



2020 NZWLA AGM Agenda
Wednesday 30 September, 7pm
Various locations by Zoom

1. Welcome and apologies

Meeting started: 7pm.

Present: Marina Samountry, Nicole Goode, Eleanor Burkin, Sean Carter, Matt Gould, Elliot Keys, Sian Keys, Damon Jakeman, Ursula Johnson, Erika Giblin, Mandy Leeson, William McMaster, Mike Smith.

Apologies: Samantha Wood, Tara Vrensen, Rosie Gunn.

Quorum met.

Eleanor Burkin chaired the meeting.

2. Acceptance of 2019 AGM Minutes

Motion to accept the 2019 AGM Minutes as a true and accurate record.

MOVED: Nicole Goode

SECONDED: Marina Samountry

CARRIED

3. Annual reports

- a. Chairperson
- b. Treasurer
 - i. Receive annual report 2019-2020
 - ii. Approve budget for 2020-2021
 - iii. Set subscriptions for 2020-2021

A member queried the costs of insurance, asked for a breakdown of the NZWLA's fee and queried whether smaller regions should start paying a fee. Sean Carter agreed to provide a further breakdown of the fees.

Sean explained that the fee could be lowered to \$35 but this would only cover the NZWLA's basic operating costs. It was agreed that given COVID, this lower fee would help financially. However, regions should not expect the fee to remain at \$35 in coming years.

Motion to set the NZWLA 2020-2021 fee at the reduced rate of \$35 with a caveat that this reduced fee may not remain in following years.

MOVED: Nicole Goode

SECONDED: Matt Gould

William Clarkson, Sean Carter and Erika Giblin abstained from voting.

CARRIED

Eleanor Burkin left at 7:35pm. Moved that Nicole Goode chaired the meeting.

- c. High Performance Director
- d. National Tournaments Officer
- e. National Umpiring Officer
- f. Regional reports
 - i. Auckland
 - ii. Canterbury
 - iii. Waikato
 - iv. Wellington

All reports provided.

- v. Manawatu

Manawatu are in the planning stages for a league in November. They have made connections with Freyberg High School.

Moved to discuss the merger update now.

Nicole provided an update that the membership criteria was underway and in the process of being reviewed. This would be ready and sent to regions in the next 3 weeks after which the merger subcommittee would meet with each regional committee separately to ensure every region understood what was required of them.

A member recommended that the merger subcommittee provide further information in a simple format. This would be passed onto the subcommittee.

Eleanor returned to chair the meeting at 8:13pm.

- 4. Election of officers
 - a. President

Currently held by: Nicole Goode

Nominations: Nicole Goode

Nominated by: Marina Samountry

Seconded: Sean Carter

CARRIED

Nicole Goode elected as President.

b. Secretary

Currently held by: Marina Samountry.

Nominations: Marina Samountry

Nominated: Sean Carter

Seconded: Mandy Leeson

CARRIED

Marina Samountry elected as Secretary.

c. Chairperson

Currently held by: Eleanor Burkin

Nominations: Eleanor Burkin

Nominated by: Marina Samountry

Seconded: The Keys

CARRIED

Eleanor Burkin elected as Chairperson.

d. Treasurer

Currently held by: Sean Carter

Nominations: Sean Carter

Nominated by: Damon Jakeman

Seconded: Nicole Goode

CARRIED

Sean Carter elected as Treasurer.

e. National Tournaments Officer

Currently held by: Jennene has vacated the role.

Nominations: None

Marina to advertise the role.

f. National Umpiring Officer

Currently held by: None

Nominations: Ursula Johnson put herself forward.

Seconded: Nicole Goode

CARRIED

Ursula Johnson elected National Umpiring Officer.

g. High Performance Director

Currently held by: Damon Jakeman

Nominations: Damon Jakeman

Nominated by: Mandy Leeson

Seconded: Sian Keys

CARRIED

Damon Jakeman elected as High Performance Director.

h. Publicity Officer

Currently held by: *Samantha Wood.*

Nominations: Samantha indicated that she would be happy to continue in the role.

Nominated by: Nicole Goode

Seconded: Marina Samountry

CARRIED

Samantha Wood elected as Publicity Officer.

i. Funding Officer

Currently held by: Mandy Leeson

Nominations: Mandy Leeson

Nominated by: Damon Jakeman

Seconded: Sean Carter

CARRIED

Mandy Leeson elected as Funding Officer.

5. Election of regional representatives

a. Auckland

Currently held by: vacant. To be confirmed.

b. Canterbury

Erika Giblin elected Canterbury Representative.

c. Waikato

Currently held by: vacant. To be decided at AGM on 12 October.

d. Wellington

William Clarkson elected Canterbury Representative.

e. Manawatu

Mike Smith elected Canterbury Representative.

