



VKLMA Annual General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 25th, 2017
202 Boardroom, Killarney Community Centre
7:00 – 9:30 pm

General

- 1) Call to order at 7:08 pm, Killarney Community Centre
- 2) Attendance recorded:

Attendance of Board Members: Michael Hagel, Michael O'Connor, Ginette St. Arnaud, Melody Kurt, James Esworthy, Melody Kurt, Dan Janda, Angela Pardek, Mac Ginther, Mark Collett, Dennis Dong, Jenn Sirmul, Spencer Arnold, Christian Farstad, Caroline Krowe, Tony Lucas, Greg Webster

Motion: To Approve of 2016 AGM Meeting Minutes (with minor corrections)
Proposed: Melody Kurt
Seconded by: Mark Collett
Vote: Majority in favour - Carried

1) Reports

Presidents Report (From Written Report)

Box Lacrosse

We had a truly amazing season. 11 teams participated in Box this season – 2 Mini-tyke, 1 Tyke, 2 Novice, 2 Pee Wee, 2 Bantam, 2 Midget (1 Boys and 1 Girls). Three teams qualified for Provincials – Medals in Midget B, Bantam C. Bantam A2 played hard but fell just short of medaling. Very strong placements across many divisions this Year. Pee Wee A2 Gold Medal in 2 tournaments, Novice A2 finished 1st in their division.

- Another successful Sid Dann Pee Wee tourney this year (Bronze Medal for Pee Wee C)
- Hosted WLA exhibition game this year (first since 1993). Invited Vancouver Burrards alumni to participate.
- Photo Day – Games for the kids and a fun BBQ
- Increased use of South Memorial Box to further promote Lacrosse and Community involvement
- Conducted 8 days of lacrosse clinics in Vancouver Elementary Schools (with the help of the Vancouver Stealth and VMLA Volunteers.
- Conducted 4 days of “Bring a Friend” days to introduce lacrosse to new players.

- Hosted 1st Annual Awards Banquet and Volunteer recognition night. Attended by 100 people at Fortius Club in Burnaby.
- Guest Coaches – Dan Lewis, Rory McDade, Curtis Hodgson.
- Awarded the Leon Hall Merit Award by the BCLA as “Association of the Year”

Field Registration

- 2017 saw 115 kids registered from U7 to U15. Season in full swing. Conducted “Bring a friend days” at South Memorial Turf to introduce Field lacrosse to kids. (18 new U7 kids this season). Photo Day – hosted welcome BBQ (the weather held off). Looking forward to qualifying for Provincials in February.

Sponsorship

- Many new sponsors this year: London Drugs, BC Thermal Window Restoration, Formwerks, East Side Craft House. Returning – Kidsport, Ice Level Sports, Big Kahuna

BCLA Leon Hall Nomination

The following text from our nomination for the Leon Hall award was shared by M Hagel.

“I feel Vancouver Minor Lacrosse has met the criteria that you list as it strives to foster and promote the ideals of the B.C. Lacrosse Association generally, and which strives to improve, promote and develop all facets of lacrosse within the community, while co-operating with all governing bodies, and at all times, recognizing the primary importance of the betterment of lacrosse. Vancouver Minor lacrosse has for a number of years aspired to those ideals embodied in the nomination preamble but recently has achieved the benchmarks discussed.

Vancouver has engaged with the greater lacrosse community in for the past three years in hosting the Team BC Vancouver District camp held at Killarney Arena. From that our players have seen the high level of skill needed to play at a representative level and we have had players attend the District and main provincial camps but not placed anyone on Team BC recently. Through the Junior Stealth Program we have had 2 players play on the team over the past 2 years and this year had 2 females on the U-19 and 1 boy on the U-16 NAIG BC lacrosse teams.

Vancouver has hosted the Sid Dann Pee Wee A-2 and C Tournament for the past 15 years – last year it was an all C tournament due to registrations and we added a goalie competition within the tournament to recognize and promote the art and science of goaltending. The goalie competition is doubly relevant as the tournament is named after a goalie who died in his twenties after having worked with the young players.

