

# Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Club 2022 AGM Minutes

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

**\*\*UNAPPROVED\*\***



## **Attendance:**

### **Members**

Jason Fancett  
Jeff Bowman  
Brent McCauley  
Dave Succamore  
Don Arthurs  
Todd Wilfong  
Dean McLeod  
Chris Lowe  
Steve McCullough  
Bob Boddam  
Bob Bartlett  
Ron Evans  
Ziggy Musial  
Wendy Bennett-Constante  
Trevor Small  
Dan Teat  
Keith Slinger  
Tony Bennett (via Zoom)  
Matt Bowman  
Glenn McClelland

Brock Boyle  
Brian Beisel (via Zoom)  
Clint Nickerson (via Zoom)  
Dave Wilfong (via Zoom)  
Joe Musial (via Zoom)  
Bob Burke (via Zoom)  
Nan Teat  
Mike Hasen (via Zoom)  
Wes Jackson (via Zoom)  
Zenny Lipinski (proxy via Don Arthurs)  
Bob Savage (proxy via Don Arthurs)  
Bruce Wanless (proxy via Don Arthurs)  
Doug Whillans (proxy via Don Arthurs)  
Reg Ewles (proxy via Don Arthurs)  
Mark Evans (proxy via Tony Bennett)  
Kevin Board (proxy via Glenn McClelland)

**Vote count: 36**

### **Guests:**

Nikki Slinger  
Patty Garcia (via Zoom)  
Rick Garcia (via Zoom)  
Nikki Bettenelli (via Zoom)

**Call to order at 7:07 pm.**

**Motion to adopt the agenda.**

**Motion: Keith Slinger**

**Second: Bob Bartlett**

**CARRIED**

**Motion to approve the minutes of the 2021 AGM.**

**Motion: Todd Wilfong**

**Second: Matt Bowman**

**CARRIED**

**President's Remarks (Glenn McClelland):**

- Welcome to second AGM under new Presidency.
- Thanks to members, guests, and Board for attending.
- Overview of points to touch on; transition of leadership, teams, accomplishments, works in progress. Floor will then be opened for questions.

**Transition:**

- New Board met every month except August. Minutes were completed and sent to members efficiently for all meetings.
- Notified the OLA (and individual leagues), the City of Brampton, and PDC of changes to the Board immediately following October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, and subsequent AGM.
- Contention with members of previous Board well into the New Year.
- OLA ruled to recognize new Board in January, upheld on appeal in February.
- Recovered BELC Minute Book from PDC in February. Matt conducted in depth review, created report detailing a long list of issues with the book. Report has been sent to membership, copies set out on each table.
- Immediate priority was to investigate financials, establish how much money the club and teams have. No financials found in the Minute Book. Asked former Board for all financial records, Jr. B's (Brent) only ones to comply.
- Found BELC accounts at National Bank and TD Bank.
- After managing to update the Directors filings, they were brought to the banks and accounts were turned over. Notified a short time later that accounts had been frozen due to members of former Board claiming to Banks that they still represented the club.
- Continued investigation after getting account unfrozen. Found a number of cheques signed by the former signing Officers on the accounts, written after being removed from the Board on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Also a number of cheques written to individuals on the former Board, both before and after October 4<sup>th</sup>, with no documentation or explanation. Sent requests for receipts, none have been provided.
- Found that legal requirements of Bingo account had been violated. Funds from Bingo being deposited into Jr. A account, funds being used for legal issues, not being used for athlete under 18, ect...
- Bingo account issues, as well as a member of the former Board claiming to still represent BELC caused lottery licence application with the City to be problematic. Issues resolved with help of BMLA. BMLA will now run lottery licence with support and cooperation of BELC to ensure compliance.

- Jr. B's experienced a seamless transition thanks to the cooperation of Brent and Clint. Majors, Jr. A's and Field faced difficulties, having to completely start from scratch. Ran into issues with OJLL due to former GM claiming to still represent the Excelsiors after having been relieved of duties. Resolved with Commissioner.
- Multiple requests for the former Board to cooperate and work with new Board, no fruition.
- Found that Jr. A's had a number of debts owing to OJLL (tournament fees, draft fees), and a bounced cheque to former Equipment Manager. Funds had to be raised immediately in order to pay debts (accounts had not yet been obtained).

