



**B.C. LACROSSE FIELD DIRECTORATE  
2009 SPECIAL SESSIONS**

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Douglas College, New Westminster, B.C.

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**In Attendance:** Deb Stocks, Dirk Rachfall, Barb Calve, Les Smith, Sym Smith, Mike Hall, Terry Kirstiuk, Adrienne Gadd, Kathy Baseden, Brian Danilkiewicz, Denise Forlin, John Robbie, Jason Fullford, Missy Edwards, Denise Treager, Sam Hofer, Doug Simons, Darren Casely, Stacy Wickett, Justin Bosher, Doug Deschner, Trish Keizer, Jason Kump, Dan Linnen, Brent Boutilier, Tammy McDougall, Jamie Stewart, Louise Howes, Wes Landels, Rick Higgs, Paula West-Patrick, Kevin Floyd, Elisabeth Thomas, John Ewart, Beth Mc Lucas, Rob Cook, Stan Bates.

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1. Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM.
2. Attendance/Accreditation and Introduction

<u>Members</u>	<u>Potential Votes</u>	<u>Actual Votes</u>
BCLA Executive	2	1
Field Directorate	5	5
BCLCA (Coaches)	2	0
BCLOA (Officials)	2	2
Senior Men's Field	16	4
Women's Field	13	10
Youth Field	35	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>42</b>

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**3. Approval of April 19, 2008 Field Directorate Special Session Minutes.** It was moved by Dan Linnen, seconded by Les Smith that the minutes of the 2008 Field Directorate Special Session Minutes be approved as circulated. **CARRIED.**

**4. Business Arising from Minutes.** There was no business arising from the Minutes.

**4. Reports**

- a) **Chair-** Attached
- b) **Vice Chair- Youth Field-** Attached
- c) **Vice Chair- Men's Field-** Attached
- d) **Vice Chair- Women's Field-** Attached
- e) **BCLA Field Registrar-** Attached
- f) **BCLCA Vice Chair- Men's Field-** Attached
- g) **BCLCA Vice Chair- Women's Field-** Attached
- h) **BCLOA Vice Chair – Men's Field-** Attached
- i) **BCLOA Vice Chair- Women's Field-** Attached

## **6. Operating Policy Proposed Amendments - Attached**

7. **Financial Report** – There will be future reference via the Community of Practise (COP) as Deb Stocks will be reviewing with Rochelle Winterton and David Soul.

## **8. Election of Officers**

### **a) Chair ( 1 year term)**

Dirk Rachfall, nominated by Cliff Pascas- Declined

Deb Stocks, nominated by Sym Smith- accepted. Deb Stocks has won by acclamation and the Field Directorate Secretary cast a vote.

### **b) Vice Chair-Men's Field ( 2 year term)**

John Robbie, nominated by Brian Danilkiewicz. John Robbie has won by acclamation and the Field Directorate Secretary cast a vote.

### **c) Vice Chair Youth (2 year term)**

Nomination- Sam Hofer nominated by Dan Linnen

Nomination- Wes Landels nominated by Les Smith.

Congratulations to Wes Landels as the new Vice Chair Youth, and thank-you to Sam Hofer. Dan Linnen motioned to destroy ballots.

## **9. Review of Provincial Championships**

Dirk Rachfall reported on the Youth provincials- With the weather hanging over us just before both the Mission U16/19's on the grass fields, and the snow falling the Wednesday before the U12/14 tournament they all went off very well give or take a few coaching issues that came up ( this was forwarded to the coaches assc. to handle). We need to look into changing some things for this fact.

Terry Kirstiuk reported on the Men's provincials- Well most of this was in my report but with a few call up problems prior and just before the tournament Abbotsford Men's did a great job with controlling the weather and everything running smoothly, South Fraser would have had it I would guess if there wasn't a stick check called in the last 20 seconds.

## **10. Nationals**

Reported by Les Smith-U19 Selects came home with GOLD after playing against Ontario. The final result was for all team were 3 medals out of 4 teams. The players all did well. Thanks to all the volunteers that put this together.

