North Shore
Mike Ortutay – YU13 Commissioner	

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#### Land Acknowledgment

The Pacific Coast Field Lacrosse League acknowledges that the sacred lands on which we play are the traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples. We are grateful to participate in the Creator's game and we thank these nations; Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, Semiahmoo, Musqueam, Katzie, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Qayqayt, Tsawwassen and Stó:lō

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#### Acceptance of the Aug 8<sup>th</sup> and Sept 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes

Motioned Brad Romano  
Seconded Stacy Paterson

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#### Chair Report:

- September very busy month for the Executive, we are currently above 230 releases league-wide, Women's and Youth combined.
- Several questions on processes and some assumptions regarding player movement. Our takeaways this season is that we will need to communicate more directly and distinctly with clubs on what we are doing and why we are doing it.
- Need to address the term "merge teams".
  - Registration for any BCLA sanctioned activity falls under BCLA General Operating Policy Section 7.02

- All Minor/Youth players (Box/Field) must register within the set boundaries (a primary residence within a city, town, municipality, school district, etc. of the appropriate Directorate as determined by the specific Commission/League.
- This means that not even the Field Directorate can make exceptions to a player registering within their boundary.
- When it comes to the term “merging” there is no policy that permits players from one club to play for another club without a release. The FD cannot make an exception to this and in fact we have had a case where a registration went all the way up to the BCLA Board in order to deal with the registration disposition.
- What the PCFLL has done over the past three seasons is directed releases from one club to another in order to facilitate teams at different age groups. This is permitted under policy and allows for groups of players to move from one club to another to stay together and often clubs will exchange releases at different tiers or age groups, cooperating as they need to.
- Sometimes leads to the unintended consequence of not having a team below to call up from.
- Richmond/Vancouver is a true merged club. All their teams are combined at all levels, complete merger of operations.
- Field Directorate meeting in Whistler Friday, Oct 20
  - There will be an FD meeting in Whistler at 6pm Friday night
  - FD asking to Limit attendance to one representative from each club, even if your club is entitled to two reps (Women’s and Youth) normally as the space is small. Reps will not be permitted to vote on anything at the meeting as they will only be Observers. Please have a rep from your club tentatively ready to attend on Friday night. I know this conflicts with the Box MD Special Session that goes 7-9pm but it’s important that we show up as invited.
  - If anyone would like to meet up with the respective PCFLL executive, please let us know. All PCFLL Exec will attend other than Cal who is unable to make it.
- YU11 Provincial Tournament in Nanaimo Feb 9-11th
  - Grants
    - BCLA On The Move Travel Grant & BC Ferries Travel Grant Program potentially available. - Brad to check with office on U11 as the website form lists U13 as youngest age group.
    - Deadline to register will be December as per all other Provincials.
  - Officials
    - There will be opportunity for some Officials to participate but it will depend on the number of teams that participate.
    - Note that referees under 19 are not able to get their travel funded by BCLA. They may travel with a parent.
- Tiering/Fall Schedule standings
  - Schedule posted for weekend of October 14 and 15.
  - October 22 Youth schedule will be up imminently.
  - TBR games need to be completed by Sunday October 22, 2023.
  - Commissioners and Executive will meet Monday October 23, 2023 to move teams as identified through tiering. We anticipate being able to include tournament results in determining any movement.
  - No week off, but schedules for week 1 of Fall may not be published until Friday or Saturday
  - December 16/17 will be a TBR weekend so last regular league will be December 9/10
  - For larger tiers (8 teams +) the intent is to divide the tiers into 2 groups, Silver and Red, based on tiering (high and low teams to be divided into 2). Teams will play in their tier moving into playoffs. The intent is for each tier will have a league banner and there’s no crossover.
  - Handling playoffs will take some creativity as last year playoffs / championships ranked all teams 1 through X and the top 5 went to provincials.
  - Women’s won’t be scheduled Jan 13-14 due Sand Storm will be Jan 13-14. Youth will potentially play on both Saturday and Sunday of Jan 13 and 14 as we anticipate no women’s teams that weekend.

- We may have a Championship weekend or Provincials playdown weekend January 20 and 21 as a club may have field available through that weekend.
- YU13 and YU15 teams should prepare now that players may not be available as Team BC will be attending Sand Storm as per their calendar. Fusion teams may also be attending. It is not acceptable to use missing players as an excuse to reschedule.
  - Call-ups should be used if necessary.
  - Teams that are missing players may request a reschedule, however, given the tight timelines of League Championships and the requirement to get Provincials teams sent to the Field Directorate, it is not required that the opposing team accept the request.
  - The team making the request to change the game shall be responsible for field costs regardless if they are the Home or Away team.
  - Players need to understand they are making a choice to attend these tournaments during League scheduled play and they may not have a team to come back to if their team is eliminated from League Championships in their absence.

#### **Vice Chair Women's Report:**

- Need list of WU19 registered players from Adanacs so league can send out email
- Female commissioners need a recap of the card from ThunderStrike tournament so they can figure out who has served and who hasn't

#### **Treasurer Report:**

- Nothing going in or out of account
- Registrations due to BCLA office by October 31<sup>st</sup>

#### **Secretary Report:**

- Please make to submit your list of teams travelling for US tournaments. Can try to manipulate the schedule if we are aware ahead of time

#### **Women's Field Head Official Report:**

- All the women's field clinics have been completed
- Could potentially hold another clinic for returning officials only
- Good progress at ThunderStrike, officials got mentoring and many were evaluated
- Charlie is doing the allocating and the schedule should be out for this weekend

#### **Youth Officials Allocator Report:**

- 220 games in 2 weekends with the tournament, officials are exhausted. The heat played havoc
- Youth officials clinics are completed
- League wide research being done to find ex-referees who may be interested in getting involved again
- Oct 22 will be a challenge to find officials with many attending the BCLA AGM
- Reminder that TBRs are not scheduled by the league, that is a team level process. If you are rescheduling a game, please make sure to have players available prior to asking for officials to be assigned
- Reminder that daylight saving ending soon, please make sure to communicate with your city to make sure the lights at your field will come on prior to game time

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#### **New Business:**

- Call ups for clubs that have exchanged players
  - Motion proposal:
    - The PCFLL intends to request permission from the Field Directorate for the following scenario for call-ups:
      - Clubs that have released four (4) or more players to each other at a single age division or within one age group (i.e. U15 and U13), will be able to call up from either club involved.
    - For example:
      - Club A releases 5 players to Club B U17. Club A no longer has a U17 team.

