



JDF Lacrosse Association

2024 Annual Report

President – Ryan Hyland (Interim President)- Report to be sent.

Vice- President Box 1- Niki Williams

As VP1 I was responsible for U11 and U13. We had 5 balanced U11 teams and 4 tiered U13 teams. A1, A2, B and B. Overall I would say it was a successful season for these age groups. Lots of happy kids playing the game they've grown to love. Assessments took place early on to ensure teams were balanced and kids tiered appropriately. Coaches were invited to a draft for team selections at U11. U13 players were placed based on their overall assessment scores and coach's input. U13 team sizes were on the smaller side which led to some problems with attendance. Moving forward we should keep this in mind when forming teams. We had some parent issues, coaching concerns and struggling team dynamics at the U13 level. Many phone calls and meetings were had throughout the season, and we leaned on policy to resolve most issues. Although I am stepping down from my role, I have enjoyed working with everyone on this executive committee for the last 3 years and want to thank all our volunteers for the time they put into this association.

Vice-President Box 2 – Nic Collison

VP2 of U15/U17 divisions

4 teams

U17 A1 and B

U15 A1 and B

Going through assessments for both divisions and dividing into 2 groups and then having coaches' cuts.

Supporting and helping the A coaches with cuts.

Communicating and explaining to parents that were wanting some explanation on the process and some advice on the why.

Unfortunately, we had some behavioral issues with some parents from these divisions that came with the association having to manifest letters to some families. As well as a few disciplinary conversations.

Handling some player conduct on and off the floor, including some suspensions from the association and island commission.

Vice-President Box 3- Jennifer Lambert

We saw another busy season with our youngest divisions, we saw teams form with a slightly larger teams, as last year we struggled to have enough players at the game. This year we saw that majority of players were showing up and able to play. My suggestion for next year is to run with smaller teams, so that players aren't sitting for long periods, if we have the coaches to do so. I was able to support teams with their games and helping to get them all set up, along with Jill the head manager for box. It was great to see so many new refs, being mentored by our experienced referees on the floor working with the smallest players helping grow the passion for the sport.

Some teams struggled getting managers and treasurer, we were able to hold a parent meeting with Jill and I attending and were able to find parents to volunteer.

Ending the season with the Debbie Copper was the perfect ending of the season and we would like to thank Brittany Corkery for all of the planning. I would recommend ending each year in the same manner, bring all JDF teams together to celebrate the season.

As part of my duty's pre-season, I was able to attend all coach interviews and help with assessment set up and take down, along side our incredible assessment team. The work of the assessment team was evident, they took the feedback and have improved the associations system.

Vice-President Field 1 – Matt Towle

The Annual Report from the Vice President 1 of Field Lacrosse highlights the key activities, challenges, and achievements from January to November 2024, emphasizing advancements in policy development, collaboration, and community engagement. February brought significant wins, with both U11 teams securing gold at Provincials, and important policy proposals submitted to the BCLA aimed at refining scrimmage structures and game durations. In addition to these initiatives, I attended multiple disciplinary meetings throughout the year to uphold our integrity and reinforce policy standards, ensuring a fair and respectful environment within our association.

In April, attending the BCLA Field Directorate Special Session provided valuable insights into provincial trends, while our participation in the Westshore Charity Golf Tournament resulted in a generous \$2,000 donation to support our programs and strengthen community ties. June focused on preparation for assessments, covering essential areas like registration, team sizes, and field scheduling, which led smoothly into the VIFLL AGM where we finalized protocols

and filled critical volunteer roles. Returning to duties in October, I coordinated with the President and VP2 to streamline processes for the upcoming season, ensuring a seamless experience for players, families, and volunteers.

November involved the finalization of U13 rosters and organizing a successful jamboree-style event for U7 teams at Topaz Field. Additionally, our participation in the BCLA AGM ensured alignment with provincial standards as we approached our local AGM. Reflecting on this year's progress, I'm proud of our strides in policy enhancement, community outreach, and player development. The dedication of our coaches, players, volunteers, and executive team has been instrumental, setting a strong foundation for continued growth in the coming year.

Vice President Field 2- Devin Johns

Work with VP 1 Field in communications to Managers, Coaches, parents, and Island Commission leading up to the current season.

Work with the u7, u9 and u11 groups and answer equipment, player movement and questions surrounding games and tournaments that have come up so far into the 24/25 season.