Reported by Denise Tregear, Women's Field Nationals is coming up 2011 in Germany. There is a serious problem for BC as we have players interested with trying out because they are actually having camps in BC, and this is very RARE. The problem stands with Box coaches putting the threat on the players saying “that if they miss a game for these tryouts (which we are so lucky to even see on the West coast) that they will see that they sit the next box games”. This is not of best interest of the player.

Could we please ask or try and make the box coaches to see that they not chastise players that would like to tryout, if they could please work together with the Field and Box and back these players, otherwise this opportunity may not strike again having the camps in BC again.

Report attached by the Team BC Coach Reynold Comeault

## 11. New Business

Kathy Baseden- Note to all Leagues- with all last seasons issues of registrations I would like the League chairs to let there Registrars old and new know that I am willing to sit down with them to show what is required and expected of them when becoming a registrar, let alone the computer program.

Les Smith- It would be nice to enforce some way to stop players being written in on scoresheets when not being at games. We have seen instances of players listed and even scoring goals as a matter of fact, and knowing the players are out of country. We would like to ask that if all referees could be more prudent about counting at least the players that are listed, or of some way to control this, as it takes into effect the playing of the 50% of the games for eligibility for Provincials. What are we teaching youth players if they keep getting away with this- **TABLED for further review with Gil Lowe.**

Rick Higgs- Just questioning the selection process for the Selects and Stars kids this season as I sat in at the last Whistler Annual General Meeting (AGM) meetings regarding the Selects and Stars and the new Team BC selection process and don't quite understand how to answer parents questions that I have been getting asked. I have parents and the associations asking about the players that are away at college presently and registered with associations, because camps have been done, with the new selection process. What happens now with the away school/college players that make an effort to register with their residential home associations so that they would be eligible to qualify for the Stars and Selects? Please could I get an answer as we again have registrations approaching fast. Do we bother with these players making a point of them registering. **TABLED to be directed to Reynold Comeault Team BC Coach and or Darcy Rhodes.**

Denise Forlin- Is the Burnaby Mountain Selects team sanctioned by the BCLA-No- Kathy Baseden- Then why are they in the Lacrosse talk magazine with the different postings-because they submit the items, we support them and lacrosse, and with items that we are sometimes lacking it is nice to have something to put in on what is happening. **To get confirmation from Rochelle and Jeff**

### **Guest – Gerry VanBeek- Review of the official appeal process**

We have had a few appeals that associations/ leagues are not following or reminding members of what the process is that is to be taken. The Field Directorate subscribes to use the BCLA Appeal process. There is a selection of people chosen from around the province with BCLA policy and lacrosse history that are not necessarily active as an executive in any leagues and or executives who get chosen to sit as and appeal panel member/ appeal board. Any discussion having been talked with a governing body is to be brought forth with a league first. They may or may not use the appeal process. Then you use the appeal process by applying to the Field Directorate with the payment of \$250.00 via the BCLA office if you did not like the decisions that were made. The Field Chair would put together the panel that she has a choice of who would not be in conflict, and gather the people that would be involved and pertinent to hear from both sides if that be the case, along with information. The panel once hearing all the information would then come together to write their decisions along possibly future suggestions. There are further levels that can follow if they are not satisfied with this decision up to the Canadian Lacrosse Association level. Discussion followed.

12. **Motion to Adjourn.** Terry Kirstiuk motioned seconded by Les Smith



**B.C. LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
2009 PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE  
BCLA FIELD DIRECTORATE POLICY**

*It was moved by Les Smith, seconded by Dirk Rachfall that* **REGULATION 12: YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, 12.15** be amended to read:

12.15 Youth Provincial Championships must be held on a non-conflicting weekend than the Senior Men's or Masters Provincial Championships and will be held on or after the last week of *January* and not later than the last weekend of March.

**This motion also affects:** The timeline would stay the same (as shown in the 2008-09 edition) with the exception that it should read "January to March: Youth Provincials Scheduling Period". Currenly it reads "March – Youth Provincials all Month"; this should be deleted.

