

Minutes of the RMLL Tier 2 Breakout Meeting

November 5, 2011

Warren Renden was in the chair in the absence of Rob Letendre. The agenda was recognized and approved as circulated. Additional items added to new business, a discussion about playoffs and playoff format. *Motion Red Deer Major seconded Wranglers that the 2010 Tier 2 breakout minutes be adopted as circulated. Passed*

Team reports and attendance

Calgary Sabrecats – Generally a positive season. No issues.

Inffisfail Yetti – Had a positive season and received good area support for the team.

Edmonton Wizards – The team had excellent commitment from their players and had good numbers with which to operate. They felt that they had too many gaps in the schedule and hoped that that could be rectified in 2012. Travel was a positive, especially their trip to Ft. McMurray. More work needs to be put into the collection of the referee evaluation forms as many coaches do not fill them out with any thought given. Very concerned about in-season alterations to the agreed upon playoff format.

Lethbridge Barracudas – Would hope to be able to reduce gaps in their schedule for 2012.

Ft.McMurray Wolves – Very happy with the season. The junior team would hope to travel with a minor team to their away games in 2012. The team feels that this is very important for the development of the game in Ft. McMurray and they hope that host opponents will assist in facilitating this type of interaction.

Vermilion Roar – Had a very good season and operated with good numbers of players.

Okotoks Ice – Had a good season. Also were concerned with playoff scheduling integrity.

Red Deer Major – Concerns with playoff integrity. Would it be possible to put the referee evaluation forms online so that coaches could fill them later, after passions had cooled?

Westlock Rock – Had a good season. Refereeing was continuing to improve year to year. Westlock loses players and coaches who stay in Edmonton after university and they have continuing concerns about having adequate coaching for the junior level of lacrosse.

Grande Prairie Thrashers – A good season but a buoyant resource economy meant that many players were obtaining increased work hours and this impacted negatively on travel rosters especially on travel weekends. Coaching remains an ongoing issue.

Kitscoty Chaos Drillers – Very pleased with their schedule. Who pays what for playoffs needs to be determined beforehand.

Calgary Wranglers – Had good numbers and a good season.

Calgary Rockies – Coaching issues affected player attitudes and penalties detracted from on floor performance. The club executive realizes the problem and intends to rectify the situation in 2012.

Ft. Saskatchewan Rebels – The team had a good season but were short of players. Scheduling was excellent. The team would be pleased with more user friendly referee evaluation forms.

Not in attendance:

Edmonton Blues, Cranbrook Elite, Strathmore Venom, Medicine Hat Sun Devils, Wainwright Wolfpack , South Edmonton Warriors

Expansion and teams for 2012.

Strathmore intends not to be in the league in 2012. No further changes from 2011 are anticipated.

Coaching and Penalties

There were concerns expressed regarding the unfortunate timing and location of the RMLL Super Coaching Clinic. Many felt that Red Deer could be a better venue and that the RMLL was too Calgarycentric.

No one had a solution, or even an explanation, for the high number of penalties incurred by this division.

2012 Scheduling

Motion Edmonton Wizards seconded Vermilion Roar. That the Option 2 schedule be adopted using the 14 game format and recognizing that it would likely be unbalanced. Motion carried 11 to 2.

Motion Edmonton Wizards seconded Kitscoty Chaos, That the playoffs would follow the start dates of Option 2. That the first round would be 1 vs 4 and 2 vs 3 and that it would be a single game advancement to be played at the home of the higher placed team. That the second round would be the best 2 out of 3, all games to be played at the home of the higher placed team. Carried.

Amendment Edmonton Wizards seconded Okotoks Ice, That in the division final, should the higher placed team lose either of the first two games, game three would then be played at the home of the lower placed team. Carried.

The provincial finals will be hosted by the South Division in 2012.

The attendees wanted to reiterate that they wanted there to be no deviation from this agreed upon format for 2012.

Playoff Floor and Official Funding Fee

Motion by Keith Talbot, Wizards - Carried

Each Tier II team will be invoiced \$150.00 in Feb. The funds from this fee will be split equally amongst the home teams in Playoffs Round 1 and 2 and will help to reduce the cost of the floor and Officials for the home team for Round 1 and 2. Home teams will still be responsible for paying for the floor and the Officials but at the end of the both Playoff Rounds, the RMLL will split the funds from this fee and send a cheque to each of the home teams.

Playoff Travelling Teams Funding Fee

Motion by John Fullmer, Okotoks Ice - Carried

Each Tier II team will be invoiced \$150.00 in Feb. The funds from this fee will be split amongst the travelling away teams in Playoffs Round 1 and 2 and will help to reduce the cost of travel for the travelling team. A travelling team is a team which can not play another team during Regular Season on a weeknight i.e. the distance between the home and away team is over 75 km. Note Friday night is not considered a weekday night. At the end of Playoff Rounds 1 and 2, the RMLL will split equally the funds from this fee between the the travelling teams from Playoff Round 1 and 2.

RIC

The delegates were pleased by the report of Tier 2 North RIC Marc Andre Filion. There was agreement to continue this arrangement in 2012 and there was a hope that the RMLL and ALRA could replicate the same arrangement in the south.

Safety

Emergency Action Plan (EAP) – Each team must submit their team EAP to the RMLL Executive Director by mid April 2012.

Floor Conditions – the Home Team is responsible for the condition of the floor and is responsibilities for cleaning up any water, blood, etc. from the floor during a game.

Mops/Towels – If Home Team does not have access to the mop at the Arena, then part of the equipment for the Home Team is a mop and/or large towels.

Injury Report Form – Form is on the RMLL website. This form is for team use only and is not a RMLL mandatory form.

Promotion

Graduating Midget Communication – RMLL will send a communication to all Graduating Midgets.

Graduating Midget Info Sessions – North Tier II teams to send Team Rep.s to North Session held in Edmonton in early January and South Teams to send Reps to South Session held in Calgary on Jan. 11 at Acadia.

Powerpoint Presentation – will be available for teams to use.

New Coach and Referee Acquisition – RMLL and ALRA will try to acquire Graduating Juniors.

RMLL Showcase Games – South will be held on the Canada Day weekend in Calgary. North TBD.

Development

The Tier II Division was not at all interested in participating in a RMLL Tournament on the Victoria Day weekend which was to be used to evaluate Officials and provide further info from the Super Coaching Clinic.

Commissioner

Motion Red Deer seconded Wranglers, that Rob Letendre be nominated as Tier 2 Commissioner for 2012.
Carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM. Warren Renden would report to the RMLL AGM and ensure that a copy of the minutes would be sent to Christine Thielen for distribution.