In the 2016 we took a major step to increase the awareness of the greater lacrosse community within our association by hosting the Bantam Boys Provincial Championships. The tournament had its challenges spread over three arenas but I think our players, volunteers, and executive got a greater appreciation of the effort that goes into hosting and participating in these events. I think this awareness paid dividends in this year’s success at the Provincials

In increasing the awareness of Lacrosse within the Vancouver Association and greater community our president arranged this past spring to have a pre-season WLA exhibition game between Coquitlam Adanacs and the Maple Ridge Burrards held at the Kitsilano Arena. We packed the arena and through donations raised over \$1,000. The better result was to have an arena full of kids and parents watching this exciting game and we had many positive comments from parents who had never seen a senior game.

We recognized that as a small organization with not a lot of legacy players to coach our teams and needed increase the skill level of both our players and coaches. We brought Paul Delmote to teach our coaches additional skills; Jr and Sr. level goalies gave goalie clinics. To increase our sense of pride in lacrosse and our association our president reached out to WLA Vancouver Burrard Alumni Dave Evans to speak to the Executive about best practices in raising awareness of lacrosse and the history of lacrosse in Vancouver. To that end we began to hold more events and practices at our outdoor box to show the passing baseball players and public the game of lacrosse.

To increase our membership, with the assistance of Vancouver Stealth players and our coaches we conducted day camps at 5 elementary schools: Charles Dickens: 8 kids registered (4 girls), Jamieson, Champlain Heights, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, St. Jude's. A total of 35 hours of instruction, 1600 children between K – 7 participated. We have been asked by more schools to hold programs in the future. At our regular bring a friend night we had 100 participants held at Hastings Community Centre. From those camps we had 53 new to lacrosse players this year for a total of 193 and last year's 203 players. We have been increasing our membership since 2012 but we have not consistently kept it over the 200 mark which is our goal.

Although success in a program is not measured by wins and losses this past season for the first time in memory qualified three teams to the Provincial Championships with Midget B, Bantam A-2, and Bantam C attending with the Midget B and Bantam C winning Bronze medals. I think a better measure of our success is our coach in Bantam A-2 won the Fair Play Coaching Award and the Bantam C winning the fairplay team award. We have demonstrated attention to fostering good sportsmanship as well and achieving some medals.

In the last two seasons we have added a girl's team that although numerically challenged still play a spirited game of lacrosse. Another measure of this increased desire to create more lacrosse opportunity is there is a groundswell of parents, not just one person driving this, actively looking to create an Intermediate team as a place to keep the boys playing lacrosse in Vancouver.

I am twice removed from the presidency of the Vancouver Association and have been with the association for a number of years and seen things unfold from afar but I have not seen such a positive atmosphere and movement towards trying to achieve excellence on and off the lacrosse floor. We have by many metrics worked to improve our players and coaches, increase our player registration, worked with the greater lacrosse community, promoted lacrosse, and had a few laughs a long the way. We are a small organization with a rich lacrosse history that we proudly maintain and hope to increase in Vancouver and it would be an honour to have the Leon Hall 2017 Box Association of the year banner hanging in our arena. It would be an inspiration to all who see it.”

Vice Presidents Report

VP1: Michael OConnor

Society Transition Committee:

- As mandated by the province of BC our Vancouver Minor Lacrosse Association has to transition to the rules of the new Societies Act by November 2018. One of the penalties in not doing this is that we will be unable to access the gaming grants. Under the new act the Constitution of the Association will be a mission statement and identifying the society. In the course of going through this exercise and reviewing ours and other Lacrosse Associations By-Laws it became apparent that how we govern and operation in our current by-laws is unclear. We are reviewing best practices from other association and will make wholesale changes to our operating policy. The Committee will present to the board proposed changes for their review. Once they have looked at it an made changes the membership will review and then will be a special meeting to discuss and approve the new bylaws in the new year.

Alumni

- Below is a review of our Alumni playing in the senior lacrosse ranks. I am biased here but the 1999's, the most medalled age group from Vancouver Minor, is making an impact on the senior divisions. I note with the new 5 year junior program players from 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998 and 1997 will be eligible to play on a Vancouver Junior team next season.