#### Teams:

- Majors finally reached a deal with MSL and Owen Sound, both teams will participate in 2023. Many difficulties on the way to making a deal. Players on the roster were released on single year deals for payments to be split between Brampton and Owen Sound.
- Found two documents in the Minute Book which showed a deal was done with Joe Norton before his name was ever brought to the Board. Conflicts with numerous statements and records from former Board. No approval to negotiate had been given.
- Talks revealed many MSL governors had not been informed of all the details by league Commissioner. Much more willing to cooperate with BELC after direct discussions.
- Acknowledged that the Board was given a directive last year to ensure Majors played in 2022. This directive was not met, but Board agreed sitting the season out was in the best interest of the players, the sport, and the club, due to extenuating circumstances. Stepping back to negotiate with Owen Sound allowed league to be played, avoided hurting lacrosse further.
- Excelsiors once again have a seat on the MSL Board of Governors.
- Roster was divided between Brampton and Owen Sound. We kept a strong core of Brampton based players, confident the team is in a good position for the future.
- Jr. B's had a strong start (4-0), but struggled through the rest of the season due to injuries.
- Hosted Founders' Cup. Well run, very successful tournament, Excelsiors placed 4<sup>th</sup> in Canada with most of the injured players back in the line up.
- Young Jr. A team, a lot of skill but little experience. Poor record this season, but in a great position for the future, nearly all players will be returning, lots more talent coming up from below.
- Minto was hosted in Brampton by OJLL in cooperation with BELC. Thank you to all the Excelsiors' volunteers who took part. Big success, saw Alberta team compete in finals for first time ever.
- Thanks to Jason Fancett for taking position of Men's Field GM. Got the program back off the ground from scratch. Team won provincial 'B' division championship. Young team, expecting to compete at a higher level next year.
- Matt worked hard to get Women's field program running. Could not find willing GM to take over. Explored options working in conjunction with BMLA to run a house league program for girls. Plans fell through.

- Brampton is the only organization in OWFL which separates minor and Jr. women's programs. Will be making changes next year, for BELC to assist BMLA in running all women's field programs. Hoping this will provide a stronger support base and help relaunch the program.

#### Accomplishments

- Ron Evans will be present financially this year, first time in many years a full financial report will be provided to membership.
- Constitutional Committee was formed in March with directive of reviewing the BELC Constitution and By-Laws, and presenting to the membership a proposal for a new set of governing documents. Chaired by Matt Bowman. Thanks to members for the time and effort put in.
- As mentioned, report of Minute Book written, issues have been addressed and rectified where possible.
- Made connection with Border City Lacrosse Club in Brampton England.

#### Works in Progress

- Club has not yet brought in new members. This is however addressed with new Governing Documents. Plan to bring in many members, aim for more diversity.
- As mentioned, Women's program did not get off the ground. Needs to be a priority in the coming year.

#### Q&A

- Wendy Bennett-Cosnante raises concerns over item in the Minute Book Report stating possible misuse of BELC for legal support. States she is angry misinformation was disseminated to the membership.
- Glenn clarifies that the statement was based on the minutes approved by the former Board and filed in the minute book. The report raises a concern that this has to be further investigated, as no follow up or financial statements were in the book to confirm whether or not this was followed through on. It makes no accusation of wrongdoing. Confirms that when this was brought up at a meeting, both Ron Evans and Brent McCauley immediately confirmed that Wendy did not accept any support, financial or otherwise, from the BELC for this issue.
- Dan Teat asks if Jr. A equipment and assets have yet been recovered.
- Glenn states nothing has been turned over. Member of the former Board has confirmed they have everything, but will not hand it over without a court order.
- Trevor Small states they were not aware this individual had the assets, this is the first time he is aware about it.
- Glenn responds that the former Jr. A GM told him the property was turned over to the former Board, and that one of the members would be in contact in the next week.
- Matt states that further discussion on this topic should be conducted during the planned in camera portion of the meeting.
- No further questions.