I was also a part of the assessment committee that met throughout the summer discussing the planning for the most recent assessments that took place in early September.

Vice-President Female – Vacant- Report to be sent

Secretary – Jessica Lejeune

BC Societies filing was complete in 2023 and all documents will be ready for 2024.

I attended the Langford City Hall Counsel meeting with Adam Ranns and we advocated for our association to receive \$6000 Grant in Aid Funding towards new jerseys, female lacrosse initiatives, goalie replacement gear, training new coaches and re-certifying referees.

I also attended District of Metchosin Counsel Meeting and advocated for our association to receive \$900 Grant in Aid Funding towards the same goals having expenses above and beyond registration fees and gaming grant received. Thank you to City of Langford and District of Metchosin for your generous support!

I attended the BCLA AGM in New Westminster and will share the special sessions minutes from minor directorate, coaching group, officials group and AGM when I receive them.

Treasurer – Jesse Lawson- Report to be sent.

Registrar – Jean Gallagher

Box Lacrosse was relatively smooth. There were 387 registered players for Box season in 2024 and 21 teams.

Field lacrosse saw the implementation of a new registration system which proved to be more difficult than anticipated, but a positive is that it integrates with the JDF Website. There were many complications with releases and transfers this season. With the support of RAMP, registration was completed and submitted to the BCLA late, but with an approved extension.

There were 244 registered players for the Field Lacrosse season. JDF hosted the female teams and welcomed 12 players from Pac Rim.

I am hopeful that this new registration system will be especially helpful for Box season to streamline the female box registration process.

Head Coach Box – Curt Morwick

Responsibilities of the head coach were heaviest at the start of the season.

The following are the main points of my position.

Compiling a pool of coaches for each division and tier within that division.

Helping with the coach's interview process, to ensure the best the association can, that qualified coaches are selected for each division.

Coming up with practice plans, ensuring coaches are available to help on floor, and being available myself to help run box assessments for each division, from u11 through u17.

Working with executive members to ensure that each competitive division and the u11 division had consistent and adequate assessors present at assessments to place the players in their respected pools.

Through out the season, try to be the main contact for issues or advice any coach may need to want. Even if it's just lending an ear. Whether that is practice plans or finding help if a coach is stuck and unable to attend a practice or games. I tried to convey to all coaches that I was here to make sure they had all the resources and backing they need to run a fun and successful team.

As seasons progress, there is always something new and unique to learn from; This season was no different. I learned as best I could and enjoy being a part of this association and the dedicated members that make it work. There were challenges and obstacles that were navigated, and I believe that as an association, together, we always grow from those obstacles and move forward with each passing year.

Head Coach Field – Adam Ranns- see President's Report

Head Referee – Rob Cook

I am happy to report that our JDF officials, box and field, had a successful year. There were no major incidents to report. There were a few minor issues that were handled by myself without further action being needed. The overall feedback from our coaches was very good. I received emails and phone calls complimenting our officials on their performance. Juan de Fuca has a great core group of young officials – and I would say they are amongst the best group within BC Lacrosse.

This year's U17 and U15 Box Provincial Championships were held on the Island. JDF had four officials attend the tournaments and they all did very well. The U13-17 Field Provincials were

held in Richmond, and JDF sent 5 officials to this championship. Nanaimo hosted the U-11 Provincial jamboree, and JDF sent 5 officials to these games. It was a very rewarding experience for them. I attended numerous games this year and provided both written and verbal feedback to most of the officials. In general, I was very pleased with their on-floor/on-field performance. They handled themselves extremely well, were very confident and did not hesitate to either warn or in some cases, penalize coaches when necessary. The mentorship program continues to be a huge success. This was our eleventh year with this program and our young officials are reaping the rewards of this. Thank you to Cass for working so hard on this! I did not attend the Official's Special Session last month. Once again, the main topic of discussion was official abuse and retention. The number of complaints overall remains extremely high in BC. Leadership re-iterated that minor associations MUST take a pro-active approach with our younger coaches with respect to the Fair Play Code. I can say that the number of issues at JDF this past season decreased, but the fact that issues remain is concerning. Coaches, bench personnel and even parents continue to have difficulty understanding that there is to be zero abuse of officials. We as a group need to take action and deal with these issues immediately and not let time be the answer.

