

Junior B Tier II 2023 Planning Meeting Agenda, Saturday Nov 26, 2022

Delta South Calgary - Nakiska Ballroom

1. Call to order – Point of Order, Southern Alberta Chaos can attend the meeting but does not have a vote until their application is ratified by the members

2. Attendance

Axemen – Darrel Knight and Charlene Brennan

Chaos – Mike, Mike and Jared

Crude – Rick

High River Heat – Larry

Lakeland Heat – Daryl

Outlaws – Russ and Carla (at Tier 1 Meeting at the start of the meeting)

Posse – Tyron

Rage – Absent (illness)

Renegades – Mike

Rock – Stacy

Sabrecats – Josh and Robb

Stingers – Lane

Titans – Absent

Venom – Lucas

Warriors – Justin

Wranglers - Absent (illness)

Xtreme – Graham

Yeti – Hunter

3. Motion to adopt 2022 planning meeting minutes.

Moved By: Rick - Crude

2nd: Daryl – Lakeland Heat

Passed

4. Additions to 2023 planning meeting agenda.

* ALRA Division Rep

* Marketing and Communications Division Rep

* Commissioner Honorarium

5. Motion to adopt 2023 planning meeting agenda with changes if needed

Moved by: Daryl – Lakeland Heat

2nd: Justin - Warriors

Passed

6. Potential number of teams for 2023 season. Westlock will be returning from their 1 year hiatus, Chaos have applied for permanent status and will be added pending the ratification of their application, Wainwright is not returning for the 2023 season.

Cranbrook put in request for Tier 1

Current teams:

North Conference (9 teams) – St. Albert Crude, Edmonton Warriors, Sherwood Park Titans, Parkland Posse, Lakeland Heat, Lloydminster Xtreme, Red Deer Renegades, Sylvan Lake Yettis and Westlock Rock,

South Conference (9 teams pending the Chaos Tier 2 application and the Outlaws Tier 1 application) – Calgary Sabrecats, Calgary Axemen, High River Heat, Strathmore Venom, Calgary Wranglers, Mountain View Stingers, Rockyview Rage, Cranbrook Outlaws

Additions pending application, Southern Alberta Chaos

Chaos excused to discuss application

Motion to Accept Southern Alberta Chaos' application as circulated into the Rocky Mountain Lacrosse League Jr. B Tier 2 as a permanent member:

Moved by: Darrel - Axemen

2nd: Larry – HR Heat

- i. Discussions – draw areas / minor association (Lethbridge, Taber, Brooks) as feeder system, SALA boundaries, Medicine Hat considerations (distance issue), facility (changed from time to time at short notice in past)

Passed

Chaos returned to the meeting

Motion that the RMLL Jr B Tier 2 move away from the 4 divisions and go to North and South Conference only

Moved by Darrel – Axemen

2nd by Graham – Xtreme

Passed

7. New Business

* ALRA Division Rep – Lucas Bobbitt

a. Sub committee to be established with Division / League representative

i. Looking at immediate process not the output

ii. Output – ie what is being done on the floor will come down the line

1. Solid foundation for future improvement

b. Statistical use

c. Moving to electronic platform

* Marketing and Communications Division Rep – Darrel Knight – As a result of Darrel's appointment we need to have a new representative not on the Executive.

a. To work with RMLL and other division reps to work towards improvement overall, not just locally

Response Required – Inform RMLL of the replacement for Darrel on the committee

* Commissioner Honorarium –

a. Volunteer vs re-imburement

i. Traditional – no money

ii. New generation – need to compensate (interest persons seeking / expecting), need to attract and retain interested and competent people

b. Raised

i. Need additional information from exec to make decision

c. Decision – no change until additional information is provided and discussed

i. don't feel we have accurate information to make an educating decision

ii. what are other provinces doing

iii. what is the guidance from the RMLL Executive

iv. no information prior to the meeting, too short of a time span

The Division feels that we should have no change at this time and should further investigate and re-engage at the 2024 planning meeting.

8. Equipment – ensuring all nets are black mesh and in good order. Nets can be ordered from Big Hill Services in Cochrane 1 888 932 2729

9. Safety – All teams should have an Emergency Action Plan updated for each season. New EAP form on the website Please forward these to the Division Commissioner and Executive Director. Home team to supply an EAP for each visiting team on game day with scoresheet. Commissioner will send it team a package with all the EAPs for their Division.

