



2024 RMLL Junior B Tier 2 Planning Meeting Agenda Talking Notes

1. Roll Call
 - a. Axemen – Darrel
 - b. Posse – Ray
 - c. Venom – Lucas
 - d. Chaos – Jarod, Mike; Mike
 - e. Bandits – Josh, Craig
 - f. HR Heat – Larry, Charmaine
 - g. Renegade – Mike
 - h. Warriors – Justin
 - i. Rock – Stacey
 - j. Titans – Harry
 - k. Crude – Rick and Greyson
 - l. Yetti – Pat
 - m. LL Heat – Daryl
 - n. Xtreme – Graham
 - o. Stingers – Laine
 - p. Rage – Reese
 - q. Blackwolves – Russ
 - r. Wranglers - Excused
2. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. As submitted in the Pre-meeting Package
Moved by HR Heat
2nd by Crude
Carried
3. Approval of the 2023 Planning Meeting Minutes
 - a. As submitted in the Pre-meeting Package
Moved by LL Heat
2nd by Crude
Carried
4. Commissioner Report
 - a. As submitted in the Pre-meeting package

5. New Team Applications, Tier Change Requests
 - a. Cranbrook has submitted to move to Tier 1
 - i. Conditionally accepted pending Cranbrook's acceptance by Dec. 6, 2023
 - b. Grand Prairie
 - i. Deferred to 2025 planning meeting
 1. Submit a proper application
 2. Understand all costs including the need for ALRA officials travelling to Grand Prairie
 3. Attend the planning meeting to state case
 - ii. North Teams are open to exhibition games provided the team meets ALA requirements.
6. Deadline for Existing Team to Withdraw from 2024 Season
 - a. Dec. 31, 2023
7. 3 Person Referee System
 - a. Applied for a grant from the ALA to cover the 3rd Referee.
 - i. Request was not accepted.
 - b. Is there an appetite to have 3 Person crews work games in Tier II
 - i. All games
 - ii. Select number of games
 - iii. At the request (prior to the start of the season) by each Home Team

Motion to approve 3 – person mechanics by Rock
2nd – Bandits
Carried

8. Alignment to Jr. A Rules

Motion to adopt Jr. A Rules dependent on the Tier 1 adopting – Motion from Venom
2nd Crude
Carried

9. Affiliation Regulations
 a. U17A Affiliation

30.1. Allowed Division Affiliations

Senior B	Senior C	Junior A
Senior C	Junior B Tier 1	Players on Jr. A XX Man
Junior B Tier 1	Junior B Tier 2	Protected List
Junior B Tier 2		U17 Goalie

Junior B Tier 1	Junior B Tier 2
Junior B Tier 2	U17
U17	Junior Major Female
Junior Major Female	

b. Clean up language.

29.9. A Minor Association U17 player may play as a call-up on a Tier I, Tier II, Junior Major Female and Senior Major Female Franchise as per approved Division Affiliations and required approvals on a per game basis.

29.9.1. The RMLL Franchise coach or manager makes the request to the potential call-up players' head coach or manager. The potential call-up players' head coach or manager must receive approval from the parent of the player. These approvals must be communicated by the potential callup players' head coach or manager to the RMLL Franchise coach or Manager copying the Minor Club President and the Minor LGB President or Executive Director. The RMLL Franchise Coach or Manager then forwards these permissions to the Division Commissioner requesting permission to play the U17 player in a specific game.

The biggest issue is that teams are sitting players to improve their team by sitting healthy players for the purpose of bringing in higher skilled players.

