



Annual Report of the RMLL President
Duane Bratt
September 2018

2018 was the first season returning as President of the RMLL. Although I had been involved with different aspects of the RMLL for years, I had not been RMLL President since 2008.

As RMLL President I attended ALA Board of Directors meetings, represented the RMLL on appeals to the ALA, coordinated with ALA executive and staff members, worked with the rest of the RMLL Executive (including instituting monthly teleconference meetings), assisted the RMLL commissioners on issues, and participated in league marketing efforts (ie., graduating midget information nights and combines).

Organizationally it was a tough year. The RAMP software was a contentious issue all year. RAMP was designed, first and foremost for minor lacrosse registration, and getting it to operate for major lacrosse was not easy. Both the RMLL President and Executive Director were taken to ALA Discipline for issues surrounding RAMP. Although the ALA discipline committee eventually dismissed the code of conduct charges, the process diverted valuable volunteer hours that could have been better spent. Ultimately the conversion to RAMP required many many additional volunteer hours by the RMLL Executive to get players, coaches, and executive into the system and then sorted to the appropriate teams. Conforming to the RAMP system also cost the RMLL additional unbudgeted dollars. Even now, at the time of writing, there are still bugs that need to be worked out. Hopefully it will be a lot easier in 2019.

Another problem was the resignations of several of the division commissioners (SrLadies, JrB Tier 2, and JrB Tier 3). This meant that the remaining executive members had to undertake multiple tasks; not an ideal situation.

One of the more rewarding duties was working with the rest of the RMLL Executive. A good and dedicated group of volunteers who would often look beyond their own particular job description to focus on the betterment of lacrosse as a whole. It is a very functional executive.

One of the major projects that I was involved with in 2018 was organizing the coaching Super Clinic in April. I worked with David Westwood and Greg Hart in organizing the event. As with previous years, we ran the clinic in conjunction with the referee über clinic. We also had special guest speakers/instructors attending the two clinics including:

- Walt Christianson (former Assistant Coach Calgary Roughnecks & Colorado Mammoth, former Head Coach Victoria Shamrocks Senior A)
- John Kilbride (SrB Mountaineers Coach, and former Calgary Roughnecks player)
- Kane Swartout (SrB Mountaineers Goalie)

There was some continuity with previous years. For example, the required training was provided to the referees and coaches as per CLA guidelines. There was JrB exhibition game between the Calgary Shamrocks and Lethbridge Barracudas with all of the coaches/officials watching and taking notes. Finally, we continued the Friday night social and discussion involving all participants. For 2018, we also tried a few new things. For example, a joint “on floor” session for coaches and officials examining contentious items such as face-offs and picks. In looking to the future, we received some good ideas through

the feedback forms. These ideas included how to do video analysis and running a Jr team through a practice on the floor.

Finally, I want to offer my public congratulations to the Okotoks Raiders and Calgary JrA Mountaineers who co-hosted the 2018 Minto Cup in Calgary. Special congratulations go to the St. Albert Miners for winning their third straight President's Cup. This time on the road in Nanaimo, BC. Great work to all players, coaches, and staff!