

**Rocky Mountain Lacrosse League  
Jr. A Division Planning Meeting  
November 2, 2013  
Delta Edmonton South – Canmore Room**

**Minutes**

In attendance: Rob Petz, Miners, AJ Jomha, Miners (Partial attendance), Duane Bratt, Mountaineers, Rick Windl, Mountaineers, Jimmy Quinlan, Titans, Paul Rai, Titans, Dave Pym, Raiders, Greg Lintz, ALA President, Glenn Tackaberry, Junior A Commissioner (Chair)

Note that when two representative participated during the meeting either was allowed to participate in making motions but only one vote per club on any motion was allowed.

Quorum established

1. Call to Order
2. Reading of 2012 Minutes, Accepted by all.
3. Business from 2012 Minutes - none
4. Adoption of 2012 Minutes
5. Adoption of 2013 Agenda – Additions or Deletions
6. Manitoba Gryphons Application Presentation

Manitoba representatives presented their application for participation in the RMLL Junior A division.

**Motion:** That application from Manitoba Gryphons not be approved.

Bratt, Seconded by Petz. – **Passed**

Saskatchewan also asked to be considered if Manitoba's application was approved. As the application was rejected, no further conversation took place

7. Jr. A Commissioner

Current Jr. A commissioner informed the group he is resigning

Nominations - None forwarded

## Election – Unnecessary

Commissioner submits proposal for a Junior A Council as a suggestion for a structure moving forward.

Which would include two-representatives from each participating team

Two representatives appointed by the RMLL and Two representatives appointed by the ALA.

Each individual representative would have a vote.

The Chairman/Commissioner of the division would be elected by the members.

This person would not have a vote except in the event of a tie.

The proposal will be brought to the new commissioner for the teams to consider at a later date.

## 8. 2013 Team Reports (Alphabetical Order)

Miners

Mountaineers

Raiders

Titans

All teams verbally reported their success and trials from the 2013 season. Shortage of arena floor time during the later part of the season was listed as a concern moving forward. All teams agreed the minor box season ending at the end of June was causing logistical problems.

Another common concern was the negative effect that the short length of the minor box season had on the development of players entering the Jr. A program.

## 9. SportzSoft as per RMLL meeting

**Motion:** The teams in the Junior A Division would use the SportzSoft Team View Mobile Team Management System, including Live Update Scoring for the 2014 season. The cost should be no more than \$45 per team and may be less depending on how many other RMLL teams participate.

Bratt, Seconded by Rai - **Passed**

10. Concussions

Paul reminded people about the coach.ca concussion module that will be a requirement for Competitive Introduction Certification going forward. For those already certified, they can do the new Making Head Way e-learning module as professional development.

All teams had some level of Concussion protocol in place.

11. Coach Training Opportunities

Opportunities for coach training were outlined by Paul.

Including the January 17-19 Competitive Development Clinic in Calgary and the NLL Coach Mentorship Clinics that will be on April 12 in Calgary and April 19<sup>th</sup> in Edmonton.

Duane and Paul stated that there would be other opportunities for continuing development such as the Concussion module on coach.ca

The commissioner suggested the teams work toward getting incoming coaches that need certification done at the beginning of the season rather than wait until just before they need to participate at national championships.

12. ALA Social Media Guidelines

The commissioner asked the teams to circulate the ALA Social media guidelines to their teams.

13. Grants –

Teams were informed that player grants could potentially be available for players participating in National Championships and advised to check with the ALA office.

14. BCLA's Inter-Member or Association Member transfer change Proposal

The proposal moves the previous deadline by a few hours.

Greg Lintz will provide the revised Guidelines to the teams.

15. BCLA's Limits on Imports in Junior Proposal and Ontario's Counter proposal.

The BC Proposal requests a change from the current limit of Imports of to 2 imports per season but a maximum of five on a roster per season.

Ontario's counter proposal asks for 2 imports per season, but a maximum of three on a roster per season.

**After much discussion the teams voted 3-1 to direct the ALA President to reject the Ontario Proposal.**

**The vote on the BC Proposal was split 2 in favour and 2 opposed. The Commissioner broke the tie and directed the ALA President to vote in favour of the BC Proposal.**

16. Promotions

The Commissioner explained that upon taking the job he had delegated the promotion and social media for the league to Kris Partington at the suggestion of a Junior A commissioner nomination committee member after he accepted the position.

The Commissioner outlined the things that had been done in the past year, and asked the teams if they would like to continue with the current arrangement should Kris be amenable.

3 teams expressed that they felt what had been done was good. The Raiders were opposed.

**The New or interim commissioner will need to ask Kris to continue. As well as get access passwords from the ex-commissioner and/or from Kris.**

17. Draft Date

**The Draft Date will be Monday, February 10, 7:00 p.m.**

Arrangements will need to be made by the new or interim commissioner to have the results of the draft delivered via twitter.

