



# PACIFIC COAST FIELD LACROSSE LEAGUE

## Tuesday, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### Meeting Minutes – Women's & Youth

---

**Call to Order 7:03pm**

---

#### **Roll Call**

##### **Attendees (32):**

Brad Romano – Chair	Burnaby – Simon Gee
Cal Davies – 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair	Chilliwack – Tyler Crompton
Stacy Paterson – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair/U15W Commissioner	Delta – Greg Leong
Angie Wolfe – Secretary	Langley – Gerald Wartak (Women's), Alex Vanichuk (Youth)
Mary Clare – Head Commissioner/U18 Commissioner	Mission – Nicole Kokoska (Women's), Jason Hughlett (Youth)
Angie Reid – Head Umpire	New West – Julie Edgar (Women's), Bill Tyler (Youth)
Ryan Nose – BC Official's Group	North Shore – Shannon Webber
Susan dos Santos – Referee Allocator	Poco – Kristen Sheidow (Women's), Erica McKeddie (Youth)
Roger Paterson – U9 Commissioner	Richmond – Pam Mason
Pam Mason – U11 Commissioner	Ridge Meadows – Michell Cooper (Women's), Jaime Yerbury
Jackie White – U12 Commissioner	Surrey – Sean Reid (Women's), Jeff Glass (Youth)
Kathy Martinez – U19W Commissioner	Valley – David Goulet
Adanacs – Dennis Santucci	Vancouver – Michael Hagel, Michael O'Connor (Observer)

##### **Absent (7):**

Lynda Callard – Treasurer/Registrar	Mike Ortutay – U13 T2 Commissioner
Roger Terhune – Past Chair	Laurie Wortley – U15 T1 Commissioner
Ceayon Johnston – U7/U8 Commissioner	Victoria Hatch – U15 T2 Commissioner
Melody Kurt – U13 T1/T3 Commissioner	

---

#### **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

---

#### **Acceptance of the Oct 12<sup>th</sup> meeting**

Motion to accept: Greg Leong  
Seconded: Shannon Webber

---

#### **Women's Club Reports:**

##### **Adanacs:**

- Nothing to report

##### **Burnaby:**

- Want to address the delays in the women's schedule and assigning of umpires.
  - Just like on the youth side, there is a severe shortage of officials, delays are inevitable

##### **Chilliwack:**

- Thank you to all the clubs that have been helping U8 players and coaches to learn the game

#### Langley:

- Thank you to all the clubs that participated in the Thunderstrike tournament's first female divisions.

#### Mission:

- Nothing to report

#### New West:

- Nothing to report

#### Port Coquitlam:

- Nothing to report

#### Ridge Meadows:

- Nothing to report

#### Surrey:

- Thank you to Coquitlam and Langley for hosting two great tournaments

---

### **Executive Reports**

#### Chair

- New Public Health Orders were introduced at the end of October. Guidance from the BCLA is straightforward.
  - Please ensure compliance from your club as we do not want to jeopardize any field time contracts for yourself or for clubs that you visit.
- The PCFLL will take on ensuring Officials have provided their vaccine status. Since we control assigning most of the officials each week it makes sense for us to do this so that only officials that have abided by the order and shown their vaccination status are assigned and it's one less thing for team managers to do at the field.
- Clubs that assign your own officials U11 and under, please ensure that you have received confirmation of their double vaccine status prior to assignment.
- Thank you to all the clubs that have provided confirmation of complying with the order and unfortunately some coaches and team officials have had to be replaced.
  - BCLA has indicated that there is the potential for further coaches clinics.
  - Please ensure form 100s are updated as soon as any new personnel are in place. These can be updated at any time - they are not related to the player registration.
- The League is here to support clubs in compliance, however, we do not set the policy or the interpretations. If clubs have issues they would like addressed, please communicate to the executive and we will take it up to the Field Directorate if needed.
- We are still, regrettably, cancelling games each weekend. We do not have enough refs for each game and Susan, Angie Reid, Stacy Paterson and Angie Wolfe are playing scheduling jenga to get every game played that is possible. Please understand that we expect games to be cancelled every weekend due to shortages.
  - On the Youth side, we are asking a lot of Susan, but if no officials are available 24 hours before the game, it will likely be cancelled so that the teams have some sort of notice.
- BCLA AGM recap; not much that affects Field.
  - Russ Sheppard new Coaches' Chair
  - Women's Officials game fee brought into line with Youth.
  - Video may be reviewed by hearing/appeal panels, but it is not mandatory. Commissioners will likely not change their current procedure but it can be used in appeal
- Field Directorate Meeting recap
  - We were not successful in getting permission for Mission u15 to be called up to Valley u18 - FD thought it would set too broad a precedent
  - All commissioners were ratified
  - Some forward movement on 6's format. working on setting up a demo in mid-November
  - Women's field configuration, game formats, and rules (all posted on PCFLL website) must be followed. Officials have the right to refuse a game if rules are not followed (field size, use of fans,

