

Men's Field Sector Meeting

2009 SAGM
Calgary, Alberta
May 28, 29, 2009

1. **Call to Order** 9:03 AM
2. **Introduction of Participants**

Participants introduced themselves.
Attendance list is attached.

3. **Voting Procedures reviewed**

Province	Votes		
B. C.	7		
Alberta	4		
Saskatchewan	3		
Manitoba	3		
Ontario	8		
Quebec	4		
New Brunswick	0		
TOTAL	29	50 % + 1 = 15 votes	2/3 = 20 votes

4. **Review of 2008 Minutes**

Minutes from 2008 SAGM meeting approved as presented

Moved by B. C., Manitoba:

To accept the minutes as presented

CARRIED

5. **Business arising out of the minutes of the meeting / Outstanding Items:**

Action – Equipment review committee has not proposed a definition on what should provide an adequate level of chest and shoulder protection in a shoulder pad.

This has been outstanding for a couple of years. The sector agrees that the approved shoulder pad should be un-modified (off the shelf), should comprise a shoulder shell and chest protector and should provide sternum and clavicle protection. A product called rhino skin, which is an under-armour type garment with padding in the shoulders, should not be the only protection and act as shoulder pad. It can be worn in conjunction with an approved shoulder pad.

Steve O'Shaughnessy of New Brunswick will research the type of pads we would like to see the equipment review committee accept and send the presentation to the Sector Chair for review before it is forward to the committee. A ruling should be put in place before the 2009 AGM.

Action – Minimum requirements for a web-site were discussed and were to be tested in Edmonton. Russ Shepard ran this program. Jim Burke felt it ran fairly well. The web-site was updated quickly and statistics posted. This item will be tabled until Russ arrives at the meeting later in the week.

Action – A process for all-star awards was introduced in 2008 and used at the four tournaments. While there is no perfect way to pick all-star teams, it was felt the 2008 process worked and will be used in the 2009 competitions.

Action- The Chair asked for comments re the hosting guide at the 2008 meeting and would compile the comments and send them along to the CLA. We are unsure where this project is now, as the Sector Chair has not seen anything on this from the office.

Action – In 2008, the Sector was granted \$5,000 for seed money to be used by the Junior and Midget National Championships at a rate of \$ 2,500 per event. This caused some problems during the year as the combined tournament made a profit and the request for the advance of the seed funds were initially denied. The funds were later released.

For 2009, the sector has been approved for a budget number of \$ 10,000 to fund the four tournaments. The Sector held a discussion on how these funds should be used going forward.

Moved by B.C, Quebec:

That National Championship subsidies from the CLA be split 40 % to the senior championships and 60 % to the Junior and Midget tournaments and are to be seed / grant money to be used to fund such items as web-site, facilities, programs, referees and other fixed costs. Should the tournament generate a profit after receipt of these grants, the proceeds of the profit are to be re-invested into developing the field lacrosse program at that level.

CARRIED

Action – In 2008, the Sector Chair was tasked to follow the VP Domestic Development for the name of the RIC for the Ross / Victory tournament. In 2009, the same problem exists for the Ross / Victory tournament. The Sector Chair is once again tasked to follow the VP Domestic Development for the 2009 RIC.

Note: The Sector Chair approached the VP Domestic Development during the meetings and has been told that Kevin Caprice from Ontario is the referee in chief for the tournament in 2009. This information was provided to the sector at the meeting.

6. Review 2008 National Championships Reports

2008 First Nations / Alumni Cup

Written report was circulated. Jim Burke went through his recommendations:

- Referee evaluations are not something the Sector is normally interested in. However, a discussion was held with one of the assessors at the tournament and it was suggested that there should be a meeting between the sector and the officials to go through the format and process for referee evaluations. The intent is not to be critical of the referees but rather to try to work with them to insure that the overall level of refereeing is improving.
- Registrations were generally good but there is evidence that in some provinces there is not enough communication from the MA to the teams representing the MA to allow them to fully prepare for meeting their requirements (team registration forms and waivers).

A good general discussion on the Nationals ensued and highlights of the discussion included the following:

- There should be a requirement for the RIC to attend the tournaments annually. It would require two long weekends a year to see all of our Nationals.
- The officials sector is currently facing a serious issue with respect to official retention.
- There has been a problem getting an adequate number of referees to the tournaments forcing the host to use people who may not be qualified. A referee should have attained level 3 or should not attend but if this were adopted, we would be short of referees.
- Possibly a small portion of the officials game fees could go into a fund to assist in making sure a sufficient number of Level 3 referees are available.
- We need to expose younger referees to work with older referees to mentor them inside the province and outside.