## **Discussion on Motion to Remove Members**

- Matt explains general procedure for in camera discussion. Explains that current By-Laws require the Board to remove members by a vote, but that Board agreed this is a decision which should be made by the Life Members. As such, the Board will take direction from the members and follow through accordingly.

### **Motion to go in camera.**

**Motion: Jeff Bowman**

**Second: Bob Bartlett**

**CARRIED**

## **OUT OF CAMERA**

- Motions to remove members failed. Discussion regarding appointing Don Arthurs as a liaison between the Board and the three members in question to help resolve ongoing issues.
- Debate between phrasing and implications of “former Board” or “Ziggy, Trevor, and Wendy” in a motion.

### **Motion for the membership to give directive to the Board to appoint Don Arthurs as a liaison between the current and former Boards of Directors to resolve issues regarding the turnover of BELC assets and documents, to return members to good standing.**

**Motion: Brent McCauley**

**Second: Don Arthurs**

**DEFEATED**

- Board will instead reach out to Don in coming days to work on a resolution directly with Ziggy, Wendy, and Trevor.
- Ziggy, Wendy, and Trevor excuse themselves from the remainder of the meeting.

## **Proposal for New Governing Documents**

### **Motion to approve the new Governing Documents.**

**Motion: Don Arthurs**

**Second: Brent McCauley**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Matt thanks committee members for the time and effort put in. Expresses pride in end result and confidence that it will move the club in a better direction with more oversight and accountability going forward. Also remind everyone that the document is not perfect and should be under constant scrutiny and review. Asks everyone to read it over each year and consider new proposals for change.
- Dean McLeod thanks Matt for chairing the Constitutional Committee and leading effort to redo the document.

## **Treasurer’s Report**

- Copy of the financial made available on each table. As well, Matt has a copy of the file and will include it when distributing the minutes of the meeting.

- Report includes information yet to be provided by former Board.
- Financial review of accounts discovered a bounced cheque from Jr. A's to Paul Letourneau, former Equipment Manager. Board reached out to Paul and proper payment has since been made.
- Cheques were written and signed by former Signing Officers, after October 4<sup>th</sup> 2021, totaling over \$7000 from general account alone. Requests for receipts and documentation have been made with no response.
- Financials for Founders' Cup and Minto Cup are not included in this report. Still to be finalized, will be included in next year's financial report.
- Many payments for Major players made before an account was set up. They were deposited into the general account. Fees will be split evenly with Owen Sound. Some payments were also made after the fiscal year-end, they will be included in next year's financials.
- Jr. A's had to open a new account while waiting to recover old account. Financials for both are included in the report.
- Overall system has been changed. All accounts now have 3 Signing Officers, two signatures required. Treasurer and President are SOs on all accounts, VP on general account and GMs on their respective team accounts. All finances will now go through general account to allow for more transparency, financial reports will be presented at all Board meetings.

**Motion to approve financial report.**

**Motion: Todd Wilfong                      Second: Brent McCauley              CARRIED**

**Team Reports**

- Team reports to be submitted to Matt and included with the minutes (see appendices).

**Election of Directors**

- Ballots have been handed out.
- Three new positions available. Matt, Clint, and Keith have accepted shortened terms and standing for re-election. This will allow for a stagger of elections each year, as the entire current Board were elected at the same time.
- Received nomination forms for Rick Garcia, Kelly Pereira, and Keivan Campbell.

**Motion to accept entire slate of nominees as Directors.**

**Motion: Don Arthurs                      Second: Dean McLeod              CARRIED**

- Prior to adjournment, Dean mentions that he has two sticks which will be signed and sent to Border City Lacrosse to be auctioned off as a fund raiser. BELC will also get #51 jersey signed by Jeff Teat to be sent as well.
- Ron bring attention to three NLL exhibition games being played in Brampton on November 12, 19, and 26. Games will act as fundraisers for local charities.