Close of meeting: 8:35pm

These Minutes are certified as being true and correct.

Eleanor Burkin
NZWLA Chairperson

22nd September 2020

High Performance AGM Report

2020 has seen approximately 45 players involved in either the NZBLAX programme or the recent U15 academy camp.

There have been no Overseas tours in this period.

NZBLAX Programme

As I write this report, along with the rest of the Country, we have had unprecedented disruption to the High Performance and NZBLAX Programme.

The World Games 2021 has been delayed until 2022 with new qualifying based on the upcoming World Cup. With the top 8 teams being invited and as such the NZBLAX will need to re-earn their top 8 invitation through qualification at the prior World Cup.

Our Programme has had multiple challenges due to Covid 19 and this has resulted in cancellation of the Maverick Trophy in July and our withdrawal of the Southern Cross in January 2021.

These decisions were forced and the player safety and well-being has been at the forefront of these decisions.

Dave Simpson our Head Coach has also resigned from his position due to personal reasons and we currently have Casey Mclain announced as Head Coach.

The NZBLAX continue with their phase 2 training camps domestically and we continue to push for invitation games and meaningful squad games in the interim with no Southern Cross scheduled.

From a Budget perspective and with no Tours, this has significantly reduced the programme costs, however, this has created new challenges with overseas travel and quarantining our major concerns at this point.

World Lacrosse have not made any decisions on whether the Women's World Cup will continue into 2021, however we are expecting a final decision in the next few months. This has compounded the disruption for the Programme and we will continue to push through as best we can in the interim.

Overseas NCAA player programmes have also been disrupted. There are some players able to attend their respective Universities and Programmes, with others delayed until the 2nd semester.

This has put several challenges on Player Availability and the Coaching Group along with the senior Playing Group are fully aware of these challenges.

NZWLA Academy

The NZWLA held its first and only NZ Academy Clinic in March at the Senior Nationals.

This was well received and supported.

However, Covid restrictions have impacted significantly on our ability to hold a second clinic.

Rather our focus has been on the regions to continue their great work and that player safety and well-being is more important.

The expectations are that following the Nationals programmes and Secondary Schools programmes we will look to re-engage this Academy in earnest in 2021.

Funding

Mandy Leeson continues to tirelessly work on Grant Applications.

Covid has also restricted the amount of funding available and we continue to work hard at providing HP with the required levels of support.

High Performance Coaching Development

A coaching Development Programme for our NZWLA HP Coaches has been presented to the NZWLA. Costs are a significant factor as this programme will be facilitated by an external provider from HP NZ Sport.

The NZWLA are committed to provide this programme and support for our Coaches, however, due to Covid restrictions we continue to seek Grant Assistance to allow this.

Damon Jakeman

NZWLA High Performance Director



NZWLA National Tournaments officer report

Lacrosse events in 2020 was a quiet time in NZ due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Senior Nationals was the only event that took place and that was just before the country was put into lock-down.

Key information

2020 Tournaments

Senior Nationals: Was hosted by Auckland Lacrosse. The event was held at College Rifles, Auckland. Auckland won the final against Waikato and we had a composite team from the South Island for the first time. Some thought needs to be put into how composite teams can compete. It was decided that as they were not a region, they could not play in play-off rounds. Some of these players were quite experienced and it was a shame they couldn't compete in these rounds. However, the regions must come first. As we hosted the event with the men, the field space was busy and the warm up space, which is important to high calibre teams, was at a premium. While the College Rifles fields are high quality, if the tournament grows, we will need to look to other venues.

NZ Secondary Schools: This didn't go ahead. Quite a disappointment for high school students, especially those finishing their final school year and when they receive their accolades. This event was scheduled to be held at Tamahere Park, Waikato. This is a really nice facility that ticks a lot of our requirements including field space and makes the cost of our events a lot cheaper. I would recommend this venue ahead of Leamington Rugby Club, in the Waikato area for future events.

U15 Nationals: This tournament should still go ahead after the date change to October and will be hosted by Waikato. Awaiting government guidelines, as Auckland is at a different covid level than the rest of NZ. Tamahere Park is the venue should all of New Zealand be at alert level 1, however Leamington Rugby Club is available if the event needs to be split based on gathering size.

U18 Nationals: will now be held next year on 13-14 March 2021. This is a new date. The NZWLA has to consider whether it will remain at this time of the year in the future. It is a preferable date for teams wanting to use this as a warmup before travelling to the Australian U18 in Easter. However, Easter is a moving date so this will be a challenge.