- The Division asked that we look to see if the EAP plans can be forwarded to the teams on 1 email or just loaded onto the website, Darrel will inquire.

10. Scheduling – 2023 Season

Teams are asked to try and keep their “blackout” dates to a minimum as our season is short and some of the teams can play weekend games only.

Provincial Host for 2023 –

Host Volunteers: Calgary Wranglers, Mountain View Stingers, Sylvan Lake Yeti

- i. Discussion – north, south rotation
- ii. Sylvain pulled in support of north south split

Motion – Move to accept Mountain View Stingers as host for the 2023 Tier 2 Provincials

Moved By: Larry – HR Heat

2nd: Graham – Xtreme

Passed

Consideration moving forward:

- Should have a bid plan
- Repercussions of backing out
- North next year – who, where, what is going to look like.

- Bid put in before AGM – set 30-day DD to collect and distributed
- If no North team identified – reverts to South
- Schedules and Playoff format discussed
 - Discussion to have everything pushed back one week to accommodate Indigenous Games
 - Need to consider affiliations (completion of provincial tournaments)
 - Not going to adjust our schedule to accommodate Western Canadians
 - Playoffs of weekend only discussion:
 - Travel / referee scheduling / work schedules of players
 - Finalized dates discussed and worked through– to be provided
 - Nothing to prevent playoffs / provincial on august long weekend:
 - Leave open to have either Friday or Monday as a travel date

Regular Season – Starts Wednesday April 26, 2023 – July 14

Subsequent Note: RMLL Request to end on July 14 to provide ample time for B1 players to get 4 games in for playoff eligibility

- Game days: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat and Sun (excluding Canada Day and May long weekends)
- Regular season games - both divisions will play a 16 game (8 home/8 away) season (providing no changes to the list of teams above)

Playoff format

- will both the north and south will run the same playoff format as prior years. Top 6 teams after regular season play in each of the north and south divisions will advance to playoffs

* First round will take play weekend of July 21, 2023

* First round – 1st and 2nd will have bye for first round

* 3rd vs 6th and 4th vs 5th. Winners advancing to next round

* 3rd and 4th placed teams to host all games this this round.

* Scenario 1 - If two teams within 250 kms

* Friday, July 21 - 9:00 PM

* Saturday, July 22 - 2:00 PM

* Sunday, July 23 – 11 am - third game if needed

*Scenario 2 - If two teams over 250 kms

* Saturday, July 22 - 1:00 PM

* Sunday, July 23 - 10:00 AM

* Sunday, July 23 at 3:00 PM - third game if needed

- Times can be negotiated between both teams prior to the weekend dependent on floor time availability

* Second round will be played weekend of July 28, 2023

* 1st ranked team plays winner of lowest ranking from 1st round and 2nd ranked team plays next highest rank winner from round

* First and second placed teams to host this round of playoffs

* Scenario 1 - If two teams within 250 kms

* Friday, July 28- 9:00 PM

* Saturday, July 29 - 2:00 PM

* Sunday, July 30 – 11 am - third game if needed

* Scenario 2 - If two teams over 250 kms

* Saturday, July 29 - 1:00 PM

* Sunday, July 30 - 10:00 AM

* Sunday, July 30 at 3:00 PM – third game if needed

- Times can be negotiated between both teams prior to the weekend dependent on floor time availability

The two winners of the second playoff series will represent their conference in provincial play down

Provincials

Tier II Provincials to be held Aug 4 - 7, 2023 Hosted by Mountain View

Playoff Provincials Top

2 North and top 2 South teams advance to provincials

Friday Aug 4, N1 vs N2 – 6:30 PM for North division champion

Friday Aug 4, S1 vs S2 – 9 PM for South division champion

Saturday Aug 5

S1 vs N2 – 11am

S2 vs N1 – 2pm

S1 vs N1- 6:30pm

S2 vs N2 – 9pm

- The two teams with the least points from the Round Robin will play for the Bronze on Sunday Aug 6, 2023, with a start time of 11AM or agreed upon by both teams.
- The two teams with the most points from the Round Robin will play for the Gold on Sunday Aug 6, 2023, with a start time of 2:00 PM or agreed upon by both teams.
 - For the schedules the higher seeded team will be the home team.