2008 Ross Cup / Victory Trophy

Written report was circulated. Jim Burke went through his recommendations:

- As in the First nations and Alumni Cup tournament, registrations were generally good but there is evidence that in some provinces there is not enough communication from the MA to the teams representing the MA to allow them to fully prepare for meeting their requirements (team registration forms and waivers).
- Prior to the tournament, there had been an issue about a team bringing a roster that would only be eligible for Ross Cup competition. This is not prevented in our rules but is not in the spirit of the tournament. It was agreed that the CLA convener would bring forward their concerns to the sector meeting to discuss how the format could be changed to allow more elite players to attend and still keep the competitiveness of

the tournament. The Sector did not want to have two separate tournaments at this time and so proposed the following policy change to come into effect at the SAGM for the 2009 championships and to be ratified at the AGM.

MOVED BY: Saskatchewan, B. C.

- That the Current Policy 19.4.1.4.be amended from

19.4.1.4. For a team to be eligible to compete for the Victory Cup they must have no more than 5 (five) Division 1 players on their team. A Division 1 player is defined as a player who has played in the current or previous calendar year on any of the following:

- 19.4.1.4.1. National team,
- 19.4.1.4.2. U.S. Club team,
- 19.4.1.4.3. National Lacrosse League team,
- 19.4.1.4.4. Major Lacrosse League team,
- 19.4.1.4.5. Senior A box lacrosse team, or
- 19.4.1.4.6. an NCAA team.

To

19.4.1.4

For a team to be eligible to compete for either the Ross Cup or the Victory Trophy they must have no more than 5 (five) Division 1 players on their team. A Division 1 player is defined as a player who has played in the current calendar year on any of the following:

- 19.4.1.4.1. Member of the Canadian, US or Iroquois National team,
- 19.4.1.4.2. National Lacrosse League team,
- 19.4.1.4.3. Major Lacrosse League team,
- 19.4.1.4.6. an NCAA men's lacrosse team.

CARRIED

5. Review of 2009 National Championships

2009 First Nations and Alumni Cup

Manitoba provided a written report with a web-site address of www.2009fieldnationals.ca. The report outlines the location, accommodations, banquet and contacts. Information can be found from the web page or from contacting the Manitoba Lacrosse Association.

A discussion was held with regards to the selling of alcohol at this tournament, as the drinking age in Manitoba is 18. The CLA has a policy about excessive alcohol use but no policy specifically about the ability to sell alcohol. The Sector stated that the process in the past has been not to sell alcohol given the fact that there are so many under-age players involved in the tournament.

A discussion was held on the MVP and ALL Star Awards presentation as the requirement for a banquet has been removed. It was decided if there is no social function, these awards should then be decided based on the round-robin games and should be presented between the bronze medal and gold medal games.

2009 Ross Cup / Victory Trophy Nationals

Ontario gave a brief outline of their championships. The tournament will be held on the new-style field-turf fields at the Hershey Center in Mississauga, Ontario, It is an excellent facility and the OLA has used the facility before. It is about 5 miles from the airport and there are a wide variety of hotels in the area. Rooms will be booked through a booking agency. They organizers are the senior field league in Ontario and they are planning a social at the tournament. Information will be coming out shortly but you can contact Terry Lloyd for information. Tournament contacts will be Glen Flippance and Dave Barrie.

8 Determination of 2010 National Championships

We reviewed the rotation for the upcoming tournaments:

YEAR	Alumni & First Nations	Ross & Victory
2009	Man.	Ont.
2010	Sask.	Que.
2011	B. C.	Man.
2012	Ont	N. S.
2013	Que.	B. C.
2014	N. S.	N. B.
2015	Alta	Sask.
2016	N. B.	Alta.

Note: The Host must attend in the two years prior to hosting and if possible, we should consider rotating between the East and the West to balance travel costs.

Saskatchewan and Quebec both indicated they were prepared to meet their hosting obligations in 2010.

Motion: **by Manitoba, Alberta**

To accept Saskatchewan as the First Nations / Alumni Cup host in 2010 and Quebec as the Ross Cup / Victory Trophy host in 2010.

CARRIED

Attendance at 2009 Nationals

A straw pool was taken to give some indication of who may attend

Province	Alumni Cup	First Nations	Ross / Victory
B. C,	2	2	2
Alta.	1	2	1

Sask.	2	2	1
Man	1	1	? 1 possible
Ont.	1	1	1 or 2
Que.	0	0	1 or 2
N. B.	0	0	0
N. S.	0	0	0
ILA	0	0	0
TOTAL	7	8	6 to 9

LTAD / NOCP Information

At this time Duane Bratt came to the meeting and updated us on the NOCP. They are in the process of starting to develop the next level of the coaching program Competitive Development. Duane used the new form 100 M to go through and explain the new coaching requirements. As these will not be adopted until the AGM, they come into effect for the 2010 season.