**CARRIED (18 for; 2 opposed).**

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*A proposal by Roger Paterson, North Shore, to amend Regulation 12.15 by changing "...the last week of February..." to read "...the last week of January..." was ruled out of order.*

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*It was moved by Paula West-Patrick, seconded by Dan Linnen that* **REGULATION 18: YOUTH PLAYER AND COACH REGISTRATION, 18.07** be amended to read:

- 18.07 (a) A team must have a minimum of ten (10) properly registered players by October 30<sup>th</sup> of the playing season; otherwise, that team will be disallowed from regular scheduled games.
- (b) Any team found guilty of playing an unregistered player during a regularly scheduled game shall forfeit all games won during which said player was a participant.
- (c) *No player registrations will be accepted after October 30 without first obtaining the League Commissioner's approval. The League Commissioner will not be able to approve any registrations after November 30.*
- (d) All players must be registered on-line and their registration cards must be in to the Field Registrar within forty-eight (48) hours of their first game. A copy of the registration card must be faxed to the League Registrar, Field Registrar, and Division Commissioner prior to the player's first game.

**This motion also affects:** Regulation 18.05, page 89; Regulation 23: Youth Timeline, page 91.

**CARRIED.**

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*It was moved by Sym Smith, seconded by Anna Nickle that Regulation 41.02 be added to REGULATION 41: WOMEN'S PLAYER AND COACH REGISTRATION that would read:*

**41.02**      *The Spring Season (Women's Field) will be:  
March 1 – September 15*

*The Fall Season (Women's Field) will be:  
September 1 – March 31*

**CARRIED.**

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*It was moved by Denise Tregear, seconded by Sym Smith that REGULATION 41: WOMEN'S PLAYER AND COACH REGISTRATION, 41.03 be amended to read:*

**41.03** *The Club/Association must submit the women's registration on-line lists, cards and required fees by the following dates within each playing season to the BCLA Office:*

<i>Spring Season</i>	<i>Registration Deadline – May 31 of the playing season</i>
<i>Fall Season</i>	<i>Registration Deadline – October 31 of the playing season</i>

**CARRIED**

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*It was moved by Anna Nickle, seconded by Sym Smith that REGULATION 45: WOMEN'S TIMELINE be amended to read:*

#### **REGULATION 45: WOMEN'S TIMELINE**

**NOTE:** Dates that are associated with a specific By-Law or Regulation are reprinted in the timeline as a matter of convenience. They will automatically change if the By-Law or Regulation is changed. Dates not associated with a specific By-Law or regulation will require a motion to change them. If there is a conflict in the dates, then the governing By-Law or Regulation will take precedence over the timeline.

#### **45.01 Fall Season (Women's Field) – September 1 – March 31**

<b>January 1</b>	Date for determining age level of playing year. (General Reg 10, FD 2.01 & 35.01)
<b>March 1</b>	Applications for hosting Women's Provincials.
<b>March</b>	Women's Provincials – Fall Season
<b>July</b>	Women's Nationals.



- September 1** Deadline for ratification of playing rules. (FD 37.01)
- October 31** Fall Season Registration Deadline of the current playing season  
Registration cards and fees to BCLA Office. (FD41.03)
- Teams must have a minimum of twelve (12) players registered for the Fall Season.  
(FD41.05(a)).
- November 1** Deadline for coaches Form 100W and fees to BCLA Office or will be subject to fine.  
(BCLCA 1.02, 11.03)
- Last date for cross-over players (FD 37.03) Fall Season
- November 31** Applications to host women's field lacrosse tournaments for upcoming year (Fall Season).
- 45.02** **Spring Season (Women's Field) – March 1 – September 1**
- January 1** Date for determining age level of playing year. (General Reg 10, FD 2.01 & **35.01**)
- March 1** Applications for hosting Women's Provincials.
- March 15** Applications to host women's field lacrosse tournaments for upcoming year for the Spring Season.
- April 1** Teams must have a minimum of twelve (12) players registered for the Spring Season.  
(FD41.05(a)).
- April** Field Directorate Special Session (FD 10.01)
- May 1** Deadline for coaches Form 100W and fees to BCLA Office or will be subject to fine.  
(BCLCA 1.02, 11.03)
- Last date for cross-over players (FD 37.03) Spring Season
- May 31** Women's Field Registration Deadline of the current playing season  
Registration cards and fees to BCLA Office. (FD 41.03)
- June** Women's Provincials Spring Season
- July** Women's Nationals
- September 1** Deadline for ratification of playing rules. (FD 37.01)

*Exact dates to be determined by the Field Directorate Executive (March, April, June, July)*

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**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session**  
**April 18, 2009**  
**BCLA Field Directorate Chair Report: Deb Stocks**

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As I assumed the position at the end of January/09 there is not a lot for me to report on. From all accounts the Youth Provincials were a great success, with only a few minor issues.

