



**2024 Jr. B Tier 1 Planning Meeting Minutes
November 25, 2023**

Delta Hotels by Marriott Edmonton South Hotel & Conference Centre

1. Meeting was called to order by Ian Stewart at 9:15am

2. Additions to the Agenda

- Jackson Porter – Larry Bishop P.O.G. (Outlaws)
- Division Discipline Reps
- Coaching Certifications
- Emergency Response Plans
- Rule Changes

3. Approval of 2024 Planning Meeting Agenda

Motion to accept agenda made by Terry D., second by Jason, all in favor.

4. Approval of 2023 Planning Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept minutes made by Brad, second by Jason, all in favor.

5. Tier Change Request – Cranbrook Blackwolves

Presentation by Russ Shepard – All details were made available prior to the meeting. Russ summarized points of emphasis for bid.

Discussion:

- They were competitive in their exhibition games with the Barracudas and Shamrocks.
 - Were unable to successfully develop referees as per league ask in 2023.
 - Concerns regarding travel costs for current teams & having to raise teams fees for current teams.
 - Would consider a one (1) year trial to allow for more planning as a division.
- Vote #1 for accepting the Cranbrook Blackwolves application to move to the Tier 1 division.
- Accept – 0
Reject – 15 (Unanimous)

Dave motioned for another vote but with added conditions to Cranbrook application for the 2024 season, second by Terry.

- a) No home games in 2024
 - b) All points would apply to the East Division Standings.
 - c) No home playoff games.
 - d) Cranbrook would play a South Division Schedule
 - e) Develop 5 local referees by the end of the season and deemed qualified.
 - f) A re-evaluation to be completed at the end of 2024.
- Vote #2 for accepting the Cranbrook Blackwolves application to move to the Tier 1 division with conditions.
- Accept – 7
Rejected – 8

Angela motioned for another vote but with some different conditions for Cranbrook, second by Terry.

- a) Cranbrook would play a South Division Schedule
- b) All points would apply to the East Division Standings.
- c) No home playoff games.
- d) Develop 5 local referees by the end of the season and deemed qualified.

- e) Home games against the 2 central Alberta teams (Mountainview and Red Deer) to be played in their home rink. Cranbrook would be home team and as such be responsible for game fees (referees & Floor time). Red Deer stated that they would play their game in a Calgary rink.
- f) Cranbrook to pay \$8000 into the Jr B Tier 1 account prior to the 2024 season to help offset travelling expenses for the south teams as no budgeting was done for travelling to Cranbrook this upcoming season.

➤ Vote #3 for accepting the Cranbrook Blackwolves application to move to the Tier 1 division.

Accepted – 13

Rejected – 2 (Barracudas & Shamrocks)

Russ Shepard was invited back into the meeting after lunch and informed of the division's decision.

6. Commissioner Election

- Ian stated that he would stay on as commissioner.

Dave motioned to accept, second by Jason, all in favor.

7. RMLL & ALA Invoices

- Reminder to all teams with outstanding invoices need to clear them up as soon as possible. Jason cautioned everyone to have a good look at their ALA invoicing as they had received an invoice that was mailed out incorrectly.

8. 2024 Team Fees

- Registration Fee for ALA will not go up for the upcoming season. This applies to the player fees when signing up in RAMP for their Intent to Play.
- Proposal at AGM on Sunday to increase RMLL team fees from \$800 to \$950.

9. ALRA 3-Man Mechanic Discussion

- 3-Man Mechanic is being adopted in all Provinces and by Lacrosse Canada for the National Championships. A strong desire by the ALRA to continue with this onwards.
- Teams feel that there was no benefit to continue with this as there was no development of other refs and it drove up game day costs.
- It was decided that an email would be sent to the teams asking for them to list the good and bad that they experienced last year with the 3-man referee system and what the expectations were of our clubs. The information will be collected and sent to the ALRA.

10. Surveys for Alberta teams

- Disappointment by the lack of response from the Jr A teams.
- Are there different issues in the North than in the South? Central Alberta teams have little to no communication with either.
- Jr A clubs are treating their 50 Man Protected List as their roster.
- Fear that messaging to the players is to miss Tier 1 games or practices.
- Players are being called up to travel to away games and then not playing

Motion to ask RMLL Executive to change the Jr A Protected List from 50 down to 35 made by Vay, second by Dave. All in Favor.

11. Promotions

a. Important Dates

- RAMP Opens on December 1, 2023, for the 2024 season.
- Deadline for 2025 Founders Bid – December 1, 2023
- Graduating U17 Info Nights
 - January 5, 2024 – North (Central Lions Recreation Centre)
 - January 12, 2024 – South (Acadia Recreation Centre)
- Combines
 - January 20, 2024 – North (Orion Plastics Field House)
 - February 3, 2024 – South (Scotia Bank Saddledome)
- RMLL Super Coaching Clinic
 - April 5 – 7, 2024 (Okotoks Recreation Centre)

- Jr A Exhibition Weekend
 - April 20 & 21, 2024 (Edmonton)
- Canada U20 Men's Field Tryouts (Calgary)
 - July 2 & 3, 2024

12. 2024 Draft Dates (Deadline February 7 – 13, 2024)

- North – February 9, 2024 @ 7:00pm (Warriors)
- South – February 8, 2024 (Mounties)
- Central – February 7, 2024 @ 7:00pm (Mavericks)
- Lethbridge – February 11, 2024 @ 5:00pm

13. Scheduling

- Division constraints required by December 6, 2023
- Teams must have their home game timeslots and team constraints entered in the system by January 15, 2024.

14. New Business

- Jackson Porter P.O.G. (Outlaws)

Beaumont Outlaws proposed to name the Players of the Game Award at the Larry Bishop Tournament after Jackson Porter. Jackson was a Fort Saskatchewan Rebels player who grew up in Leduc and sadly passed suddenly before the 2023 season. Motion made by Phil, second by Dave. All in favor.

Write up about Jackson are attached.
- Division Discipline Reps

Current Representatives for the Tier 1 division agreed to stay on Dave, Terry D & Randy.
- Coaching Certifications

Coaches taking a Comp Intro Clinic in 2023 and beyond no longer must submit the workbook. This does not apply to coaches who took a Comp Intro Clinic prior to 2023.

Reminder teams with Comp Intro or Comp Dev Certified Coaches who coached in 2023 to self-report their PD Point in the Locker.

- Emergency Response Plans
When we request the individual ERP's for each team I would like your trainers certifications at that time. This will eliminate the scramble for it just before playoff time.
- Rule Changes
Motion made that the Tier 1 division should change to the modified NLL rules that were being used in Jr A. Motion made by Garyn, second by Kevin. Motion tabled until a list of the modified NLL could be sent to the teams for review.

15.Adjournment

A motion was made by Jason to adjourn the meeting at 3:00pm, second by Brendan.