10. Roster Deadlines and Players from higher Divisions

- a. Our only method to affect knowing what players will be available to Tier 2 is to delay the start of our season until after the Tier 1 Division cuts down their protected list.
- b. Discussion – many points against delaying the start of the season

- c. ACTION: Insist that the RMLL Penalize teams that miss deadlines for all cases
11. Regulation 29: Inter-Division Use of Players (Call-ups)
- a. 29.1 No player registered in a higher division may be a call-up in a lower Division.
 - i. There is a loophole in this regulation that should be closed as higher division teams release player(s) for a game and then re-roster them after the completion of the lower-level game.
 - ii. **Axemen move that 29.1 be changed to read: No player registered in a higher division may be a call-up for a lower division. If a team in a higher division releases a player from their 25-player roster to sign to a lower division team, said player may not return to the same higher division team for a period of two (2) weeks.**
 - 1. 2nd - Chaos
 - 2. Discussion – Teams did not feel like they would be able to enforce the regulation as higher teams would utilize affiliations to gain access to the player.
 - 3. Vote - defeated
12. Regulations 40: Specific suspensions only observed by Tier 2
- a. **40.17.** Any Jr. B Tier II player/goalkeeper who receives sixty (60) minutes in Playoff play will receive a one (1) game suspension.
Tier II removed now applies to all divisions.
 - b. **40.18.** Any Jr. B Tier II player/goalkeeper who receives eighty (80) minutes in Playoff play will receive a two (2) game suspension.
Tier II removed now applies to all divisions.
 - c. **40.19.** Any Jr. B Tier II player/goalkeeper who receives a hundred (100) minutes in Playoff play will receive a three (3) game suspension.
Tier II removed now applies to all divisions.
 - d. **40.20.** Any Jr. B Tier II player/goalkeeper who receives a game misconduct in the last Provincial game will receive a one (1) game suspension.
Removed
 - e. **40.21.** Any Jr. B Tier II player/goalkeeper who receives a game misconduct in the last ten (10) minutes of the game shall receive a one (1) game suspension.
Removed
13. ALA Increase for Provincial Fee
- a. Provincial fee for majors is now \$1000 up from \$750

14. Officials - mileage & per diem increase and proposed game fee increases
- a. ALRA Referee Mileage (driver) for Major Games from 40 cents to 53 cents per KM
 - b. ALRA Referee Mileage (non-driver) for Major games from 12 cents to 15 cents per KM
 - c. Referee per Diems:
 - * Travel over 200Km – \$30.00
 - * Travel requiring overnight stay - \$70.00/calendar day away from home
 - d. No Game Fee Increases for 2024 but will likely see an increase for 2025

15. Coach Referee Feedback

- a. We may not see the results of the use of these forms but they do lead to referee evaluations and corrections.
- b. Moving to on-line

16. Pre-Season Activities

- Need to Submit a Team Event into the RMLL system for Winter Camps
- Make sure your Coaches go into Coach.ca MyLocker and self-report their updates.
- COMMENT – On Floor evaluations are not getting approved by the ALA, coaches want to get certified but ALA is a blackhole.
- Deadline for Regulation submissions prior to the start of the new season
 - a.
- U17 Information Nights – Tier 2 Teams, please attend!!
 - a. North – Jan. 5 @ 7:00pm Central Lions Recreation Centre
 - b. South – Jan. 12 @ 7:00pm Acadia Rec CentreCOMMENT – Crude, can we just have the Commissioner address the audience and the teams meet players at their tables?
- RMLL North and South Combines – open to non-protected Tier 2 players to register and attend.
 - a. North – Jan. 20, 4:00pm – 7:00pm at the Orion Plastics Field House
 - b. South – Proposed Feb. 3 at the Calgary Saddledome.
- 2024 Super Clinic
 - 1) Apr. 5 – 7
 - 2) \$150.00 registration

3) In Okotoks mainly because we cannot find a location that can provide the food and facility for an equal price
QUESTION: When does registration open?

- North vs South Exhibition Weekend
 - a. Central location
 - b. Voluntary participation
 - c. 2 or 3 games
 - d. Host
 - e. Weekend in early April
 - f. Mike is going to look for open floors in Central Alberta and what weekend works best

- EAP and Franchise Certificate update Deadlines
 - a. April 15 for EAP's
- Jan 15 for Franchise info

- Confirm Discipline Committee Reps
 - a. 2023 were Josh (Bandits) and Mike (Renegades)
 - b. Both have agreed to stay on

17. 2024 Regular Season and Playoffs formats and dates

- Review Constraints documents.