etc). Please ensure coaches / teams are setting up the field properly and using cones or portable fans where needed. Offending teams will be referred to the Coaches group.

- Concern with coaching "styles" at U11 and U13 were noted
  - players being directed to hit and "blow players up" rather than focussing on skill development (noted during in-game monitoring of Langley tournament).
  - If you have Coaches in this category Shawn Donahue has offered assistance to help course-correct. Please contact him directly, email on BCLA website
  - Shawn Donahue and Ryan Nose will be working together if there are reports / concerns on specific coaches / teams (i.e. reports from Officials)
- Langley will host Youth provincials U13 to U18. Family Day weekend in February
- Women's provincials still under consideration. Brad in contact with two clubs just working on if they have enough field time
- Fall Season is now underway, thanks to Mary and Commissioners for their work over tiering break. No U11-U18 league games this weekend due to Richmond Romp, just not enough refs to go around.
- Please ensure that managers who are rescheduling games u13 and above MUST contact Susan dos Santos regarding officials. It is not permitted to schedule your own refs.
- U7 & U9 jamborees –
  - We are looking for a U9 host - please let myself or Roger Paterson know.
  - We do not need permission from FD if they are ONLY League teams.
- Women's LTAD from Lacrosse Canada is Wednesday Nov 10.
- Forfeit games must be reported to Commissioners.
  - Mary Clare sent out instructions, but teams are not reporting to the League when they happen.
  - Forfeiture is serious and the teams that are forfeiting are responsible for ensuring costs are covered.
  - Clubs may be held financially liable for fines and other game fees. You can't just forfeit a game and walk away. If a pattern emerges of teams forfeiting their away games, further action may also be taken.
  - Please ensure your teams are aware of the policies regarding cancellations and forfeits. If a team cancels on you, please make sure your commissioner is aware
- Something that the PCFLL Exec has been discussing is how to advance our game and grow our numbers. It is difficult for the executive to generate and refine ideas and then process the ideas through the clubs to implementation. Prior to the Field Directorate Special Session and the League AGM, the executive would like to advance the communication and processes that we have in place. We feel that the first step will be to look at 3 committees that can be composed of representatives from several different clubs.
  - **Committee 1: Officials** - Recruitment, Retention, Optimization (travel, training/mentoring)
  - **Committee 2: Policy** - Significant updates are needed to the Operating Policy in both content and structure.
  - **Committee 3: Operations** - Registration, Releases, Tiering (specifically Tier 1, how to get kids on the field and keep them there)
  - We have 14 Clubs in the League, plus the Executive. We would like all clubs to be represented on one committee.
    - The club reps that attend this meeting do not also need to sit on these committees - it can be someone else from your Club that has specific interest or expertise (i.e. a Club Head Coach or Head Official) in one of the areas of focus.
  - ***We will be forming the Committees in December. Please review with your clubs and come to the December meeting with the top 2 choices of which committee your club would like to be represented on.***
  - Committees will work through January and February; if specific policy changes are required, they can be submitted to the League AGM and Field Directorate Special Session in time to be included in the agenda.

- The goal in late February / early March will be to have a full League meeting to review the changes and discuss them. If they need to be changed, this is done prior to the formal meetings so everyone is on the same page.
- Lastly, in October Brad was apprised the clubs of an incident that took place that involved racial overtones. The League has had a chance to meet with the clubs involved and tonight you'll hear from Michael Hagel who will open the discussion and ask for your help. Michael has the League's support on this and I hope that a positive change can come out of this situation.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice chair

- Victoria Hatch will be contacting U15 T3 teams to gauge interest in holding a Commissioner's Cup
  - If there is interest, we will be looking for a host club

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice chair

- U12/U15 running smoothly
- U19 still a challenge due to numbers and commitments (working, umping, playing).
  - Don't know what the answer is to make this division better
  - If any clubs would like to talk about their ideas for improvement, please contact Stacy