Vancouver Minor Burrards (by year) graduates at 2017 playing year:

2012 (1996)

Sean O'Connor – Acadia University
Tyler Vogrig – Queen's University (Charlotte NC) & Delta Junior A

2013 (1997)

Nolin Baylis Burnaby Junior A
Chase Pretti-Pearsall Mars Hill University (NC)

2104 (1998)

Matt Hills Miron Delta Junior B
Jasper Scheidel Delta Junior A
Kurtis Shum Burnaby Junior A

2015 (1999)

Jackson Cowie (C) Langley Inter A (Bronze medal at Provincials)
Dimitri Cuning Burnaby Inter A
Alex Ewanchook North Shore Junior B/New Westminster Inter B
Campbell Ferrie UVic
Kieran Hopkins Burnaby Junior B
Bradley Mainman Burnaby Junior B

Ethan McLaren
Liam O'Connor (A)
medal winning team)
Matthew Waibler

Burnaby Inter A/Junior A and SFU
Burnaby Inter A and SFU (member of Team BC U-18 silver
Burnaby Inter A and UVic

2016 (2000)

Brandon Balewicz
Santana Johnny

Burnaby Inter A
New Westminster Inter B

VP2 Parks Liaison / Facilities: James Esworthy

Parks Board Liaison Report

- Virtual washout of the winter session of the field season. We were able to recoup permit fees for unusable times.
- VMLA maintained all our indoor times and increased our outdoor hours at SMB and Renfrew
- Successful having the painting crews add mini tyke creases this year to Killarney Arena. They were well received.
- VMLA did spend extra money in July to support teams entering play downs and preparing for Provincials this year
- Camp with Kevin Crowley seemed like a success, better planning with more notice could have secured a turf field. Something to look at if this is to be a reoccurring event
- Field house at Hamber celebrated an anniversary of construction, hopefully this will be completed soon
- Happy to report that the lights at Van Tech have be replaced and working as expected now

Looking forward to next year:

- The Parks Board has done some much needed repair work to the boards at SMB and Renfrew, so we should be in good shape come March
- There was a promise from the Parks Board to repair and replace the fences at Hamber. Lacrosse balls seem to pass unimpeded through the existing fencing
- In the city's capital plan there is money earmarked for a new turf field. In conjunction with the Vancouver Field Sports Federation, I helped on the field selection committee. There were a number of viable locations put forward by us and the City and PB are now in their decision phase. Our list included Beaconsfield park (VPB) Churchill SS

(VSB) and Kerrisdale South elementary school (VSB) Construction is slated to begin in 2018. Nobody should be holding their breath.

- Kitsilano arena has undergone an assessment of the lighting. There is currently a business plan to proceed, but the PB is still in the budgeting phase and hasn't reached full approval. Paul Biln, who now oversees arenas is optimistic about this being a go. Work would need to be done after ice out this spring.
- Easter is early this year coming. I would expect that to effect ice out and painting schedule. I have recommended that the painting be delayed so that games could proceed as best possible. Games to be staggered between Kitsilano and Killarney weekly over a two week period to allow painting and games to proceed without out impact to the schedule. Although this would mean that somegames will be played on unpainted floors. It is unknown how legible the lines and creases will be. I'd say fair enough to be able to pull off the needed games.

Mark Collett : VP3 Scheduling and Field Allocator

Box Lacrosse

We had a truly amazing season. I have summarized our season below:

- 11 teams participated in Box this season – 2 Mini-tyke, 1 Tyke, 2 Novice, 2 Pee Wee, 2 Bantam, 2 Midget (1 Boys and 1 Girls)
- Three teams qualified for Provincials – Medals in Midget B, Bantam C. Bantam A2 played hard but fell just short of medaling. Very strong placements across many divisions this Year. Pee Wee A2 Gold Medal in 2 tournaments, Novice A2 finished 1st in their division. We did not have any coaching suspensions this season which is fantastic. Our discussions in the coaches meeting have done their job to bring the overall vision of how we want to coach in Vancouver together.
High-Lites include –
- Another successful Sid Dann Pee Wee tourney this year. (Bronze Medal for PW C)
- Hosted WLA exhibition game this year (first time since 1993). Invited Vancouver Burrards Alumni to participate.
- Photo Day – games for the kids and a fun BBQ
- Increased use of South Memorial Box to further promote Lacrosse and Community Involvement
- Conducted 8 days of lacrosse clinics in Vancouver Elementary Schools (with the help of the Vancouver Stealth and VMLA Volunteers.
- Conducted 4 days of “Bring a Friend” days to introduce lacrosse to new players.
- Hosted 1st Annual Awards Banquet and Volunteer recognition night. Attended by 100 people at Fortius Club in Burnaby.
- “Guest “Coaches – Dan Lewis, Rory McDade, Curtis Hodgson.