- Club B releases 5 players to Club A U15. Club B no longer has a U15 team.
- Resulting Call-up Eligibility under this exception:
  1. Club B U17 would now be eligible to call up from Club A U15 team.
  2. Club A U19 would now be eligible to call up from Club U17.
  3. Examples would also apply to single age division releases where two clubs release players to each other to form T1 and T2 teams and each team is based within one of the respective clubs.
- A One Game Permit shall be filled out for each call-up involved in any single game. Commissioner approval will not be required.
- ~~IMPORTANT: Games played by said players will not count towards Provincials eligibility.~~
  - ~~The intent here is to ensure that teams are not gaining an advantage by having a potentially larger pool of players to select call-ups from.~~ Removed after group discussion.
- Field Directorate and League policies on limits to call-ups will apply (i.e. maximums on how many players can be called up on a per game basis apply as well as limits on players from one tier playing in a different tier would apply).
- Field Directorate and League policies for Ineligible Players will apply. Division Commissioners will report any potential violations to the respective League Chair or Vice Chair as appropriate.
  - **Motioned by Brad Romano**
  - **Seconded by Pam Mason**
  - **Motion passes by majority vote**
- Basis / Rationale:
  - That the Minor Directorate of the BCLA permits Female call-ups for a player from one club to participate with a different club in limited circumstances: Minor Directorate Policy 4.07 Part 1 - Playing Up sub-section e).
  - That the Field Directorate and the Minor Directorate of the BCLA permits Female players to participate on team from a different club in tournaments with distinct permission from the respective Directorate.
  - In both of the above policies, it is not required for the player to be released to the club the that the player or club is requested to play for.
  - These are sensible exceptions as the policies regarding registration do not solely express that a player cannot play for two different clubs in a season, only that they may not register. Players may also not participate in non-sanctioned lacrosse activity with a different club. Clubs will be required to document such cases (i.e. having releases on file with the respective League) that are eligible. Having guardrails in place will allow the Leagues and the Field Directorate to issue penalties if the policy exception is violated.
  - Having minimum player numbers in order to qualify for the exception will limit the number of situations that will be permitted.
- Discussion:
  - Concern that this will be abused. Clubs forming combined teams just to be able to call up from each other
  - Query if you would only be able to call up the players that you originally released.
    - This would be a nightmare for commissioners and managers to try to figure out which club the call up players are from
  - Combining teams is more an issue on the women's side specifically in divisions that do not tier
  - Do not include the reference to provincial eligibility as it may throw off the whole proposal

- Officials mentoring funding request
  - Motion proposal:
    - That the PCFLL will provide up to \$5000 total during the 2023-2024 season to the Women's and Youth Officials Allocators for the purposes of reimbursing Officials for mentoring and supervising during games.
      - **Motioned by Brad Romano**
      - **Seconded by Micael Miele**
      - **Motion passes by majority vote**
  - Rationale:
    - Mentoring allows for Officials evaluations and valuable one-on-one time for younger and newer Officials.
    - Mentors can help deal with aggressive adults who may attempt to intimidate younger officials (consciously or subconsciously).
    - Mentors are contributing their time over and above their normal officiating duties and deserve compensation.
    - Mentoring allows Officials to move up to higher levels of play when it is determined they can handle the game safely and confidently.
- Playoff rules and timing
  - Going to take some creativity to make this happen
  - Would like input from clubs on what you liked/didn't like about playoffs last year and what you'd like to see this year
  - Please submit your ideas on rules/format to Brad
  - Format/rules sign off (November meeting)
    - 2-3 games per team so teams get an experience
    - Decide how we whittle down those going to Provincials
    - Divisions with 8 or more teams (U13/U15 T2) will be divided into Red & Silver (high/low) and each pool will have it's own championship
    - Tie-breakers?
    - Games not playable
      - Officials or Field issue (League)
      - Teams not available (Club)
- League meeting schedule discussion
  - Is there a better day than the second Tuesday of the month?
  - Anticipating November-February will be online only
  - General consensus is we leave it on Monday

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#### General Discussion:

- Inquiry as to why a player from Poco Tier 1 team was allowed to play on the New West Tier 2 U15 women's team during the ThunderStrike tournament
  - League was unaware of this as it was a BCLA tournament and we do not get rosters
  - There is a form to allow for cross over of players for tournament only
- Ridge Meadows is willing to host U7/U9 jamboree in December. Will confirm with those commissioners when more details are available.
- Mission is still looking for U11 T1 and U13 T1 releases as they are running small rosters on both teams. Receiving positive feedback about making the jump to T1 but need some support in the form of players. Want to make sure the Tier 1 release process is a two way street to grow the smaller teams, not just add tier 1 players to the existing larger teams.
- No update at this time on any of the female provincials
- Delta female jerseys are currently not legal as the numbers are too small. Topic to be discussed offline

#### Adjournment 8:52pm

Motioned by: Rhonda Manson

Seconded by: Bradley Foster