#### Secretary

- Nothing to report

#### Treasurer/Registrar

- Report submitted, read by Brad
  - BCLA has offered to direct bill clubs for field lacrosse team fees
  - PCFLL will not be collecting and forwarding money this year
  - Deb will send out email invoices
  - PCFLL will still bill for PCFLL team and player fees
  - If you have already submitted payment, we will refund any overages
  - U5 will be charged a player fee from BCLA but PCFLL will not
  - Players can still be registered until Nov 30<sup>th</sup> but club must receive commissioner approval prior to registration.
    - Paper registration form, waiver and updated registration list for effected division must be sent to BCLA to complete registration
    - League will serve as commissioner for U5 division

#### Head Commissioner

- Had a good look at tiering movement and did move some teams
  - Reminder that teams can be moved at any time
- Forfeiture/cancellations must be report to your commissioner

#### Head Umpire

- Umpires have been made aware of the enforcement field rules like dimensions, fans, etc
- Ongoing issue with umpires. Team BC and Fusion are away this weekend so hopeful that games can be covered

#### Head Referee (Ryan Nose representing BCLOG)

- Have been away recently so will defer to Susan for updates

#### Referee Allocator

- Travel fee payments of \$15 for 20km or more is paid by Home club only. If there happens to be two travel refs at one game, the Home club must pay both travel fees. Please pass this on to your managers
  - Should be paid at the first game that refs officiate at that field
- Susan must be made aware of cancellations/forfeitures asap
- Thank you for the mentoring funding
  - 20 games mentoring 29 different refs have occurred, using almost all of the previously allocated money
  - Mentors have been given \$50 per game as that is on par with wage had they officiated on their own level
  - Some refs were mentored on their very first game
  - Mentor refs have been utilized right across the whole league

- Local allocators need to let Susan know who is reffing the U7/U9/U11 games as mentoring may be available
- 100+ games in Richmond this weekend will allow mentoring to continue. Would like to propose to make more funds available to pay mentors for their service this weekend.
  - There will be 10 U7/U9 games that are set up to have mentors
  - There will be 28 U11 games that could benefit from mentors
  - U13 games could also use mentors
  - 38 games would be approximately \$2000, if additional funds are available, would be put towards U13
  - Motion to make \$3000.00 of league funds available to pay mentors at the Richmond Romp
    - Motioned by Brad Romano
    - Seconded by Michael Hagel
    - **Motion passed: 18 votes yes, 0 votes no (18 of 20 eligible members voted)**
  - Big thank you to Richmond for hosting the U7/U9 and allowing this mentorship to happen
- Roger Paterson indicates that there is an excessive amount of contact at the U9 level with very few penalties being called, even unsportsmanlike penalties.
  - Must emphasize that there is no intentional contact allowed at U9 and officials must call these penalties. Commissioner cannot follow up with coaches enforce rules if not penalties were called
- Brad asks Roger and Ryan to stay on after the call to discuss this further
- Surrey speaks to the fact that these are young refs and intimidated. Challenges each club to recruit adult refs that can start at the U7/U9 level and have an adult on the field who can speak to the issue happening on field
- Chilliwack adds that it is often not just the younger refs who are not calling penalties, sometimes the older refs do not see the difference between U7 where there are no penalties called and U9 where penalties to be called

---

#### New Business:

- Vancouver discusses an incident from Oct 5<sup>th</sup> with racial overtones
  - After the Richmond/Vancouver vs North Shore U15 game on Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, Vancouver President received a call from Tewanee Joseph, North Shore U15 coach and personal friend, letting him know that Tewanee would be filing a formal complaint regarding racial comments directed at North Shore players that were overheard by Tewanee's wife during the game.
  - Michael agreed to look into it further and support anyway he could
  - Next day received many emails regarding an Instagram post from Tewanee
  - Over the next few days, Vancouver met with the U15 parents to discuss the issue and get their take on it. Had numerous discussions with Pam and Jenner from Richmond as well as Shannon from North Shore.
  - Vancouver wrote a formal letter of apology which is read (please see attached). Letter was very well received by North Shore and the team.
  - Vancouver, Richmond, North Shore, Tewanee and the PCFLL executive then had a meeting to discuss the letter and proposals for the next steps.
  - Proposal to develop a PCFLL sub-committee to write some policies and make changes to existing policies with respect to education and reconciliation.
    - Tasked with reviewing the existing PCFLL and BCLA policies and recommending to the membership areas of improvement specifically in the areas inclusivity and diversity
    - Look to evaluate ways to support implementation and policy initiatives, education opportunities
    - Would like to see the sub-committee comprised of 5-7 members from across the PCFLL. West, Central and East representation.
    - Shannon, Michael and Tewanee have already stepped up to sit on this committee.