Moving forward:

- All door personnel will be required to take a level one coaching clinic to be on the bench for all ages.
- A BCLA facilitator position is open for a Vancouver representative, if anyone one is interested.
- U-15 Field lacrosse requires Level 2 coaching certifications now so be aware if this affects you this season or next.
- Work books for next box season will be available for any coaches who would like them to run through some helpful drills and practice plans.

VP4 : Cecile Jun

- I want to thank those who are not returning for all their hard work and effort. With that said, I will not be returning as part of the Executive Board, but will stay on as the scheduler. There are so many opportunities for you as members to take part so I encourage you to join the Executive team. I am proud to be a part of this passionate lacrosse family. Here are some highlights of the things I've been up to for the past year.
- Scheduler – box and field allocator. This past season, this role ran a lot smoother and it is all due to Mike H., and I thank him for making my scheduling life a lot easier.
- VMLA Representative for the Killarney Community Centre Society. Attended monthly meetings – KCCS has gone through an executive change this season with a new president, Wendy Tupling Guest.
- Summer Kick-Off at Sunrise – helped organized and represented Vancouver Minor Lacrosse. This has always been a fun event and I encourage more lacrosse families to attend. Register your kids for their street hockey tournament its so much fun.
- Aboriginal Day at Trout Lake Community Center– helped organized and represent Vancouver Minor Lacrosse. 2nd time Van LAX had the opportunity to take part in this amazing event

VP Girls; Angela Pardek

- Firstly, I want to say that I am so proud of our girls team. Each year has had its challenges, but we also had many special moments. These girls represented us with honour. As their coach, they gave me 100% and they played their hearts out each time they hit the floor. I was proud to stand by them, no matter what the scoreboard said. They are true winners in my heart. We definitely had a challenge with only eleven girls on our roster- some games we only had six players and no subs. But they came with their game face and played their best. I hope the girls truly understand what they have done for VMLA and for other girls out there who want to play lacrosse. I can only hope that one day we will be able to declare several girls teams in our organization.

VP Field: Shawn Donahue (Absent)

Treasurers Report: Tom Callaghan (Absent)

Officers Report

Riley Lo: Box Referee Coordinator (Absent)

Ginette St Arnaud; E-Pact Administrator / Equipment

My functions for 2016-17 were these:

- VMLA Volunteer Coordinator
- ePact Administrator
- VMLA Jerseys Attendant
- 2017 LMLLC Mini-Tyke In League Commission

Volunteers Coordinator

- Promote volunteering to VMLA parents. Searched and found Key Volunteers to coordinate Photo Day and Sid Dann Tourney.
- Helped to collect the \$75. Volunteer Deposit cheques (as mandated by VMLA); at the same time also helped to collect \$100. Jersey Deposit cheques (as also mandated by VMLA).
- With the help of Team Managers, kept a record for all of those cheques
- Simultaneously overlook the submission from all players of the three VMLA mandatory forms : Medical, Media Release and Code of Conduct for Parents & Players. This was done using the ePact Network which VMLA is using since the Spring of 2016
- Kept tracked of volunteering activities throughout the 2017 Box Season. Team Managers also assisted me in keeping track of all volunteering activities from their team parents.
- After verifying several times with Team Managers and parents themselves. A final communication was sent to a total of 16 parents (one per family) to inform them that their volunteer cheque was to be cashed by VMLA. These cheques were handed in to the VMLA Treasurer in early August 2017. They totalled \$1200.. At this point I don't know if they were cashed or not, and how many were processed successfully.

Review

- It is fair amount of work and time consuming to collect cheques, keep track of all the people volunteering, find opportunities for people to volunteer, and support them when they do volunteer their minimal time of 6 hours... A great number of VMLA families easily contribute a lot of their time and don't need to have this threat (\$75. Deposit cheque) over their shoulder. The few who do need it to volunteer require a lot of energy, and at the end of the season, all the time and energy of keeping track of their volunteering, etc... is questionable: Is it really worth it?
- We seem to be able to find the labouring volunteers easily (they do their 6 hours or little thing and they go on). What we need more of are the Key Volunteers; people who takes more responsibilities within the association. There are too few Key Volunteers, doing too many things.