NOTE:

- If there is no travel, then playoff games can start on a Wednesday if both teams agree.
- All games must be completed by the end date for the round
- all teams must secure their floor time and arena before the END of the season.
- Discretion of the host to play on Friday Night or Monday but not both

CONFIRM NUMBER OF MEDALS NEEDED – CURRENTLY 35 PER TEAM

Western Canadian Championships – This will be run as an invitational tournament (offer to RMLL spots and RMLL decides who goes), currently the structure and details of the tournament are still being developed.

Will not be a Western Canadian Championship at this time, RMLL Teams will state their intent to attend, if there are more than 2 teams declare then a playoff format will be developed by the Division teams.

- Aug 8 – 13, 2023
- In Port Coquitlam
- 8 team tournament:
 - 2 BC Mainland
 - 1 BC Island
 - 1 BC Interior
 - 2 Alberta
 - 1 Saskatchewan
 - 1 Manitoba

11. Tier II fines and Suspensions –

i Have the coaches send in their outlook of the situation.

ii. Default games \$1000 fine first game, \$1500 for the second game plus the additional costs ie: floor, referee, transportation for the other team – these default costs have gone up by \$500 each

iii. If a team defaults three games in one season, then that team will default the rest of the season and lose their bond and must reapply to field a team for the next season. Teams who default the season is also fined \$2,000.

iv. Minimum number of own roster players is 16 or subject to fine. Commissioner can allow more than 4 call ups for regular season game at their discretion. Playoffs are restricted to 4 call ups and 2 goalies per game due to injuries. Commissioner does not have discretion for playoff games.

* Division does not want a cap on the Commissioner's discretion, but teams must have more rostered players than affiliates on the game sheet

12. Tier 2 Discipline chairs 1. Josh – Sabrecats 2. Mike - Renegade

Response Required: Can we institute a report back (transparency) system to close the loop with a complainant

13. RMLL Casino none in 2023

14. Coaches/Bench Personnel

i. All bench personnel need to have proper certification (even trainers) Own it and follow up on it – this is a responsibility of the team!!

i. Coaches - Competitive Introduction Trained and must have completed:

1. Making Head Way – on-line
2. Make Ethical Decisions – on-line

ii. Trainers must have the appropriate certification. Appropriate certification is defined as one of the following:

1. Any St. John Ambulance Emergency First Aid course of 8 hours (or more)
2. Canadian Red Cross Standard First Aid & Basic Rescuer CPR course
3. Canadian Red Cross Sport First Aid course
4. Any CAHA Hockey Trainer's Certification Program
5. A professional designation (examples: MD; RN; Physiotherapist, Policeman; Fireman; Chiropractor; Registered Massage Therapist).

ii. All Coaches need their NCCP certification entered into the system by the beginning of the season preferable and updated status by the end of the season before playoffs if enrolled in coaching clinics throughout season.

iii. Referee evaluations MUST be submitted with the game sheets.

iv. Games sheets must be scanned and sent in, not faxed. Turbo Scan or Tiny Scan app for phones works well.

v. Coaching evaluations to be completed online

vi. Bench personnel who have not attended any clinics will not be permitted on bench (dates need to be supplied to commissioner of those scheduled to take clinics through season)

vii. All bench personnel need to be responsible and respectful before/after and during game to referees, parents, off floor officials and players.

viii. Coaches and clubs are responsible for their players and fans

ix. Minor LGB's run clinics so only run as per ALA – RMLL holds their coaching clinic early

Response Required: Division believes that the Super Clinic and the AGM need to be on a rotational or centralized location bases

15. Coach and player development

i. Keep the respect in the game (teammates, opponents, officials, and fans), we as coaches and managers need to lead this and make sure we are fostering an appropriate environment to Honour The Game, we cannot ignore incidents of abuse, racism or harassment in any form.

ii. Use your affiliates within reason. Call ups are not a right, need approval from your commissioner to play on a per game basis and not for the season. U17 affiliates need written approval from their parents, coach and Association president and LGB president. Please ensure these are submitted to commissioner.

iii. If you are going to be using the same call ups – use a “reply all” and email all 4 contacts, tell them that the LGB and association are giving approval for entire season for that player, coach and parent must give approval on a game to game basis. Copy the commissioner on that email and ask everyone to reply all to that email so that a single record exists that the LGB and association approve the player to play all season. After the first time an affiliate plays you just need to send the commissioner the parent and coach approval for each subsequent game. This will expediate further approvals in season.

