

2012 Junior/Senior Ladies breakout meeting- November 3rd, 2012

1) Roll call

Chair: John Radford, Commissioner
Axemen: Tom McKinstry, Gord Janzen
Bandits: Lisa Mayner, Jessica Storie
Cardinals: Alex Traboulay, Kevin Murray
Cougars: Wes Taylor, Amanda Taylor, Jennifer Radford, Megan Schmidt
Drillers: Hank Crough, Tom Perry
Rage: Harold Albrecht
Titans: Reid Zimmerling, Natasha Zimmerling
Warriors: Graham Sterparn

2) Commissioner

I put forward my name to continue on as Commissioner, no other names were put forward. We voted and it was an 8-0 vote for me to continue.

3) Review of the 2011 report

Everyone went over this prior to the meeting and we voted 8-0 to accept.

4) Round table discussion to prepare for the ALRA rep.

We discussed that we feel the refereeing is still inconsistent and there are certain referees that we feel should not ref the female game. The rest of the report will be added at the end of this report

5) Expansion/Contraction

We did receive an application from Strathmore for a Junior Ladies team and voted 8-0 to accept them into the league. I went over a memo from the Sabrecats stating they might not have a team for the 2014 season.

6) Re Alignment of the divisions, possible Junior A

I presented my 3 year plan to everyone which is as follows:

2013 Season: The Junior ladies Titans will be moved into our newly created Junior A division, all the remaining teams will remain Junior B, no change to the Senior division. There will still be a fully integrated schedule. For the 2013 season there will be no Junior A playoffs. The winner of the Junior B provincials will move up to Junior A for the 2014 season.

2014 season: Again there will be a fully integrated schedule after the playoffs the losing team will move back down to Junior B. The winner of the Junior B provincials or playoffs (the structure will be determined at next year's meeting) will move up to Junior A. Again no change to the Seniors.

2015 season: If no new teams enter our division things will remain the same as 2014.

I will be working with the south teams to try and develop a Junior A team. We agreed that this is a bold step and needs to be monitored closely, which I will do so. The playoff format etc. will be covered in item 9. We voted on this and it was passed 8-0

7) Player registration Growth/Decline

As we voted Strathmore in we have increased by one team, I let everyone know that I have had inquiries from various other associations, hopefully some of these inquiries will turn into applications for the 2014 season. We have a large number of graduating midgets in the south and hope to retain a large amount of them.

8) Schedule for the 2013 season

Again there is reluctance to play into July. I will work towards a 16 game schedule for the 2013 season. We will be looking into starting early if possible and have several new options to explore to get 16 games in. I will be working continuously on this to make it happen if possible.

9) Playoffs

Junior A, as this is a newly created division there will be no playoffs for the 2013 season.

Junior B, The top 3 teams plus the host will qualify for a tournament style provincials which will be held in the north on the Canada Day long week end. Both the Drillers and the Warriors expressed interest in holding the tournament and will review there submissions when the time comes.

Senior, the top 2 teams will play a best of 3 playoff, after our meeting I had a request to review this with the 3 senior teams.

Ladies Championship, this is a newly created tournament (name of the Championship to be determined) with the winners of the Junior A, Junior B and Seniors winners participating. This will be a RMLL championship tournament being hosted by the Sherwood Park Titans for the 2013 season

We voted and it was passed by an 8-0 vote

10) Interprovincial tournaments

We have heard of a possible tournament in Ontario for next year but do not have any details at this time.

11) Defaults

Not a huge issue in our divisions, I asked everyone that if we do have a default that it is up to the teams to reschedule in a timely manner.

12) Supplementary discipline

I received many complaints throughout the year regarding the amount of dangerous hits in our division and the majority of the complaints centre around a few players. With our bold move to improve the quality of skill in our divisions is time to address this. We decided to bring in supplementary discipline on the check from behind penalties. I will monitor this and we will expand this to certain other penalties for the 2014 season if need be. Once a player receives 5 check from behind penalties they will receive a 1 game suspension and possibly a fine. If that player receives 3 more check from behind penalties they will be suspended for 3 games and a possible fine. If the same player receives 3 more check from behind penalties they will be suspended for the rest of the season and a possible fine.

These players will be discussed at the break out session every year and if so determined by team vote could be expelled from our divisions by way of a vote. I will be sending the players in question a letter informing them that their actions are no longer acceptable and I will be monitoring them hopefully to see improvement. We voted on this and it was passed by a 8-0 vote.

13) RMLL Promotion

We did not touch much on this as this was discussed briefly at the AGM

14) Coaching development

This was discussed at the main meeting so we had no further discussion

15) League business

The main issue we discussed was that all the player info needed to be completed in full by May 1st or there will be fines.

16) 2013 goals

I think we have taken a bold step as described in Items 6 and 12 to improve the skill level in our divisions and to reduce the unnecessary roughness in the ladies game

17) Round table, for any items not listed above

We felt as a group all items that needed to be discussed were brought up.

In addition

We had a good talk with Greg Hart in his new role and voiced our concerns regarding some of the referees that are assigned to the ladies divisions. I will be gathering a short list of referees to present to him and recommend to him that these individuals not ref in our divisions. He will present to and discuss with the ALRA.

We did discuss the CLA fighting committee document. From a Junior and Senior ladies perspective, fighting is not really an issue in our divisions. As a whole we feel fighting should not be taken out of the game but instead staged fighting and repeat offenders need to be dealt with harshly.