

RMLL Senior B Division Breakout Minutes  
Saturday, Nov 2, 2013  
Delta South Hotel/Conference Centre – Edmonton

Call to order – 9:46 AM

Present – Outlaws – Stu Sterparn, Phil Smyth, Knights – Keith Berg, Miners – Tom Engel

Excused – Raiders, Slash

Absent – Mountaineers

Quorum established

1. Guest – RMLL RIC Warren Renden

Discussion on whether Sr B wants to have a north/south ref for each game involving north/south teams during regular season. Sr B decided it was cost prohibitive. If there is a north/south provincial series, then north/south referee pairings would be desirable, if possible.

Discussion on the difference between the way the game is called north/south. No definitive plan of action. The Sr B deferred this back to the ALRA to correct. The concern is not based on any bias. It is only on how the game is called between the north/south.

It was pointed out that more importantly is how referees are paired. Warren is willing to accept input into good vs poor pairings and consider that input from the teams.

2. Keith/Phil move to adopt 2013 Agenda. Carried

3. Keith/Phil move to adopt 2012 Minutes. Carried

4. Business arising from 2012 minutes

- Item 21: Sr C and Sr B Protected List – deferred to new business

- Item 23: Operating Policy – Work in Progress by Shauna. The question has been raised in the past at the executive level on the need for divisional operating policies vs modifying the regulations to suit each division. The Sr B division wants to maintain an Operating Policy and agree that it cannot be inconsistent with bylaws/regulations of other governance. Action item: Shauna will submit an Operating Policy as soon as possible.

5. Business arising from 2013 Season

a) - Arena availability for playoffs – It was bad and will get worse. Suggest RMLL lease an arena for August in both cities for all RMLL major lacrosse. Teams will still be responsible to pay for their floor time, but all teams still playing in August could channel into this 1 arena. Defer to New Business item.

b) - 4 game rule – A player on the Mounties couldn't complete 4 games due to school commitments (summer course in U.S.) As there is no regulation at the CLA level, Shauna reviewed the circumstance and allowed this player to attend

the 2013 Presidents' Cup. She sent a regulation revision request to the Executive Planning meeting. Request denied for the Commissioner to decide, but the Executive would consider on a case by case basis for special circumstances. Reg. 26.5.4.1

c) 26.5.4. 4 game rule

Phil/Keith That there be no change affecting Sr B from this reg (status quo)  
Carried

- Protected Sr B player registered in Sr C and used as affiliate to Sr B. Knights had a protected player unavailable to them because he'd committed to play for another Sr B team. On a 2<sup>nd</sup> request, the player had also committed to another Sr B team (same team). Rationale is that a protected Sr B holdout player registered in Sr C could play all games for all other teams and still holdout on the team protecting his playing rights.

Phil/Keith - Protected players are eligible to play for all Sr B teams with the written permission of the GM from the protecting team. Carried.

d) 27.12 Any Sr C player who plays up to Sr B must play a higher percentage of games in Sr C than Sr B to be eligible to play as a call-up in Sr B playoffs and Provincials.

- The RMLL Executive voted to send Reg. 27.12 to the Sr B division for revision. Keith/Phil move to ask the RMLL Executive to reinstate this regulation. Carried

e) 27.6 A team may not scratch a healthy player in place of a call-up or affiliated player unless stated in their Division Operating Policy. Tom/Phil "Words of former RMLL 27.12 be placed into the Sr B Operating Policy".  
Carried

f) 1.07 of Addendum to Sr B 2009 OP – The RMLL Executive will allow the removal of the clause stating that a Sr B player, dropped a 2<sup>nd</sup> time to inactive status must become a free agent. (Wording not exact as per Addendum to Sr B 2009 Operating Policy. Addendum refers to the document regarding the Sr B Protected List)

The rationale for the Sr B division having concern about having this reg is that it limits putting together a full lineup, based on player availability. The original intent was to allow a player who had been dropped twice to move to another team. Players in Sr B may have conflicts with work commitments out of town that prevent them from playing. So, the teams are in agreement with the removal of this clause. A concern was raised on how a player could obtain a release and Reg. 23.10 allows the player to appeal to the Commissioner if he feels he's being treated unfairly.

Stu/Keith: Remove 1.07 from Sr B Operating Policy Addendum: Carried

g) Cancelled game counting toward a suspension. The RMLL exec. has ruled that a game must be played in order to count toward a suspension. The division can ask the Commissioner to reduce the suspension if warranted – case by case.

h) Related issue to g) 4 game rule and a forfeited game. The Sr B division ask that the RMLL exec amend reg. 26.5.4 to add:

“However, if a game has been forfeited, the team not responsible for the forfeit may count that game in the calculation of the 4 games.”