iv. Getting players ready for higher tiers and encouraging players to play and/or try out for higher tiers

v. Communication with U17 players to let them know there is lacrosse available after they graduate from Minor lacrosse

vi. Junior Combines RMLL – sends out information to all LGB's and teams, try to be present at the combines and drafts to assist all players to know that there is a place for them to play!

vii. Coaching clinics and Super Coaching Clinic – regular coaching clinics held by minor LGB's

- o RMLL Super Clinic is April 15,16 in Okotoks – hotels will be paid for those coaches who are travelling about 100 km to the clinic. Registration will start in December through the RMLL website.

viii. Handshake after game signifies game is over and shows sign of respect and sportsmanship. If playing a series of games, handshakes are done only at conclusion of series

16. Rosters

i. 25 Person Tier II rosters in areas where there are Tier III teams. 25 player rosters plus 5 carded Tier III players in areas where there are no Tier III teams. Max of 5 Tier III.

* All teams need to understand that Tier 3 players can be utilized by other teams, teams need to offer players options to under-rostered teams but do not have to sign. We cannot expect that a player not on a 25 person roster will move to another team, let's be open and transparent about opportunities to play regular for another club but keep the players engaged by listening to their constraints and find away to keep them playing the game. The Division teams do not believe that it should be a requirement that all teams 25 person rosters is full prior to carding a player to a Tier 3 Card but we need to work together to keep the player playing.

ii. No over/underaged players. Do NOT add affiliates to your online rosters, only the game sheets – Amanda will enter in AP's

Response Required: The data needs to be entered faster as it affects the results and schedules on-line

iii. Player information needs to be completed and in the systems 4 days prior to Division first scheduled game. If not, the player is considered to be an illegal player and the team/coach will be subjected to fines and a loss of the game. All player information must be complete, address, phone numbers, emails etc.

iv. Intent to play with ALA opens in December 2022. Teams can't start adding to your rosters until February 1, 2023. Coaching, bench staff and managers will be allowed to register on the ALA website now as of December 1, 2023, as well, so we aren't running in to last minute registrations. ALL must be registered before the first game of your season.

v. All rosters are due in the system (players, coaches, bench staff, etc.) no later than 4 days before your first scheduled league game. July 1 is deadline for signing new players. All players must play in 4 Division Regular Season games to be eligible for playoffs.

17. Promotion:

* New coach acquisition – There will be no more community development challenges permitted. All coaches must attend a clinic.

18. LC/ALA/RMLL timelines

i. All timelines need to be adhered to for game sheets, ref evaluations, player information in the systems etc.

ii. All info needs to be entered in before the season starts.

iii. All players who need to be taken off your rosters must be done through Christine and let your commissioner know as well.

iv. Players who have been playing for a higher tier prior to May 1st and then going to a lower tier, do not need a release but need to notify the team they are leaving. Releases are required when in the same division and moving teams after May 1 – please see Regulations for more info

v. Players who are trying out for a higher division can be utilized by Tier II teams as long as they have not been signed to the higher team prior to the May 1st deadline or have competed in 10 games in the higher division.

vi. Teams reminded of the constraint's deadline of Jan 15

19. Website

All stats will be posted as entered by teams, but changes to stats could take place once they are “verified” by our statistician if corrections to posted stats need to be made due to errors. All teams were made aware of the possible updates to stats and standings depending on verification by the Statistician.

20. ALRA – Carmen Massel

* Need to work out with Cranbrook on training officials in their area as getting officials to go to BC is difficult. Cranbrook needs to provide one Referee per game.

21. Off floor officials

i. Dedicated group of individuals.

ii. Must be in time box 20 minutes before game for start instructions.

- Crude have a dedicated paid team of Off Floor Officials and the Axemen are looking to do the same in 2023. Suggested value of \$20-\$25/game

22. Costs for Major team (2023 fees)

i. Annual ALA fees – invoiced usually in August for executive/bench - Players \$60.25 per player paid on completing Intent to Play, \$32.75 per coach and \$24.25 per manager, executive and trainer (proposed increases by LC \$5 per coach, \$4.00 participant, officials \$10 each have not heard of ALA is planning increase

ii. ALA Provincial fees - \$750 per team qualifying for Provincials – this amount is split between all the teams in the division and is included in your RMLL annual franchise invoice.

iii. Tier II additional fees – a playoff floor/referee fee of \$150 and a playoff/provincial travelling fee of \$250.

