



Junior B Tier III Commissioner Report

Growth and Recruitment

The 2019 Tier III Season had only two teams, the Cranbrook Outlaws and the West Kootenay Timberwolves. The Calgary Axemen Tier III team folded at the end of the 2018 season. There was a total of 28 players registered in the 2019 season which was a 12 % decrease in players over the 2018 season (32 players). The total RMLL junior players registered for 2019 was 1,052 in which the Tier III division represented about 3% of that total.

Recruitment

Both teams had 14 registered players, and both utilized affiliates for their games. Teams are going to have to continue to improve their recruitment efforts to ensure their teams rosters are at the minimum 16 registered players as per the ALA/RMLL regulations.

Season Overview

The 2019 season was 3-3-1 between the two Tier III teams, with Cranbrook winning three games against Tier II teams. The penalty minutes over the season was up slightly over the prior year. In total for Tier III for 2019, there were 377 penalty minutes compared to 350 in 2018. That is a 7% increase in penalty minutes in the division. The south division did cross over games with the Tier III division as they only had two teams remaining this season. These were scheduled as a mini-series where 2 south teams would travel to either Cranbrook or West Kootenay to play. This went over well except for one of the travelling teams having to play two games in one day. This was hard on the players and coaching staff to have travelled the long distance and play two games that day and then leave again the next day. It was suggested that if this were to happen again, the team who does not have to travel play the two games in one day. This will be up for further discussion at our 2020 planning meetings. Overall, the season ran well. I would like to thank the RMLL and volunteers for all their work as everyone's contributions make the season such a success. I would also like to thank the ALRA and the referees as without them, we could not play this incredible sport.

Season Accomplishments

I would like to congratulate the Cranbrook Outlaws on winning the Provincial Championship and for the West Kootenay Timberwolves on placing second. We seen some incredible talent and play during the provincials and throughout the season and would like to thank all the teams and their volunteers for such a great season. I would like to thank the south teams who graciously agreed to do the cross-over games with the Tier III teams. It gave these two teams an opportunity to play higher level teams and to help them with the growth and development of their players to help them grow the sport in their communities.

Season Setbacks

I cannot honestly say that this division had any setbacks this season.

Looking to the Future/Upcoming Season Goals

It has already been mentioned that one of the Tier III teams will be applying to Tier II division for the 2020 season. This will generate some discussion at the planning meetings regarding formats and travel should they be accepted into the division. There will need to be discussion regarding the Tier III division and its existence as to whether the Tier III team(s) need to be pulled into the Tier II division or whether there is recruitment of new teams into Tier III.