I have not received any notification from officials that they will not be returning next year. This is a good sign. There is still work needed to be done within the officials group - I hope I am asked to return next season to carry on.

Referee Allocator box- Cass Jutting

This spring we trained 12 Entry Level Officials. As well, 14 L1/L2s and 5 L3-5's completed clinics this year. Many of our officials from previous years acted as mentors for the entry level officials and we were able to run almost all the U11 tournament games with the three ref system, giving the junior officials this additional experience.

RAMP for assigning officials was also piloted this box season for all games including the tournaments. Despite a somewhat steep learning curve for the new allocator and everyone across minor lacrosse using this system for the first time, it worked quite well for assigning officials, when everyone learned and did what they needed to do.

Referee Allocator field- Sarah Nishimura

Field Official Allocator -

This position was shared this year with Pac Rim to co-allocate officials for the season. Approximately 30 entry, level 1 and level 2 officials were pooled and offered games on the south island. Senior officials are also offered minor games.

JDF trained 9 entry level officials this season, 7 of whom have been assigned games at the time of this report.

Mentor officials have also been assigned to games with entry level officials to support them. A

few of our entry/L1 JDF officials have also officiated games on the mainland in tournaments in which they are participating.

Equipment Manager – Rob Ponte

Sign out equipment needed by coaches, managers, and members of the executive. Fit and sign gear to individual goalies. Order all new gear needed for the upcoming seasons.

Risk Management – Matt Towle

This annual report provides an overview of the progress, accomplishments, and ongoing initiatives within risk management for JDF Lacrosse over the past year. Our commitment to maintaining a safe and compliant environment remains a top priority, focusing on key areas such as criminal record checks, concussion awareness training, and injury reporting.

1. Criminal Record Checks

Ensuring that all coaches, assistant coaches, and volunteers have completed their criminal record checks (CRCs) has been an ongoing priority:

- **Completion Rate:** We achieved close to 100% completion, with only a few pending checks at various points during the year.
- **Seasonal Checks:** As both field and box lacrosse seasons began, a proactive approach was taken to ensure any missing CRCs were completed in a timely manner, minimizing risks associated with delayed checks.

2. Concussion Awareness Training

Our efforts to raise awareness and ensure compliance with concussion safety protocols have continued:

- **Training Requirement:** All coaching staff are required to complete concussion awareness training, as per the standards set by the British Columbia Lacrosse Association (BCLA).
- **Progress and Compliance:** At the start of each season, an email reminder was sent out to any outstanding coaches, and by mid-season, all teams met the BCLA's minimum training requirements.
- **Ongoing Support:** Resources and training materials were made available to coaches throughout the year to ensure continuous adherence to safety practices.

3. Injury Reports

Injury tracking and reporting have remained a priority to ensure swift support for affected players and to maintain safety standards:

- **Reported Injuries:** Over the year, several injuries were reported and handled as follows:
 - **U15 T2 (April):** A player sustained a concussion. Accident claim forms were initiated with the BCLA.
 - **U15 A1 (April):** A high ankle sprain occurred during practice. No insurance claim was required.
 - **U13 B2 (April):** An ankle injury occurred during a league game in Parksville. An insurance claim was initiated.
 - **U13 A2 (April):** A broken arm was sustained during a game in Nanaimo. Insurance claim initiated.
 - **U11 T2 (May):** A mild concussion was sustained by a goalie. Head Injury Report filed with BCLA; no insurance claim was required.
 - **U13 A2 (May):** Another broken arm was reported during a practice game. Insurance claim filed.
 - **U13 A1 (July):** During Provincials, a player sustained a fractured thumb. Insurance claim filed with BCLA.
 - **U13 T2 (November):** A player sustained an ankle sprain. No insurance claim required.
 - **U18 T2 (November):** A player sustained a left wrist injury. Insurance claim initiated.

4. Policy Development and Compliance

This year also involved collaborative work with the board to review and strengthen existing policies:

- **Policy Review:** Participation in meetings throughout the year focused on policy updates, particularly with an emphasis on injury prevention and concussion management.
- **Documentation and Resources:** Updated documentation was distributed to ensure clear communication and understanding of risk-related protocols among coaches and volunteers.

Gaming – Rochelle McRae

Grants – apply for BC grant annually, and apply for any gaming licenses needed for the association and closing the licenses and submit the annual report.