iv. Referee Game fees – for regular season games \$73 per referee (2 referees per game) for regular season games which is paid prior to the start of the game. For playoff games, the 2 referees at \$73.00 per game and Shot clock official is paid \$36.50 per game.

v. ALRA Assigning Fees and Referee Travel/per Diem – invoiced by the RMLL in late August each season. \$3.00 per home game (regular season and playoffs) and any referee travel/per diem costs associated with a home game Referee coming from outside your local area. ALRA travel rate is \$0.40 per km. Assigning Fee is \$6.00 per game

vi. RMLL Team Franchise fee - \$800.00 per team invoiced in February each year

vii. RMLL Contingency fee (new 2022) \$200 per team invoice in February each year

- Is there a target amount for this fund to reach and if so what is the plan when it is capped? (asked and answered at the RMLL AGM)

viii. Fines, Referee Accommodation and Airfare – invoiced by RMLL throughout the season as they occur

ix. Team Performance Bond (\$2,000.00) – submitted with new team application and kept with RMLL until team withdraws from RMLL

x. Refundable Application Bond (\$1500) – submitted with new team application and kept by RMLL for two years.

xi. Floor rental for RMLL contract Arena – invoiced by RMLL at the end of the season for a team

xiii. Western Championship

Motion that the \$300 per team per year be suspended as the Western Canadian Championships structure leads to teams bidding to attend and as such should be fully funded by the teams applying.

Moved by Darrel – Axemen

2nd by Josh – Sabrecats

Passed

Motion that the 2022 Western Championship Fee is held by the RMLL pending clarity of the Championship for future tournaments:

Moved by Stacey – Rock

2nd – Lane - West View

Passed

xiv. Each team annual budget varies, depending on if a team includes travel in their budgets, a teams' floor rate, how many practices you have, if a team pays a Trainer, etc. as well as how detailed their budget is. A budget tool can be found at

<http://www.rockymountainlax.com/Team/teamWeb.dll/PageContent?ContentId=57667&SessionId=52751272295501&co=1>

23. RMLL Regulations re: Invoices and Fines –

- Regulation 4.13. All RMLL invoices are due thirty day from invoice date except invoices for team fines which are due within ten (10) days of invoice date.

- Regulation 4.13.1. A team (RMLL member) must pay fines assessed against them and/or their members within ten (10) days of invoice date or be liable to further fines as penalty for nonpayment.

24. Team Events – All team events must be entered into the RMLL system even in the off season.

- A Team Event is required when just a team activity which only includes team roster players, team Graduating U17 players and Division Free Agents.
- The ALA Form “Request for Non-League Programming Authorization” must completed and sent to the ALA when a Team Activity includes players that are not a teams’ players such as multiple age groups (Jr. & Sr.), open floor times for all players regardless of what team holds their playing rights 4 vs 4 league etc.
- Jan 15 – timeslots and Franchise certificate info needs to be in RMLL system – make sure to email Christine when the information for the Franchise certificate is complete so she can approve them.
- Feb 1 – first day you can add players to your online rosters – DO NOT add players prior to this date
- Mar 1 – Franchise and Division fees due

25. Edmonton and area boundaries –

- a. Posse / Crude / Warriors remain in the meeting, Titans were not in attendance
 - i. Map and recruitment (student numbers) discussed
 - ii. Free agent movement decision made in 2019 – one time decision

- iii. Minor associations and vertical integration with available options for graduating players
- b. NO request for actual change to boundaries
 - i. Discussions had and opened points of interest
- c. Westlock players
 - i. Will get one time declaration to decide where to play if they played for another Tier II team last year (2022)

Response Required: Confirm the Nov. 3 email position of previous Commissioner stating that players that were re-assigned in 2022 have the ability to choose their 2023 team between Westlock and the team they played for in 2022.

26. Future of the RMLL- Greg Hart – presentation was delivered on Friday evening and not at the Division Planning meeting

27. Game Streaming – Greg Hart – presentation was delivered on Friday evening and not at the Division Planning meeting

28. Election of commissioner for Tier II- Pat Hanson will not be putting name forward for 2023

* Nominations/Volunteers

* Darrel Knight nominated by Larry – HR Heat 2nd by Rick - Crude

Darrel Knight was acclaimed pending ratification of the RMLL Executive

Response Required: Look into the previous decision regarding the extra point for OT.

29. Adjournment – Moved by Mike - Chaos