The weather was not really a problem. We seemed to have them on a weekend without snow. Having them this early gives everyone some breathing room between disciplines.

The BC Field teams are now being run under the same umbrella as the BC Box teams. With the streamlining of these programs and support from all groups it should be very successful.

The Senior Men's Provincials are now over. Once again the weather was a huge factor in the success of the tournament. There were some player issues, and this does need to be revisited before next season, so that everyone is on the same page.

Women's Field is on the right track. Their planning session held in February was well-attended and good things came out of it. The Directorate can see increased development coming from this group working together.

The Directorate has good people volunteering to ensure the success of Field programs; the hard part is keeping these people involved. We need to be positive in our thinking and do what is best for the players. We can do this by making sure that your Association is represented at the Special Session.

## **2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session April 18, 2009**

### **BCLA Field Directorate Vice Chair Report – Men’s Field: Terry Kirstiuk**

#### **2008/2009 Season**

The Canada West Men’s League had 9 teams with Nanaimo joining the Mainland League. The League was split into 2 competitive divisions this year to avoid a lot of the blowouts that they had last year and to try and encourage more of the graduating U19’s to play in the men’s league. On the island, Victoria continued on in their house league format, mixing various skill levels into 3 or 4 competitive teams. There was a team from the University of Victoria and a U 19 team playing games with them as well.

#### **2009 Provincial Results**

The 2009 Senior Men’s Provincials were hosted by the Abbotsford Attack Lacrosse Club at Mouat Turf Field April 4 & 5 2009. There were 6 teams competing with The Ladner Pioneers winning the Gold in overtime 13-11 over the Silver Medalist South Fraser Whalley Ballers. The Tri-City John B’s defeated the Beerhunters #2 10-1 to take the Bronze.

Congratulations and good luck to the Ladner Pioneers and the SF Whalleyballers as they represent BC at the Nationals in October.

I would also like at this time acknowledge all the hard work that Tom Potter, Brian Danilkiewicz and the rest of the Abbotsford Attack Lacrosse team did in hosting the Provincials this year and for making sure we had perfect weather conditions. I would also like to thank Bill Mosdell and his Referee crew for the great job they did on the games.

Lastly, as my final term as VC Men’s Field comes to a close, I would like to thank everyone who I have worked with over all the years on the various positions I have held on the Field Directorate. It was never dull and I enjoyed every challenge. I wish the new executive good luck in the coming season (and you know my cell number for suggestions). See you on the field.



**2008/2009 Provincial Champs – Ladner Pioneers**

## Provincial Results



Saturday April 4, 2009						
#	Time	Home	Score	Visitor	Score	Field
1	10am	Ladner	12	Beerhunters#2	2	Mouat
2	11:45	Whalley Ballers	15	John B	4	Mouat
3	1:30	Beerhunters	8	Vancouver	2	Mouat
4	3:15	Abbotsford	4	John B	15	Mouat
5	5:00	Vancouver	6	Ladner	15	Mouat
6	6:45	Abbotsford	7	Whalley Ballers	13	Mouat
Sunday April 5 2009						
Semi Finals						
7	10:00a m	Whalley Ballers	11	Beerhunters#2	9	Mouat
8	10:00p m	Ladner	12	John B	6	Mouat
Consolation Game						
9	12:00p m	Vancouver	3	Abbotsford	9	Mouat
Bronze Medal Game						
10	2:00pm	Beerhunters#2	1	John B	10	Mouat
Gold Medal Game						
11	4:00pm	Ladner	13	Whalley	11	Mouat



### 2009 Provincial All Star Team

Goalie - #00 Tom Johnston (Whalley Ballers); Defence - #2 Owen MacNabb (Ladner), #2 Sean Tyson (John B Pub), #10 - Brett Mydsky (Beerhunters #2); Midfield - #24 Logan Schuss (Ladner), #11 Derek Lowe (John B), #33 Chris Manwaring (Ladner); Attack - #32 Carlton Schuss (Ladner), #27 Reese Bailey (Whalley), #11 Jeff Callard (Whalley)