- Bill Tyler mentions this is timely as a similar incident happened in New West recently. The mother of that player attended the New West AGM and challenged the executive to make change. Bill would like to volunteer but would like to make sure that this committee had adequate representation with people from diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- There is no timeline to this, is to be done right, not rushed to get to the finish line.
- There are not a lot of written policies so this could be quite groundbreaking.
- Surrey wants to clarify that this committee is not just for racial issues but any discrimination.
- Shannon will be happy to be the one to draft the policies with input from the committee
- Hoping to have volunteers come forward at the December meeting same as the other proposed committees.

## **Youth Club Reports:**

### Adanacs:

- Have confirmed all the PHO requirements for vaccinated volunteers

### Burnaby:

- There is no additional field time available in Burnaby for the possible hosting of

### Chilliwack:

- Is there a host yet for U11 cup?
  - There has been an application that has not been approved yet but likely will be

### Delta:

- Nothing to report

### Langley:

- Nothing to report

### Mission:

- Nothing to report. In compliance with PHO

### New Westminster:

- Nothing to report

### North Shore:

- All managers and coaches have been verified
- U15 team has had to withdraw from league play. Team numbers no longer viable. Two players looking for a team to go to
- Have dropped later field time on Saturday nights
- Just a heads up, Harry Jerome Arena is closing leaving North Shore box lacrosse team without a home at all for the next four years.

### Port Coquitlam:

- Nothing to report

### Richmond:

- Excited to host the tournament this weekend
- Happy to host U7/U9 but might be reaching out to other clubs for creases for U7. Checking storage tomorrow.
- Thank you to Sean for providing drop downs for nets

### Ridge Meadows:

- Nothing to report

### Surrey:

- Nothing to report

### Valley:

- Gratitude for taking the U18 call up case to the FD. Absolute frustration on the side of our club trying to keep field lacrosse alive in Valley
- Would like to get information on how to formally merge with another association for next season. May not be viable on their own

- Do have a field marked for women's lacrosse for anyone wanting to host female provincials and need another field.

Vancouver:

- Have received several emails from parents the running up of scores in lacrosse.
- Player numbers are down, lots of new players and these blow outs are not creating a positive experience for them.
- Coaches need to be cognizant of the caliber of team they are playing and do a better job. 12-0 is an accomplishment, 24-0 is unnecessary. Kids will quit the game
- Tiering may help settle the goal differentials
- New West mentions that half of their U9 team is aged up U7 players and the coach and manager have had positive experiences with teams being very understanding of their situation.

---

**Adjournment 8:30pm**

Motioned by: Shannon Webber

Seconded by: Michael Hagel

---



**October 10th, 2021**

**To: Shannon Webber  
President North Shore Minor Lacrosse  
Re: Incident on October 5th, 2021**

**Dear Shannon,**

**On behalf of the Vancouver/Richmond Field Lacrosse Associations, I would like to sincerely apologise to the North Shore Eagles Lacrosse Association and the entire Lacrosse Community for the racial comments made during the U15 game on October 5th, 2021 between Van/Rich and the North Shore Eagles.**

**We are sorry for any hurt and pain that we caused to your families. We want to thank Rae-Ann and Tewanee for the time and emotional energy they both put in to share this hurtful experience with us, we are sorry for this additional burden. We recognize that this was not owed to us.**

**We are deeply embarrassed and saddened that this happened. This incident does not reflect the culture of inclusion and respect for all that we are trying to foster between our two Associations.**

**We are privileged to be involved in the Sport of Lacrosse and need to show the game and its participants more respect.**

**Racism of any form has no place in sport or in our cultures and we will work harder to ensure that this behaviour is not repeated.**

**We will continue to support Truth and Reconciliation education and promote inclusion for all races and cultures. Within our organization we have already started meeting with parents to discuss this important topic and will continue to do so.**

**This conversation will be ongoing now, and into the future.**

**Sincerely,**

**Michael Hagel  
President  
Vancouver Minor Lacrosse Association**