Jersey Manager box- Gina Lawson- Report to be sent.

Jersey Manager Field- Matt McRae

All teams have been given their jerseys for the season with little issue.

Webmaster – Stephen Laws- Nothing to report.

Whaler Wear Coordinator- Ashley Petch

I set tables up at tournaments and photo day, order items for future sales as well as offer pre-order items for purchase. I order and sort team shorts ensuring payment has been made prior to delivery/pick up. I keep a spreadsheet of all shorts ordered as well as pre-orders and mark off when payment has been auto deposited. I sort my orders, contact purchasers and prepare and label the item for pickup. Inventory is up to date and catalogued.

Head Manager box – Jill Denis

We had 22 box teams this year with 22 managers and 22 treasurers! This is a list of some of the things I was busy with this past box season:

- Worked to inform and guide managers and treasures on policies and procedures and aided them in season startup.
- Organized the coaches/managers meeting and prepared information/agenda to share at the meeting.
- Updated the managers handbook and other forms and data pertaining to team management available on the JDF website.
- Worked with the bank to prepare all team accounts and aided in getting all managers/treasurers/signors access.
- Created and upkept spreadsheets tracking team bank accounts, rosters, and coach/manager contact info.
- Prepared and sent the Form 100 & provincial declaration forms to BCLA.
- Booked the photographer, created the schedule and volunteered for picture day.
- Assisted managers with questions and issues during the season and monitored the managers chat.
- Was responsible for collecting end of season team packages.
- Compiled award nominations from coaches for box and field season and entered all info and write ups into a spreadsheet to be accessed by those in charge of organizing awards ceremony.
- Attended the 2024 BCLA AGM.

Alicia Hayes shadowed me all season and I trained her in preparation for her to take over the head manager position.

I have stepped down from the box head manager position and have transitioned to the new Administrative Coordinator position that is being trialed for one year. I will be working on a list of duties for this position but some of the things I've been working on are:

- Working with Webmaster to learn about managing our domain and background technical info for MS 365. Assisted in getting all executives @jdf lacrosse email addresses and access to MS 365.
- Continue to work on JDFLA data management/sharing in One Drive/Sharepoint/Teams.
- I am a Ramp administrator.
- I am a signor for JDF bank accounts.
- Was on the assessment committee and aided in organizing and scheduling assessments and calculating results.
- Was on the policy committee and assisted in preparing policy updates for the upcoming AGM.
- Was on the nomination committee and aided in collecting nominations for the upcoming AGM.

Head Manager field- Alicia Hayes

We have 9 coed and 4 female teams this field season.

I have the spent the last year learning from Jill about the position that I have filled. Below some of the things that I have done,

- Worked to inform and guide managers and treasures on policies and procedures and aided them in season startup.
- Organized the coaches/managers meeting and prepared information/agenda to share at the meeting.
- filled out spreadsheets tracking team bank accounts, rosters, and coach/manager contact info.
- Prepared and sent the Form 100M and 100W and I am preparing to send provincial declaration forms to BCLA.
- Booked the photographer, created the schedule and volunteered for picture day.
- Assisted managers with questions and issues during the season and monitored the managers chat.
- I will be responsible for collecting end of season team packages this season and helped to collect them last season.

- Helped to collect award nominations from field last season and entered all info and write ups into a spreadsheet to be accessed by those in charge of organizing awards ceremony. I will be collecting them again this season.
- Attended the 2024 BCLA AGM.
- Was on the assessment committee and aided in organizing and scheduling assessments and calculating results.
- Was on the policy committee and assisted in preparing policy updates for the upcoming AGM.

Floor Allocator – Kyla Pedlow

My season began by booking floor time at Eagle Ridge Arena for Box Assessments. This year I was part of the assessment committee, which met regularly to create the assessment schedule, and ensure a smooth assessment process. During assessments I was there to check players in, and hand out their assigned pinnies.

I worked with Westshore Parks and Recreation to book JDF Arena, The Q Centre, and the JDF Box for our entire season, as well as tournaments. I also worked with School District 62 to book the Belmont Box for practices for the season. After contracts were in place for all venues, I built the practice schedule for all 22 box teams, making sure to alternate between JDF Box and Belmont Box, and made an effort for the U17 teams to have indoor practices this year.