**Tournament MVP - #33 Chris Manwaring - Ladner**

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session**  
**April 18, 2009**  
**BCLA Field Directorate Vice Chair - Youth Report: Les Smith**

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I will not be letting my name stand for a third term as vice chair youth field. The last two years have consumed a huge amount of my time and I feel lacrosse has not benefited from my time here. Lacrosse is a sport that I love and love to watch being played most of all when you see the young players coming off the field or bench after a game with big smiles on their faces. These are the things that made my time on the field directorate worthwhile. This sport is and should always be about the boys and girls playing lacrosse, but as adults to many of us forget.

This year's Provincials were hosted by the Pacific Coast Field League, the U 16 and U 19 were hosted in Mission and the U 12 and U 14 were hosted in Burnaby and for a change the weather held out for both weekends. There were some amazing games played over the two weekends and the level of play just keeps getting better every year. This year there was a team from Prince George for the first time, just think how many teams from all over the province if we played in the summer.

The BC Selects and Stars in 2008 added the U 16 to the program which added a lot of new headaches know one expected a hundred and fifteen players at the first tryout. I would like to thank the coaches that gave up their summer for the players that made the four teams Shane Smith and Mark Forlin U16 Stars, Rob Cook U 16 Selects, Ken Alexander U19 Stars, Adam Smith and Josh Neumann U19 Selects.

The Committee that stepped up and stepped over all the hurdles that seem to keep popping up from every corner, Mary and Nigel Clare and Beth McLucas the work that these people did behind the scenes was nothing short of amazing. Last but not least the Managers and Trainers who kept the players in line and patched them up, Thank you.

I can't tell you how many times I heard frankly I can't wait until this is over. There were growing pains with the program with Coaches quitting and the Treasurer stepping away late in the program. But the biggest problem seemed to be the web sites where people can say anything that they want without thinking of the players or people that they hurt. In spite of everything that went on the four teams came home with three medals. U19 Selects finished first by beating Ontario for the first time that I can remember. The U 16 Stars came in second and the U 16 Selects came in third. Several players for all four teams were named to the all-star teams and Blake Duncan was named Tournament MVP. It was a National Tournament for BC.

Thank you for the past four years as Vice Chair Youth Field Lacrosse.

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session**  
**April 18, 2009**

**BCLA Field Directorate Vice Chair – Women’s Field Report: Adrienne Gadd**

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I am pleased with the progress we have made as a group in the past year. Although I don’t have the numbers I know we have seen growth in our youth programs, both on the mainland and on the island. I hope to continue this growth and in the coming year(s) hold provincials, and eventually have a BC team participate in nationals. Denise Tregear (VWFL) has been working on getting some national level coaches out here for both a clinic and to identify potential U19 national players. This is very exciting for both our young players and for the organizers/coaches to be recognized at the national level.

We held a female field lacrosse planning meeting Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 2008 that brought us together on provincial goals, barriers and started a dialogue on how to overcome some of these barriers. I plan on continuing with these meetings quarterly to ensure we are moving in the right direction as a group.

The main issue that needs to be addressed for the coming year is getting coaches and umpires certified at a higher level. We have individuals who would like to move forward in their training but have found it difficult or impossible to do so. Our new players have improved, and the game is becoming more and more competitive therefore we need properly trained coaches and umpires to ensure a safe and fun environment for all involved.

The first 8 months of this term I wasn’t able to give this position my 100% attention because I was finishing my degree but it is my goal in coming year to do all I can to better the female field lacrosse program in BC. I thank everyone for their patience while I completed my schooling. I would also like to thank Rochelle and the BCLA for their help and support as I learn the ins and outs of the BCLA and female field lacrosse in BC.

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session  
April 18, 2009**

**Pacific Coast Field Lacrosse League Report: Dirk Rachfall, Chair**

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The season is now complete, but it had its challenges. The weather played havoc with the schedule this past season, with several weeks cancelled due to snow coverage on the fields.

For two consecutive years we have seen growth in player registration. I hope this trend continues.

While this is good news, we are still working with the finite amount of field time allocated to the associations. I believe our league must evolve past our traditional Sunday field times to accommodate this growth and future growth.