## 6. Arenas/Schedule

- a) GELC has proposed that Cities of Edmonton, Spruce Grove, St Albert and hamlet of Sherwood Park work together on a 4 year rotation to ensure that there's an arena available for August lacrosse.
- b) Keith proposes that the RMLL lease an arena for August in each major centre still needing arena time. Shauna to discuss with the executive. Rob Petz looking into a carpet to cover the plywood floor at Servus. ALA funding? GELC Arena fund? Talk to City of Edmonton on Bill Hunter being the arena of choice for City of Edmonton. Rob points out that minor lacrosse could assist by making their season longer. Apparently CDLA is considering this for LTAD purposes (practice/game ratio)
- c) Questions for consideration. Can we start the Sr B schedule earlier?
- d) Do we need to end the season earlier?
- e) ACTION: Shauna, Rob and Keith to stay in touch on developments and strategies on arenas, working with GELC/CDLA/RMLL.
- f) Back-up arenas: Teams will try, but depends on their location. May be out of control of some teams. Others it's not an issue.
- g) 9 PM weekday games – Division supports this.

## 7. Social Media Harrassment

Shauna asks that all teams remind their players/management to review the ALA and CLA policies on conduct and Social media. Shauna to ask the RMLL to post the Power Point presentation onto the RMLL website.

## 8. Referee Evaluation forms

The Sr B division would like to see the fruits of their labours and then there would be better incentive to fill them out. Shauna asks that all teams comply because they are being used to rank the officials. The Division asks that the RMLL place the question on the Evaluation form as to whether the refs arrived 30 minutes in advance.

## 9. Game Sheets

Sometimes not legible. Makes stat keeping virtually impossible if not legible. Keith notes that sometimes affiliated players are not being noted on game sheet with “AP”.

## 10. Off Floor officials

The division requests 30 sec ALRA official for shot clock for provincial series only.

Teams need to work on getting established volunteers to attend on time and that they are trained.

## 11. Reviewed Gareth’s items from RMLL Exec Planning meeting (Items not already covered)

a) Online roster – all fields need to be filled out or a \$25 fine for each field not filled out. Take note of this when adding new players and throughout the season.

b) We need to better utilize the RMLL site for our teams – photos, etc. Existing function is fine.

c) Hosting home games in May – best efforts

d) Note CLA rule 45A – non fighting players must return to bench

e) Only head coach may address refs – not ass’t coaches.

f) Season constraints for teams need to be submitted by deadline in January/early Feb. (Shauna notes whenever our division deadline is, as instructed)

g) Phil/Keith motion “To restore post game handshake” Carried

h) PC – have just over a year to submit bid for 2016 so start thinking about it now.

i) 3 refs for exhibition games? Fine, as long as it doesn’t cost the teams.

j) Miners and Knights will attend Canada Day Showcase.

k) Ensure all coaches are properly certified. Not a major problem usually in our division, except new coaches coming in.

## 12. Draft - South February 1<sup>st</sup> in Airdrie – details TBA

North – February 8<sup>th</sup> in Edmonton – Details TBA

NLL schedules were checked and there seems no apparent conflicts.

## 13. Season Constraints

Shauna will submit on separate sheet. Dates were determined.

14. Our division opposes any change to any regulations which alter the status quo on free agents, boundaries or which draft a player must go into. Specifically, at this time, asks the RMLL to add to the proposed Boundary reg change that a player returning from another province “returns to their previous RMLL team, if they are on the protected list.”

15. Sr B/Sr C meeting

Sr C concern re: Tomahawks overall lack of success. Calgary may have 4 teams if all applications are accepted (likely 3). Tomahawks GM has made claims that the Sr B teams don't support the Tomahawks. Sr C was advised that this was incorrect. North teams have encouraged players to go to Sr C but players do not want to go to Spruce Grove. (Outlaws specifically know of 7 players they referred to Sr C that did not report) Sr. b advised the Sr C to talk to the Edm Blues because Sr B heard that the Blues would provide a Sr C team. Miners have indicated they will establish a 2<sup>nd</sup> team once the 1<sup>st</sup> one is stable. If Blues not in for 2014, Sr C to advise Miners. Stu Jobb confirmed via txt msg that Blues were running the Tomahawks in 2014.

Sr B would like Sr C coaches to be present at drafts to recruit the undrafted players. Shauna will alter her "free agent status" speech to be presented at the beginning instead of the end and will announce that Sr B only has a certain number of spots to fill, due to Protected List limits.

All felt this meeting was productive.

16. Presidents' Cup –

a) If Type I or Type II MA/AMA, then must send provincial champion to PC if participating – not whichever team wants to go or can afford to go.

b) Better monitoring of the schedule (perhaps must be approved by the Cdn Sr Commissioners) so that the far travelling teams do not have i) 1<sup>st</sup> Monday morning game ii) 2 games on opening day iii) 2 games on opening day against 2 of the strongest teams. There appears to be too much manipulation of the schedule by the hosts now to gain distinct advantage. All hosts are guilty, but it is getting out of hand.

The Sr B teams ask that this be submitted to the ALA to be brought forward to the CLA asap or at minimum, 2014 SAGM.

17. Election of Commissioner – Shauna elected