

Annual Report of the RMLL President Duane Bratt September 2025

The RMLL had 59 teams in 2025, with 55 of them in Alberta. This was only one higher than in 2024, but there were a few adjustments. We added two new SrC teams: Lakeland Heat and Parkland Posse. However, we lost the Southern Alberta Rockies JrB Tier 1 team. We had 1574 registered players (1484 in Alberta) in 2025, this was an improvement of 61 in the RMLL and 62 in the ALA from 2024. Compared to 2019 (pre-COVID) we are up by 30 in the RMLL and 61 in the ALA.

	2025 RAMP Registered ALA	2025 RAMP Registered to RMLL AB Teams
Jr. Male	798	744
Major Jr. Female	197	185
Sr. Male	521	502
Major Sr. Female	54	53
Total	1570	1484

In the absence of a Discipline and Appeals Commissioner, I again acted on an interim basis. I addressed eight cases, mostly involving codes of conduct complaints. I wish to thank those individuals who stepped up to sit on the panels. This is an important, if unpleasant, part of being part of the RMLL. I do encourage the member teams of the RMLL to encourage someone to step up and become the permanent Discipline and Appeals Commissioner. However, given the complexity of some of these cases, it is preferred that the individual has a legal background or extensive lacrosse governance experience.

I also acted as Commissioner in a number of supplemental discipline cases where the Commissioner was in a conflict of interest. Similarly, I helped provide support to the Commissioners on discipline and other matters.

On the issue of supplemental discipline, the RMLL Executive will, again, revisit whether to use video in a determination of whether a major offence has been committed that is not on the game sheet.

There were numerous issues involving affiliations from Team Alberta U-17 to major in 2024. This involved a large decision at the ALA Discipline and Appeals Committee level. One of the recommendations from the panel was to clarify the affiliation rules for Team Alberta. Hopefully this greater clarity will be provided by the new ALA regulation which will prohibit all affiliations from Team Alberta in the period between the end of the minor provincials and the end of the minor nationals.

The absence of a Lacrosse Canada rule book continues to cause problems at national championships. The rules of play at the major nationals were often different from those played in the RMLL. This extended to rules over overtime and player affiliations. Hopefully we will get to a standardized rule book across Canada that incorporates the rules that the RMLL currently play under.

2025 RMLL champions:

SrB: Edmonton Miners SrC: Airdrie Mohawks JrA: Raiders Lacrosse Club

JrB Tier 1: Mountain View Mavericks JrB Tier 2: Lloydminster Xtreme

JrLadies: Calgary Silvertips

The Minto Cup was held in St. Catharines, ON. I attended the tournament in the place of the JrA Commissioner. The Coquitlam Adanacs won the Minto Cup beating the Orangeville Northmen in the final. It was the first time that a BC team had won in Ontario since 1977. The Raiders Lacrosse Club finished fourth, but were competitive in every game. This included a thrilling overtime loss to the host Athletics in game one. The Meridan Centre was an excellent facility: 5, 300 capacity, video, and air conditioning. Crowds fluctuated depending upon whether the host was playing. The games were live streamed on TSN+ for free. There were issues around how crease calls were made. With complaints occurring after every game. Thankfully there were no discipline issues on the floor. The atmosphere was electric for almost every game, with crowds close to over capacity for the playoff games (around 2500). There were complaints about the \$20 cost per live stream. This was due to the cost but also because other national championships had free live streams.

A major challenge for the Raiders was flight logistics. This was caused by a switch in timing of the opening press conference and pre-competition meeting after tickets were purchased. As well as the challenge of flying out of Edmonton (which was chosen months prior). It led to lots of panic and extra costs in the days between the end of the JrA finals and the start of the Minto Cup. The JrA teams, RMLL, and ALA need to make arrangements in advance of the tournament that provide the lowest cost and most flexibility in advance of the 2027 Minto Cup (2026 will be hosted in Calgary).

At the Founders Cup (Tsuut'ina Nation), the host Calgary Shamrocks beat the Mountainview Mavericks for the bronze medal. The Queen City Kings lost the Tier 2 title in overtime to the Seneca War Chiefs.

At the U22 Women's box championships (Halifax, NS), Team Alberta (made up of athletes from all 7 RMLL major female division teams) won the Carol Patterson Trophy as Canadian champions! This is threepeat for Alberta. Congratulations to head coach Robin Finley, all of the players, coaches, and managers.

At the President's Cup (Whitby, ON), the Edmonton Miners won the bronze medal.

Going forward, the RMLL Executive is holding an in-person retreat on October 18-19. The AGM and division-planning meetings will be held in-person in Calgary on November 14-16.