Somehow with all the sporadic snowfall, two Field Provincials were held in February. In Mission we had the U16/U19 Field Provincials that went off without a hitch February 19th-22nd. Days later we had snowfall that blanketed the fields in Mission, but somehow managed to avoid Burnaby which held the U12/U14 Field Provincials the following weekend which also ran as planned.

I would like to thank all those that contributed to the success of the two Field Provincials that were held in the lower mainland: Brent and Jane Boutilier, Barb Calve, Doug Simons, Beth McLucas, Les Smith, Gil Lowe, Adam Smith, Tricia Rachfall, Phyllis Faubert, Leah Newcombe, Jody Weatherby, Brad Hara.

I have one main concern regarding these Provincials- volunteers. We had the same handful of volunteers run both these events. If we remove the core group of volunteers that ran these Field Provincials, there would be no volunteer in place who has experience in running a Field Provincial tournament. We need to extend the volunteer base so that upcoming Field Provincial coordination and execution can be done in a seamless manner.

The U-8 Jamboree finally happened in New West after several postponements and the U-10 Jamboree was held in Langley. After the U-10 Jamboree concluded at 3:00pm, the sun disappeared and snow fell on the fields and completely covered them.

I would like to thank Karen and Rich Peterson for coordinating the U-8 Jamboree and Laurie Pearson, Nauja Winkler, and Jason Kump for coordination the U-10 Jamboree.

PCFLL held their AGM on April 4th. All five elected executive positions were filled and all appointed positions are nearly filled as well. Confirmation and acceptance is all that is required for 1 of 6 commissioners. We also focused on updating and tidying up our operating policy.

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session  
April 18, 2009**

**Vancouver Island Youth Field Lacrosse League Report: Sam Hofer, Chair**

I would like to thank Deb Stocks for stepping in as acting Chair for the remainder of the season. I would also like to thank Cliff for all his time and effort.

The Island went with a shortened season this year. It went quite well. As with anything new it has had growing pains and for the next season we know what we need to improve on. We started our season with an Ice Breaker Tournament. We ran it with a regular tournament format. All the teams played in their own age groups and game points went towards league standings. It was a two day tournament and most of the teams played four games.

One of the issues we had with the shortened season, there was no time in the schedule to go to tournaments. Everyone liked the Ice Breaker format so we are looking at having it at least twice through the season. Last year we had all the age groups at one spot. This year we're talking about having U12/14's and J16/19's on two different weekends. We had problems with teams not able to finish their playoff schedule before the end of the season (which was December 14th ). What I would like to propose is that we have no playoffs and to use the league standings to determine your seat for provincials.

We proposed that teams moving onto provincials were to schedule games amongst themselves for the remainder of the season. This also didn't work well. If we go with the shorter season again the league will schedule the games for the teams that move on.

There are still some old diehards that would still like to play a full season. I don't understand their way of thinking. As I look at this past season and others, from Christmas until Provincials, teams were able to play very few games. The lack of field availability due to weather is where kids and parents lose interest in the sport.

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session**  
**April 18, 2009**

**Lower Mainland Women's Field League Report: Sym Smith, Commissioner**

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The Lower Mainland Women's Field Lacrosse League has had great success in only our second season of play. With highs and lows every League encounters, the League has still doubled in registration, enthusiasm and commitment, to not only players but volunteers.

We now have five Associations that have Women's Field Lacrosse and we are hopeful that two new Associations will come on board next season. We would like to thank Burnaby and Gary Walters's rep for Burnaby, New West and Suki Sandu rep for New West, Port Coquitlam and Colleen Fulford rep for Port Coquitlam and Andrea Jones VP of Women's Field for Coquitlam, Langley and Trevor Andres President of Women's Field for Langley.

This season ran U12, U15, U-19, with some struggles near end of season. The U19's had opportunity to play three visiting U.S. Teams.

The U12's only to see what is to come for them they are the future players for Provincials, Worlds etc.

The Lower Mainland and Island collaborated and successfully put a U19 team together to travel to Las Vegas to be put on the map winning Silver.

Growth and success is in the foreseeable future for the Lower Mainland Women's Field Lacrosse League and the players.