- Binders with info for next coordinators of: Photo Day, Sid Dann, WLA and Banquet + a binder for the next Volunteer Coordinator are all available in the Killarney Storage.

ePact Coordinator

- EpactePact cost a total of \$707.84 from the start of December 9th, 2016 to the start of December 2017.
- The vast majority of parents use ePact very well. There are very few glitches with the Network. Actually I am not aware of any... When there are problems, they are caused by parents using too many different e-mail addresses.
- Every season 2 or 3 players request to use of paper forms. The majority of parents use ePact efficiently.
- An APP is available for ePact. Team managers can now avoid printing any of these forms. They can simply access the medical forms, media or code of conduct, when necessary, using the APP.
- They can use “Advanced Search and Filter” to quickly see who for example says NO to Media Release, or who has allergies, etc. etc. etc. A great tool for the Team Manager, Coaches, etc.

Jersey Coordinator

- When the 2016-17 Field Lax Provincials were cancelled, many U13 &U18 jerseys took a while to be returned, and TM required many reminders. At the end, all Field jerseys for the
- 2016-17 season were returned successfully.
- Six new Field Jerseys were purchased to fill up some lost jerseys over the years, and accommodate bigger sizes. The total cost with taxes, shipping and everything was: \$747.24
- No new Box Jerseys were purchased for the 2017 season.
- Most Box jerseys for the 2017 season have been returned by all teams.
- Only a Novice goalie jersey #1 and a Mini-Tyke teal # 22 jersey are still in the process of being located...
- No Jersey Deposit cheques have been cashed.
- In my view the Novice C and PeeWee C teams are in need of more and better jerseys. I suggest giving the Novice A and PeeWee A's set to the C teams, and purchase two new sets for the Novice A and PeeWee A's team... Also due to a number of past challenges with jerseys distribution, I suggest highly to buy set with 30 jerseys, (with two of them being for goalies (#1 & 30). This will give more ways to accommodate players and their various sizes, and to accommodate season with large roster (up to 25 sometimes).
- A set of white jerseys to be shared among the two PeeWee teams (and perhaps the Novice's as well can share them) could also be useful, if budget allow for such a purchase...

Commissioner

- This was my third year doing this task with LMLLC. I did it in the first place because at some point our association was required to provide a volunteer to be commissioner. Somehow I stayed because they needed people. Even if it was Mini-Tyke, it is a busy and interesting thing to do. Sometimes I felt like I was teaching Kindergarten all over again. I will suggest to Team Managers with experience to move up the ladder, and try to become a commissioner.
- The only sad part I experienced with this task is when I had to discipline two Mini-Tyke coaches for not being adequate towards a very young referee. When we think of all the rules and regulations that exist within associations, the league and with BCLA, plus all the effort to promote a more civilized behavior on the part of coaches, especially towards young referee. That was sad, especially at the Mini-Tyke level, it seems that the struggle has continue.

Dan Janda: Equipment Manager

- Frank Robinson will be taking over as equipment manager next year.
- We had a very challenging season keeping track of gear and inventory. Some issues related to tracking of inventory remain.

Riley Lo: Box Referee Coordinator (Absent)

Motion: To Executive and Officers Reports
 Proposed by: Mac Ginther
 Seconded by: Michael OConnor
 Vote: Carried by majority vote.

1) Election of Officers (President, VP's, Secretary and Registrar

- President: Michael Hagel
- VP1: Mark Collette
- VP2: Angela Pardek
- VP3: Michael O Connor
- VP4: Shawn Donahue
- Treasurer: Tony Lucas
- Secretary: Mac Ginther
- Registrar: Melody Kurt

Motion: To Destroy Ballots
 Proposed by: Melody Kurt
 Seconded by: Mac Ginther
 Vote: Carried by majority vote.

All Ballots were destroyed.

New Business

- Caroline Krowe has proposed that we raffle several items of wine and liquor to raise funds for VMLA. She has arranged a donation of high end products to raffle. Raffle to be announced at year end party. Proposal received wide approval from the Board and tickets have been distributed to each team.
- Mike Hagel has announced that VMLA has received support from the BCLA (\$500.00) and the Vancouver Stealth (\$500.00) to participate in the 2017 Santa Claus parade.

Motion: To Adjourn Proposed by: Mark Colett Seconded by: Angela Pardek Vote: All in favour - Carried

9:15 pm Adjournment