**Motion to adjourn.**

**Motion: Don Arthurs**

**Second: Dan Teat**

**CARRIED**

**Adjournment at 9:19 pm.**

## **Appendix A – Team Reports**

### **Jr. A:**

Year of rebuild and challenges we managed head on

- have 18 returning players
- restocked draft picks by acquiring 7 over the next 4 years as we started the year with 4 owing
- a struggle for sponsors but we will be working more on this as vital
- a good season with working with Jr B as open communication and allowed for easier player movement with both teams on the same page
- believe we have about 50 players eligible to return next year total for both clubs plus 1 pick in the upcoming draft so we are in a good position for talent and a bit of depth
- plan is for coaching staff to all return unless they have other commitments that could prevent their return
- have some of our younger guys and prospects playing this January in Jr ALL to get junior lacrosse ready
- thankful for all of our volunteers as was crucial to help get us through a rebuilding year when we had lost our assets, Equipment Manager, front door staff and 30 second clock operator from prior years
- excited for 2023

### **Jr. B:**

In February, we the coaches and management started training camp with very high expectations for the 2022 Junior B Excelsiors. With hosting the 2022 Founders, we felt we had a team to compete at the highest level.

We had a young team to start the season, with only 3–21-year old's.

We started the season with 4 wins in a row. We then got hit with the injury bug, that took a lot of our offensive threat out.

We battled hard throughout the season, only to come up short by 1 point in making the playoff.

After giving the players a couple of weeks off, we then entered a mini-Founders Cup Camp, inviting some of our intermediates, midgets and affiliate Junior C club. We were also able to add another coach to our staff, to help with our offense, Pat O'Toole.

We started off the round robin with a 21-2 win over the Saskatoon Swat. We then had a hard fought battle against Coquitlam Adanacs, coming up short, 7-5.

Our next game was against the Onondaga RedHawks, which was a back-and-forth game, with ended up in a 7-7 draw.

Our next game was against the Edmonton Warriors, which we won, 14-8.



With the gold medal game on the line, our last game was against the Ontario Champ, Nepean Knights. We started off well, ahead 4-1 after the first. Then the Knights playoff experience paid off, taking the lead after 2 periods, 9-5. The final score ended up 12-7.

We then had the opportunity to win a bronze medal with a rematch again the Edmonton Warriors. Again, a very exciting back and forth game, with Brampton coming up short by one goal.

I would like to thank Todd Wilfong, Greg Phillips, Pat O'Toole, Dave Paonessa, Sara Scott, and Clint Nickerson with all their dedicated time and effort to help us this year. I would like to thank all the volunteers that helped us during the 2022 Founders Cup, over the last 3 years. Without you dedication during this time, we wouldn't have been able to put on this great event.

And finally, I would like to thank our graduating Junior B captain, Fraser MacKenzie, for your 5 years of dedicated service to the Junior B program

Yours in Lacrosse

Brent McCauley  
GM-Brampton Junior B Excelsiors

### **Men's Field:**

The Ontario Junior Men's Field Lacrosse League saw growth in 2022, expanding from 5 teams to 9, including our own Brampton Excelsiors. We had 20 players register and encountered a few players with season ending injuries so completed the season a little thin on the bench. 80% of the roster were 2004s and 2005s, 10% 2006s (APs) and 10% 2003 and older.

We finished the season with a record of 3W-7L-2T which put us in the group of 4 teams vying for the B championship. We defeated Hamilton in the semi final game 9-5 and then defeated Innisfil to capture the B final, 13-8. Oshawa captured the "A" championship.

Financially speaking we had the following:

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Income from Team Fees                      | \$5,605 |
| OJMFL League Fees                          | \$2,500 |
| Field Rentals                              | \$912   |
| Supplies (Balls, First Aid, Water bottles) | \$810   |

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Balance carry forward to 2023 | \$1,382 |
|-------------------------------|---------|

With a strong core of additional 2006s next season, we expect to be competing in the A bracket in 2023.

- ***Jason Fancett, GM U22 Brampton Excelsiors***