On the LTAD front, Duane spoke about the process and changes that have been made to the LTAD from the last presentation. In discussions with the MA's, provinces were divided into three categories and the program scaled to allow the more experienced provinces the opportunity to execute the LTAD in three ways. The less experienced the MA, the more focused the program becomes. This will go to the SAGM for approval as the next step.

If approved, there will be a requirement to change existing coaching material and rulebooks to reflect the changes. In addition, the LTAD will also then look at the issue of a competition schedule again. A review of the draft of the schedule was done and raised many objections in its current format. Duane asked us to try and talk about this at this meeting.

9. Policy Changes

Three policy changes were looked at:

- (A) – Policy 24.11.11 – Consensus was that the Sector liked this policy but felt the last sentence “There shall be no appeal from the decision of the VP Domestic Competition” should be removed. The sector felt we should not restrict anyone from appealing a decision and if it is felt to be frivolous, the appellant can be denied the right to an appeal under our current policies.
- (B) – Policy 24.17 .4 to 24.17.6 – This issue dealt with transportation at national championships and the Sector agreed with this policy.
- (C) – Policy 24.11.2.3 to 24.11.2.3.2 – We were informed by David Miriguay not to waste time on this as the box sector felt it needed some work and it would be withdrawn and presented at a later date.

With regards to the Policy manual, in reviewing the form F100 M for the coaching certification of men's field coaches, the sector pointed out that there was an error on the

form in that is mentions “gate people” as part of the bench staff. This position does not exist in field lacrosse and reference to it should be taken out of the form.

10. Project Proposals

The sector held a discussion on the proposals but would come back on Friday morning to finish this area and prioritize the projects.

11. New Business

We continued the discussion we had earlier with regards to the referee issue at nationals. With regards to getting an adequate number of qualified referees to the Nationals this year and going forward, two tasks came out of the discussion.

TASK: Sector Chair is to speak to the RIC about the problem of getting quality referees to the tournaments and try to explore a solution. Sector Chair will report back to the sector.

TASK: Manitoba to hold a meeting with both their tournament RIC and their tournament convener to discuss this problem quickly to allow the maximum time to correct this problem at this year’s tournament.

Ontario brought up the issue of inter-provincial transfers in particular for students who are moving to a new province for school and want to play lacrosse. These players need to obtain an inter-provincial transfer properly signed by both MA’s. This is becoming a bigger problem especially with a summer field season in a province followed closely by a fall school season.

TASK: Sector Chair will prepare a communication to the MA’s and AMA’s that can be circulated through the CLA office reminding the MA’s of this policy and need to follow it.

MOTION: **by Manitoba, B. C.**

To recess the meeting until 9:00 AM Friday morning

CARRIED 5:45 PM

Meeting re-convened Friday May 29, 2009 at 9:05 AM

10. Recap of Projects discussed by the Sector for 2010 / 2011

The sector met to outline some projects they felt should be prepared for the 2010 / 2011 budget process in September. They prioritized these projects as follows:

A Referee Development – Priority 1

- We have been having trouble getting our best referees to our nationals.
- The sector felt that we should look at the upcoming national championships and see if we should be focusing on assisting some members in developing their provincial referees in advance of the need to have them officiate.
- It was felt we should have 6 referees involved in this training per year over an initial two-year period. With the upcoming senior nationals being held in Quebec, Manitoba and Nova Scotia, we could look at staging this process over 2 years.
- Year 1 would see 3 Quebec referees and three Manitoba referees involved. Year 2 would see 3 Manitoba referees and 3 Maritime referees involved.
- Referees would travel to Ontario to work either a tournament or their provincial championships.
- Level 1 or 2 referees would be identified and travel with the intent of upgrading to Level 3. Ontario would insure a mentoring process would be in place where they would work with more senior referees.
- The commitment would be for these 6 referees to work at the Nationals once Level 3 is achieved.
- Cost would be a total of \$ 8,000 split over 2 years at \$ 4,000 per year.

B Coaching Development – Priority 2

- We discussed sending selected coaches from provinces with the most need to the US lacrosse conference in the first quarter of the year.
- This program would be based on a 50 / 50 cost sharing program with each coach and require the coach to come back to the province and conduct some sessions with local coaches to pass on the knowledge he has learned.
- We identified that this would be available for Quebec, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick coaches.
- Cost would be \$ 8,000 for a maximum of 6 coaches to cover 50 % of the overall cost – airfare, hotel, local transportation, per diem and clinic registration.

C Regional Player Development – Priority 3

- This is a continuation on of a three year project that was put forward for the 2009 / 2010 fiscal year.
- In 2009, the sector will be putting on a Prairie camp (likely in Saskatchewan in August) which will involve hands-on instruction from coaches and elite players.
- In 2010, we would like to see this project continued in the Maritime Provinces.
- This player development camp is for midget and under players.
- The continuation of the player development camp project will be dependent on the results of the 2009 camp. This camp will be completed prior to the Sector Chair sending in the 2010 / 2011 projects and if it is not deemed a success, the 2010 camp will be held in abeyance pending another meeting of the sector.