- RMLL Blackout Dates
 - a. Apr. 5 – 7 Super Weekend
 - b. May 17 – 20 Victoria Day Weekend
 - c. ALA Minor Provincials are in Blackfalds July 12 – 14

- Tier 2 Blackout Dates
 - a. Due to Christine by Nov. 30, 2023
- High River playing out of the Field House
- Maximize our teams playing on June 21 (National Indigenous Peoples Day)

- Deadline for teams to enter home floor and team constraints.
 - a. Jan. 15, 2024

- Tier 2 Regular Season Start Date
 - a. 2023 season started on April 29
 - b. Easter 2024 is Mar. 31
 - c. Season to Start on or about April 24, 2024

- Tier 2 Regular Season End Date
 - a. 2023 regular season last games were on July 16

- b. Need enough days after July 1st for transferred players to qualify for playoffs.
- c. Regular season's last game to be no later than July 14, 2024
- Playoff Format
 - a. will both the north and south will run the same playoff format as prior years?
 - b. Top 6 teams after regular season play in each of the north and south divisions will advance to playoffs.
 - * First round will take place weekend of July 19, 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 round.
 - * Scenario 1 - If two teams within 250 kms
 - * Friday, July 19 - 9:00 PM
 - * Saturday, July 20 - 2:00 PM
 - * Sunday, July 21 – 11 am - third game if needed
 - * Scenario 2 - If two teams over 250 kms
 - * Saturday, July 20 - 1:00 PM
 - * Sunday, July 21 - 10:00 AM
 - * Sunday, July 21 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 26, 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 26 - 9:00 PM
 - * Saturday, July 27 - 2:00 PM
 - * Sunday, July 27 – 11 am - third game if needed
 - * Scenario 2 - If two teams over 250 kms
 - * Saturday, July 27 - 1:00 PM
 - * Sunday, July 28 - 10:00 AM
 - * Sunday, Jul28 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

- Game Sheet App usage
 - a. All teams need to use.
 - b. Stacey spoke to the group about the ease of the tool.
 - c. Teams like that stats can be updated faster
- Revised Game Sheets
 - a. Now include Goalie stats

18. Provincials

- a. Tournament Date
 - i. August Long Weekend
- b. Format
 - i. Propose to me to a 5-team tournament and include the host.
 - ii. Bronze Medal game – do we need it?

Motion: Keep the tournament at 4 teams but have the Championship on Monday – Xtreme

2nd – LL Heat

Discussion – Adding Monday is a significant cost to stay one more day
Too hard on players to go back to back

Defeated

COMMENT: Start the games earlier on Friday.

COMMENT: The Saturday Back game should be spaced out better and the #2 seed from the travelling division should have the back to back

- c. Host Selection
 - i. North if application received.
 - # Lloydminster Xtreme
 - # Lakeland Heat
 - # Crude

Crude wins the vote

- d. Indigenous content funding for Opening Ceremonies of \$800 per Provincial Championship from ALA

19. MacDonald Cup

- a. Status of the future of the tournament?
 - i. Invitational in 2024
 1. Need a couple of years of consistent competition to be able to have it as a Western Canadians
 - ii. Hosted in Port Coquitlam again in 2024
 - iii. Will look to move around provinces going forward
 - iv. Concern of the teams over adding the financial burden of the Western Canadians
 - v. Same weekend
- b. How does the Division want to proceed for future tournaments
 - i. Alberta wants the tournament to remain as is, teams declare if they wish to attend and then they can fundraise for the year.

20. Tier II Deferred Income of \$5,100

- a. Returned to the teams that paid into it (or place as a credit)

21. Tier II Gap Analysis

- a. From the 2022 Season, there were 304 players who played Tier II and who were still eligible to play Junior in 2023. Of the 304 players, 25 of these players made a Tier I roster in 2023. Not sure if 8.23% is considered high or low?
- b. The ALA runs a Program called "U13 Gap Analysis". This Program identifies if there are gaps in player development which then leads to player/coach development programs.
- c. Instead of waiting the 5 or so years for these U13 players/coaches to come up to Major, the thought is to engage Jason Crooks of the ALA to come up with a type of Gap Analysis Program that would help both the Tier II players and Tier II coaches know where we are currently in Tier II and what we need to work on to assist in developing our Tier II players to move up if they wish.
- d. Jason and his group will plan to attend 1 home game for every Tier 2 Team in 2024 and establish the Gap Baseline.