Once the practice schedule was built, I was then able to release our game slots to the Island Scheduler for games to be scheduled. I worked very closely with the Island Scheduler for the weeks leading up to the beginning of the season, as the game schedule is a long tedious process that requires multiple sets of eyes to minimize errors being made.

As the season began, game rescheduling also began. There is typically an influx of game reschedule requests at the beginning of the year, as teams receive their invitations to tournaments, and then regular requests throughout the season for various reasons.

Once the game schedule was released, and the initial influx of game reschedule requests had come in, I assessed the current floor space that we had booked and determined how much time we could give back to WSPR. Since a big mandate this past season was to pay off outstanding debts with WSPR, I wanted to save as much money as possible on floortime. So I gave back everything I possibly could without affecting our practice or game times.

The season wrapped up with helping to book games for multiple teams heading to playdowns.

Field Allocator- Nikila Cyr

At the start of the season, I arranged field time at the Westshore Velodrome and Royal Bay turf for assessments and practices. As part of the assessment committee, I participated in regular meetings to develop the schedule and ensure a seamless assessment process.

I worked with Westshore Parks and Recreation to secure the Westshore Velodrome and Royal Bay turf for our season. Once the field contracts were finalized, I organized the practice schedule for our 13 field teams. Due to limited availability, each division needed to share field times.

Once the practice schedule was set, I shared the field availability with the island scheduler for the season. Creating the game schedule required careful attention and multiple reviews to minimize errors. As the season began, we had a few game rescheduling requests. I continued to handle rescheduling adjustments as needed throughout the season. Once the game schedule was finalized and initial rescheduling requests were addressed, I reviewed our reserved field space to identify opportunities to return any unused time to Westshore Parks and Recreation. My goal was to reduce expenses wherever possible while ensuring all field teams' needs were met.

Tournament Coordinator – Brittney Corkery

I run three tournaments each box season-U7/U9 Debbie Cooper Heatwave Hustle, U11 Travis Bateman Memorial, U13 Rumble on the Rock.

Both the U11 and U13 events were successful with bringing in funds for the association. The U7/U9 event is more of a year-end wrap up for our youngest divisions.

We were able to connect with a local hotel to be our Host Hotel which in turn generated some profits back for our tournaments. We had special guests come out from Victoria Royals Hockey. As well, we were able to have a couple different food trucks out this year.

Looking forward to expanding our tournaments even more this coming box season!

Marketing Manager- Jessica Lejeune

In 2024, we continued to see gains in registration in box and field lacrosse. JDF used different paid social media advertisements through Facebook and Instagram. We spent \$120 on paid ads, as well as sharing many non paid posts to promote registration for this past box and field lacrosse seasons, specifically targeting the Westshore area and we reached 208,100 people in the local area.

We use other platforms to engage with players and parents: Tik Tok, Twitter, Snap Chat and YouTube. We ran a paid radio ad shared on the Ocean 98.5 and Jack FM 103.1 to promote box lacrosse registration. We had local big screen ads at Westshore Parks and Recreation and West Hills, ads on display tv's in Sooke School District 62, and around the city of Langford on the Pattison screens. We sent out PDF newsletters to various school PAC and parent Facebook groups, and they were also added to SD 62 e-newsletters.

We had good representation in the Greater Victoria Festival society Santa Claus Parade in downtown Victoria last winter. We had decorated and lighted vehicles playing music, and JDF players walking in the parade wearing their jerseys, carrying a JDF banner and decorated lacrosse sticks!

Chek News The Upside with Ed Bain and Jeff King came out to one of our spring try box lacrosse for free sessions, highlighting the different age divisions and fun everyone was having. The female box teams from all over Victoria hosted by Victoria- Esquimalt Lacrosse were interviewed as well.

The Upside also came out to our female field lacrosse practice night and highlighted all divisions from U7-U18. Myself, Dawn Ranns, coach Brittani Chiasson and some players were interviewed and information was shared about the inaugural Van Island Girls Cup co-hosted with Nanaimo lacrosse November 1-3.

We were able to get a front-page article in the Goldstream News Gazette featuring U9 players in the Debbie Cooper Memorial Tournament and Langford Council member Keith Yacucha. Information promoting our association was well received on the online newspaper copy as well.

We are thankful to all parents, guardians, grandparents and caregivers that share photos with us for Whaler successes and marketing posts.

Past President- Ryan Hyland- See Interim President's Report.