D High School Development – Priority 4

- The sector would like to see what it would take to spread the field lacrosse games in high schools in every province.
- Some provinces have the game in place right now while others have struggled getting started.
- The sector should develop a game plan for starting high school lacrosse by bringing together the provinces that have been successful and documenting their methods and processes – their successes and their failures.
- Three provinces currently have high school lacrosse – BC, Ontario and Manitoba.
- Request is for up to \$ 6,000 to fund the preliminary work and a face to face meeting to develop the framework for an approach to high school lacrosse.
- There may be some merit in looking at what some of the US states are doing to get the games into high schools there as they have been successful.

E Resource Development – Priority 5

- The Sector and the CLA for that matter has very little in the way of resource material available for field lacrosse.
- This includes video, drill books, game film, DVD's, etc.
- This could also be entitled coaching development as these materials are of great assistance for all coaches.
- The feeling is that this could be a staff job.
- The project involves simply spending the time to gather a complete list of what is available and have it ready for the next sector meeting.
- This list would be developed from manufacturers, distributors, and other lacrosse associations and possibly catalogued for future reference.
- The sector could then look at this list and decide if a purchase and distribution strategy should be developed from this list.
- In addition, this project could look at gathering the various rules in place for Master's men's field lacrosse throughout the lacrosse world to allow the sector to commence working toward a standard set of rules.
- Costs would be about \$ 1,000.

F Men's Field DVD Update – High Priority – Special Project

- With the completion this year of the box CD project, the sector felt that the next logical project for the CLA to tackle is the update of the field CD to bring it to the same standard as the box CD.
- The box CD started as a joint project between the CLA and its partners with some cost sharing. It has represented a component of the CLA budget process for a number of years. The Sector hopes that this block of funding will be continued to see the update of the CD is completed.
- Cost to update will be \$ 50,000 to \$ 75,000 and the process would be similar to how the box project was done.
- The sector would see the development of a plan and the budget by the AGM, an approach and commitment from the provinces by January 31, 2010 and the contract signed by all parties by March 2010 with the project to be completed in the 2010 / 2011 timeframe.

11. Continuation of LTAD discussion

Further to a request from Duane Bratt, the sector had a further discussion with regards to the LTAD competition schedule that covered the following issues:

- We started by setting out the dates that each MA has for playing the various varieties of field lacrosse in their province – youth, junior, senior, high school, etc.
 - All provinces have a fairly small window of time and weather that allows them to run their programs. Unfortunately, this is the same window of space that the box lacrosse season has so for the most part they overlap.
 - Our senior tournaments – Ross / Victory – is in a good space and should not be changed. It is on a long weekend, is well after the box season has ended and before the NLL camps start.
 - The problem tournaments for us are the Junior and Midget tournaments as they are held very close to the box tournaments for similar age groups.
 - There is competition for players from a number of sources if you hold the tournament at a later date – US school is in and players who are attending the schools would not be able to attend (this is a limited number of players due to the U-19 age limit). Hockey has a big effect on the midget age group and high school sports such as football pull a lot of players out of the field program.
 - A May time slot is not good given the long winter weather that would prevent many members from getting enough practice time prior to the tournament. June is a problem because of finals school exams; July and August are in the midst of the box season.
 - With this in mind, the only date available for us with the least amount of conflict is the current date.
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- We discussed the concept of playing all of the competitions on the October long weekend.
 - If we choose to ignore the problems outlined in the first section of this discussion, the sector felt it would be difficult to get a host for such a large tournament with midget, junior and senior men's and women's lacrosse. Logistics, facilities and volunteer requirements would be very large and may be outside of the realm of possibility for most associations on one weekend.
 - The men's field sector is already suffering from a shortage of getting enough qualified referees to put on the existing tournaments (both tournaments were short in 2009). This problem would have to be addressed before any serious thought could be given to this proposal.
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- One method for enhancing our current senior tournaments is to add a master's division – an Active for Life component.
 - The sector should develop a standard set of rules for play in Canada and then introduce this age category as another competitive opportunity at the existing Ross / Victory Cup tournament.
 - Possibly we could look at holding this type of sector in the same location for a number of years to try to build the brand. This obviously carries with it some built-in costs for the traveling teams but this issue could be addressed if the proper venue was found (multiple artificial fields, lighted fields, ample accommodation, etc).

- One of our upcoming projects will start this process by trying to gather the various editions of the rules of play that are available in parts of the world.

MOVED BY B. C, New Brunswick

Motion to adjourn

CARRIED 11:00 AM