22. Hiring Trainers

- a. Can we simplify the Intent to Play Registration through ALA for Companies providing Trainers on the bench.
 1. we cannot insure businesses that is why we have to register each trainer. If you are hiring a company, get them to provide names of all potential trainers at the start of the season
 - * Can we get an ALA "coupon" for trainers if we are hiring a company?

- You can delete trainers by July 15th then you don't pay the fee for them.

23. Defaulted Games

a. Review of Fines for Defaulting Games

- i. **10.1.1.** In the event a Franchise defaults a game, the defaulting Franchise shall pay all legitimate expenses, as determined by the Division Commissioner, incurred as a consequence of the default. The money owed shall be based upon detailed information from the affected Franchise. In addition, to paying the legitimate expenses, the defaulting Franchise must pay a fine to the RMLL.
- ii. **41.7.** All games on the Division schedule are to be played as scheduled. At the discretion of the Division Commissioner, any Franchise which defaults such a game will be fined one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for their first offense, one thousand and five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) for their second offense and two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for their third offence. A third offence will be considered a Season default and the Franchise will be suspended and will have to reapply for a new Franchise for the upcoming Season.
- iii. **41.8.** The Franchise defaulting shall pay all legitimate expenses of the non-defaulting Franchise, as determined by the Division Commissioner.

Motion: Default Fines go up to \$2,000; \$2500; \$3000 + Floor times + Referees (no lost game revenue)- HR Heat

2nd - Yetti

Carried

Regulation change will be proposed at the January meeting of the RMLL Executive where all other regulations will be addressed.

24. Election of new Commissioner

- Is the Division open to adding a Deputy Commissioner to assist the Commissioner in season.
 - a. Commissioner continues to work on Strategic Priorities
 - b. Deputy Commissioner to assist with:
 - # Affiliation Approvals
 - # Discipline Letters

Motion to add Deputy Commissioner – Motion by the Axemen

2nd – HR Heat

Carried

Motion to accept Mike Medhurst (Chaos) as Deputy Commissioner – Motion Axemen

2nd – Crude
Carried

25. Conversation about trades at the deadline, optics weren't good, but rationale makes sense.

26. Motion to Adjourn – Chaos 2:40
2nd – LL Heat
Carried

Teams outside of CALL are excused from the Final topic

27. Mountain View Protected Minor Organization

a. RMLL Regulation 21.18.4. New Junior Players:

- i. c) CALL Area – A Tier II Franchise has the rights to the players from their respective Minor Clubs, except as provided in Regulation 21.10.1. Tier II Free Agents are players where their respective Minor Club does not have a Tier II Franchise.

When the Olds Stingers first joined the RMLL as a Tier III team, their first playing rights for U17 players were from Olds Minor Lacrosse and even when the 3 teams, Stingers Sr. C, Mavericks and Stingers Sr. C went under the Mountainview Franchise holder, because the Stingers Tier II played out of the Olds arena, their first U17 playing rights stayed with Olds Minor Lacrosse.

When the Yeti first joined the RMLL as a Tier III team, their first playing rights were from Innisfail Minor Lacrosse but when they move to Sylvan, their U17 first playing rights moved to Sylvan Lake Minor Lacrosse.

Now that the Stingers have moved to playing out of Didsbury, do they now only have the first U17 playing rights to the Chargers?

In looking at the Regulation 21.18.4 c) I'm kind of thinking maybe it doesn't seem to apply to any of the Tier II teams in Central Alberta anymore as you all are under your own body corporates as none are under Minor Lacrosse. I'm not sure if "respective Minor Club" is applicable.

Stingers play out of Didsbury so no change required

NOT APPROVED