18. Shaw Broadcasts

The Mountaineers reported on the Shaw Broadcasts and all expressed this was a positive development for the league. Shaw has expressed interest in broadcasting more games in 2014, but they must have the league schedule by no later than December 15, 2014.

This should be submitted as a league proposal to Shaw. RMLL E.D. has information required for submission of proposal.

19. Game ending handshake

Game ending handshake will remain as standard practice for the players on all teams. However, coaches can choose not to shake hands if they don't want to.

20. Western Final

The Commissioner circulated the revised Western Final agreement draft that has been submitted to the Minto Cup Committee.

Motion: Each team contributes \$2500 towards the Western Final representative.

Jomha, Seconded By Rai – **Passed 3-1** Mounties Opposed.

21. Minto Cup.

Two year agreement that was proposed at the August 2013 Minto Cup Committee was discussed. In summary the agreement states that the Minto Cup will be in the West in 2014, hosted by the Western Final Champion, and in the East in 2015. All participants would be responsible for their own costs related to participation in the Minto Cup.

Since the meeting Ontario has stated that they are not willing to go west in 2014. That the minto should be in Ontario and they will pay the expenses of the visiting team.

Much discussion ensued. It was suggested that logistics of preparing for hosting a Minto Cup in 2014 would be extremely difficult, especially getting floor time in the North and South that would need to be booked but potentially not used.

In the end the group asked ALA President Greg Lintz, as the minto cup committee representative to support the August 2013 agreement that was passed by the Minto Cup Committee members at the August 2013 meeting.

Teams were directed to research the possibility of getting floor-time for Western Final and the Minto Cup and report back to the group on the results as soon as possible.

Paul Rai has been tasked to talk to Lisa about potential funding for hosting Minto.

## 22. Scheduling

Parameters for the 2014 Schedule, including allowances for the Western Final and Minto Cup, were agreed upon and will be submitted to the RMLL Executive Director. (attachment incl.)

Of note in the discussion was:

- 18 games
- overnights on travel weekends
- the potential of weekday North vs. South Weekday games in Red Deer
- Mountaineers commitment to Mothers Day Run on May Long weekend – so, No May long weekend games
- Raiders planning to travel to B.C. the same weekend so unable to participate in Mother's day run with regrets.
- Canada Showcase participation agreed upon.
- Western Final dates
- Play-off format change proposal.

**Motion:** To change the play-off format to a 2<sup>nd</sup> place vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> place first round with format with the 1<sup>st</sup> place team receiving a bye. The first round would be a best-of-five. The second round would be best-of-seven.

Rai, seconded by Bratt, **Tabled.**

The Miners asked for my time to discuss the proposal. The issue needs to be submitted for an email vote shortly after the meeting so the results of the play-off format can be submitted to the RMLL executive director for consideration in scheduling in 2014. The other three teams were in favour during the meeting.

## 23. Junior A Operating Policy corrections and changes

23.1 Regulation 2: Player and Coach Registration Requirements  
It was suggested by Greg Lintz that Section 2.01 (a) through (e) were

no longer relevant as registrations were submitted electronically. Members requested that this be delayed until advice be provided from the RMLL Executive Director on how the Junior A's can sign players to the 25 man roster and prevent them from appearing on Junior B tier one lists, without being officially released by a Junior A team.

23.2 Regulation 3:04: Each Team will have a 50 Man Protected List.

**Motion:** Players in their last year of Junior eligibility, who have not played Junior A, must be released from protective lists.

Rai, Bratt – **Passed** (will be added to operating policy as 3.04 (a))

**Motion:** Players who have played Junior A but are not placed on the 25 man roster of the team holding their rights in their final year of junior eligibility, cannot be placed on the 50 Man Protected List.

Pym, Seconded by Rai – **Passed** (will be added as 3.04 (b) in the operating policy.

There was also some discussion regarding 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year players in situations regarding protected lists, but no motions were made.

**Motion:** To change the number of participants on the protected list from 50 to 35.

Rai, Seconded by Pym - **Tabled**

Some discussion on this issue ensued with varying opinions expressed. Teams agreed that they needed to talk about this further within their clubs and that and it should be tabled for future discussion.

23.3 Protection of players on other Junior A leagues list

**Motion:** That Players from Junior A teams in playing in other provinces cannot be added to the 50-man protected list without a signed player transfer.

Rai, Seconded by Pym – **Passed** (Will be added as 3.04 (c) in the operating policy.

24. Joining the BCLA - Forming a Western League

Many reservations but committee asks that the new or interim commissioner open discussions to learn where BC stands in this regard and report back to the committee.

25. Adjournment

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting

Jomha, Seconded by Bratt - **Passed**