



Junior B Tier 1 Commissioner Report - 2025

The 2025 season commenced with notable challenges, notably the decision by the Southern Alberta Rockies to fold their franchise in early April. This occurred after the season schedule had already been finalized and released, making adjustments difficult and highlighting the complexities of early-season changes. There was a total of 195 games played this season (16 Exhibition, 150 Regular Season, 17 Divisional Playoff & 12 Larry Bishop). Suspensions were up slightly from the previous season but several teams saw a decrease in their total team penalty minutes.

The divisional winners for the regular season were the Fort Saskatchewan Rebels (North), Mountainview Mavericks (Central), Calgary Shamrocks (South), and Queen City Kings (East). Leading scorers in each division were Josh Fodchuk (Crude), Cash Banister (Chill), Ben Erickson (Marauders), and Ryan McDonald (Kings). Congratulations to these outstanding players for their exceptional performances throughout the season.

The Larry Bishop Tournament was hosted by the Fort Saskatchewan Rebels, with special thanks to Dave McGarva and all volunteers who contributed to organizing a successful event. This year's tournament featured a new format, adding an extra game through a semi-final round for the division trial. This adjustment received mixed feedback, and further discussions will determine whether to revert to the previous format or adopt the new one in future tournaments.

Overall, the tournament was highly competitive, with the Mountainview Mavericks emerging victorious to claim both the league title and the Alberta Provincial Championship. Both the Mavericks and the Calgary Shamrocks (hosts of the Founders Cup) earned the right to represent Alberta and the RMLL at the national tournament.

Congratulations are also due to Alex Swann, who was named the Larry Bishop Tournament MVP and awarded the Jayden Sommerfeld Award.

Looking ahead, the offseason will be an active period for the Tier 1 Division. The recent folding of the Rockies presents an opportunity to explore division realignment, and 2026 will be the final year in the current rotation for hosting the Larry Bishop Tournament. The league will hold a planning meeting this winter to discuss these issues and shape the division's future in upcoming years.

Ian Stewart
Junior B Tier 1 Commissioner