Success is due to the tireless and dedicated work of the volunteers who truly put their hearts in to this sport.

Thank you for all the support

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session  
April 18, 2009**

**North Island Youth Field Lacrosse League: Cynthia Durant-Smith, President**

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The North Island Field Lacrosse Association based out of Campbell River included players from Courtenay, Comox and Campbell River and picked up players from Nanaimo near the end of the season.

**Teams:**

Three teams were declared: U12, U16 and U19. All 3 teams were somewhat small and U12 & U16 were combined teams bringing up younger players in order to make numbers. Both U12 and U19 went into playdowns and made it to Provincials. The U16 Team folded due to a lack of players and coach. The U12 Team had a terrific time as a Team but no wins at Provincials; U19 proudly brought home the Bronze.

**Referees:**

Eight NIFLA players attended a referee clinic (6 new and 2 returning). Six of them were of the age to ref U12 and the other 2 eligible to ref U16 but not always available due to game time conflicts; there are no referees available in the NIFLA region eligible to ref U19. Referees were recruited from other regions to ref games but at a substantial cost including travel fees. At least 1 game was cancelled due to a lack of referees. This was obviously a problem for the Association.

**Travel:**

The coaches, managers and parents voiced concern and complaint of the unfair amount of travel put on some of the NIFLA teams. The U16 Team was scheduled to travel to Victoria and outlying area (from 400 - 600 km round trip) 8 times with only 2 games scheduled at home. The Scheduler for the Island Association may or may not have been aware of this, but the players were. This was 1 of the reasons for losing some of the U16 players and therefore folding the Team.

**2009/10 Season:**

The Executive feels that there will be a U14 Team next season and possibly a U19. There doesn't seem to be a lot of interest from younger players for field lacrosse but possibly some growth in the U14 age range. Referees will once again be a concern.

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session**  
**April 18, 2009**  
**BCLCA Vice Chair – Men’s Field Report: Adam Smith**

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The season recently ended without too many issues. We did have some suspensions in the final quarter of the season put out by the commissioners. I’m not sure if this is the first time in 2 years that we have had suspensions or if it is just the first time that the information made it to me. The suspensions were for playing ineligible players and for unsportsmanlike instructions to players on the field (telling to hit after the whistle).

If there is a positive from these suspensions at all it is that they were not for abuse of official. There seemed to be less discussion of this during the year this year. I continue to encourage any referee to throw a flag as soon as any coach openly questions or complaints about a call in a manner that is deemed disrespectful. I believe that there is no room for yelling at the referee or the time keepers (which we did have in the u19 provincial tournament) in field so the harder the referees are on this the better.

Next year I will be pushing for all Team BC coaches to be level II certified (Competitive Intro). These are elite competitive teams and should have competitive trained coaches. I will also be reviewing the LTAD and asking that this certification be required for any age groups that are deemed to be competitive from this document which may go down to the U14 level. I believe that once the goal is to win the provincial tournament and playing time is altered to win the game rather than to learn and have fun then we should have coaches who are at the competitive level to make these decisions.

Team BC tryouts have just completed. The process overall is running much smoother so far this year with all tryouts taking place in March. There have been a few bumps in the road as we streamline our practices but the transition to Team BC from the Selects and Stars program seems to be going well. The teams will meet again as a group in August after the box season is over for the majority of the athletes.

Thank you.

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session**  
**April 18, 2009**  
**BCLCA Vice Chair – Women’s Field Report: Karen Blake**

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This year has seen good strides for the development of coaches in the women's/girls' field game. With the increase in opportunities to play, with more associations coming on board, there have also been a good number of coaches joining the ranks to coach this rising sport.

**Highlights for the year:**

In September 2008, the first Coaches symposium was hosted by the Adanacs. This was a tremendous opportunity for our coaches in both the men's and women's game to hear from many experts in the game. Kudos to Doug Simons and Cliff Pascas for organizing such a great event. The one bit of disappointment was that so few coaches took advantage of this unique opportunity.

Community Development clinic was held in late October/November. This was a course specifically targeted to the Lower Mainland Girls Program. Eight coaches completed their training and actively involved in their associations.

I was pleased to be part of the annual Facilitators' training session in January. A very positive move on the BCLA's part was to jump on board with the online version of Community Development. This is a great benefit to our coaches as work is done pre-clinic. The now one-day session is a more desirable and intensive program.

Plans are in the works to finally pilot the Introduction to Competition level. We have a number of coaches ready to move up the ranks. Hopefully this will run in May/June 2009.

As the game continues to grow, we need to focus on continued coach education and upgrading. Coaches should be encouraged to take advantage of every opportunity to learn from the game and share that knowledge with their athletes.

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session**  
**April 18, 2009**  
**BCLOA Vice Chair – Men’s Field Report: Gil Lowe**

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For the current field lacrosse playing season, which started in September 2008 and ending with the recent Men’s Provincials in April 2009, there was a total of six (6) clinics held to certify officials.

The number of officials certified is as follows:

- Level 1 70 (NEW)
- Level 1 12
- Level 2 44
- Level 3 15
- Level 4 4
- Level 5 1
- Total 146

The breakdown within the province is as follow:

- Lower mainland - 75
- Vancouver Island - 57
- Interior - 14

Other than regular season play, many of our officials participated in the 2008 Summer Games, 2008 U19 Worlds (including the Youth Festival), 2008 Senior Men’s Nationals and 2008 Junior Men’s, U16 Nationals, 2009 High School Championships and the 2009 Provincial Championships (Youth and Men’s).

The struggles to reduce the abusive behaviour towards officials are constant. Associations and Clubs are constantly reminding coaches, parents and players of the unacceptable behaviour. This struggle will continue again in the coming year and I suspect it will continue for years to come. It is getting better, but we still need to remember that our game, this game – Field Lacrosse, has and should be recognized as a “gentleman’s” game. We are different from the Box game.

As you will have noticed, we had 70 individuals who decided to undertake the task of being a field lacrosse referee. I sincerely hope we do not lose the majority of them.

Our numbers have increased slightly from previous years and hopefully it is a sign that more will join.

I would like to note that Jody Weatherby undertook the task of being the Referee in Chief for the U12 and U14 Provincial Championships and Bill Mosdell, the Senior Men’s Provincials.

Dave Goulet continues to be our MCC.

I would like to thank the many parents who are there to take their children to the clinics and the games.

To the BCLA, thank you for your endless support.

Finally to the referees, thank you as this game cannot evolve with you.

**2009 BCLA Field Directorate Special Session**  
**April 18, 2009 – Douglas College, New Westminster**  
**2009 Team B.C. Provincial Field Lacrosse Program Report**  
**Submitted by Rey Comeault, BCLA Regional Coach – Lower Mainland**

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This year marked the first year of the Team B.C. Field Lacrosse Program in its current form. Approximately 180 players expressed interest in the Program by way of submitting Application forms to one of the three District Camps that we conducted, 80 - U19 players and 100 - U 16 players. North Okanagan, Lower Mainland and Victoria Camps were held during the month of March with a total of approximately 140 players attending the three Camps.

All participants were give a Team B.C. reversible pinnie as a keep sake. 115 players were invited to our Main Camp which was held in Delta over the March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> weekend. All participants invited to the Main Camp received a Team B.C. T-Shirt and a Team B.C. water bottle. Physical Testing was conducted at each of the District Camps and the Main Camp enabling our Box and Field Lacrosse disciplines to develop a data base of testing norms for Lacrosse players at particular ages. The Physical Testing results as well as the evaluation scores recorded by the evaluators were considerations of the Coaches in their determination of the Teams Rosters. The 2 - U 16 Teams consisting of 20 players each and the 2 - U 19 Teams consisting of 20 players each will be selected by April 11, 2009. I was very pleased with the number and calibre of players that had attended the District and Main Camps. I'm very much looking forward to seeing our Teams compete in the Tournament this fall.

The program will now sit idle for the bulk of the Box Lacrosse Season. Teams will have the ability to practice with their specific Team should they be able to accommodate the busy Box Lacrosse schedule. A training Camp will be held in late summer where the entire program will meet train as a group prior to leaving for National Tournament held over the labour day weekend in Winnipeg Manitoba.

The District Camp process ran particularly well considering it was the first year of the event ran as it was. There are some areas in which we will be continuing to develop policy moving forward; however the process in principle will run very similar in fashion next season.