It has been a pleasure working with Samantha Wood as the new publicity officer this year. We also worked close with men's lacrosse and Tim Brebner who is also well organised in bringing men's lacrosse events in NZ.

For any further enquiries, please contact NZWLA National Tournaments Officer, Jennene Kelly - tournaments@nzwlacrosse.nz

13 September 2020

NZWLA Publicity Officer Report



2020 has been an interesting year for NZ Lacrosse due to COVID-19 having significant impacts on the lacrosse tournament calendar.

This is the first year that there has been tracking of statistics from our social media accounts on a monthly basis and the overall outlook is an increase in followers and social media presence on all platforms. One key focus was to reduce the amount of posts each day so our followers were not being bombarded with too much information at one time.

Since September 2019 the total followers on Facebook and Instagram have significantly increased:

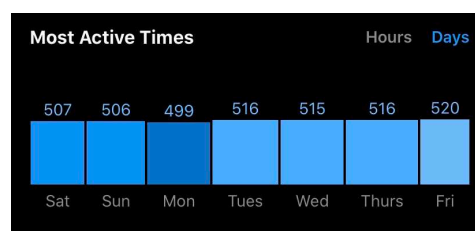
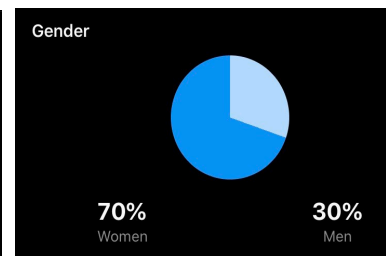
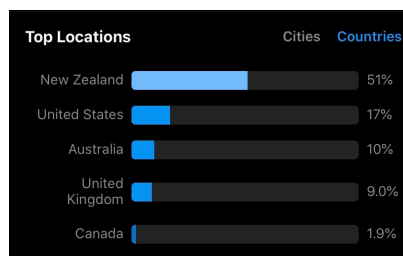
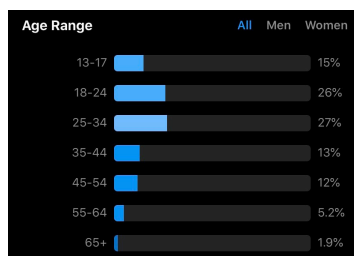


103%



150%

Follower Breakdown and Activity:



Key content on our platforms this year were:

- Senior Nationals Tournament and U15 Academy
- NZBLAX Team
- NZL Merger
- COVID-19

Senior Nationals Tournament and U15 Academy

The Senior Nationals Tournament is considered as the top tournament in NZ Lacrosse where regions from around the country send their best teams to compete. This tournament showcases the talent of the best NZ based players going head to head.

It was important to work closely with the NZ Tournaments Officer (Jennene Ross) to create a hype and build-up to this tournament. While the tournament was taking place, results and draws were also communicated via our social media platforms so that the lacrosse community could be kept up to date. From the 9 posts we generated on Instagram alone, we received a total of **559 Likes** and **Reached over 4000** followers.

The wrap up video footage from NZ Nationals created by NZ Lacrosse Junkie was also huge publicity for NZ Lacrosse as the repost alone on our Instagram account obtained a total of **88 Likes** and **Reached 571** followers. This attributed to **15.7% of the total number of likes**.

Looking forward to working with them in the future to promote the sport that we love.

The U15 Academy posts were also popular and in total had **379 Likes** and **Reached over 2425** people. These posts are in addition to the 9 posts mentioned above.

NZBLAX Team

Posts for the NZBLAX were focused around coaching announcements and promoting the squads return to lacrosse and the build up towards to the World Cup. The NZWLA account is mostly used as another channel to promote and support the team as the NZBLAX squad have a separate account. Posts were shared via the NZWLA Instagram story.

NZL Merger

As NZ Lacrosse looks to create a single governing body to oversee both the womens and mens lacrosse game, it was essential to work closely with the NZWLA Executive team to communicate this significant change to the lacrosse community.

An NZL Merger Hub was created on our website where our community could see important documentation that related to the Merger and get updates on how it is progressing. To promote the Merger, a template was created that could be used on our social media platforms to let the community know when an update occurred.

NZWLA COVID Response

During a significant event like COVID-19, it was paramount that the lacrosse community was kept up to date on a regular basis as the developments and Alert Levels came through from the NZ Government.

In a similar fashion to the NZL Merger, a hub space was created that contained all the announcements and updates for NZ Lacrosse's response to COVID-19. This was extremely effective in letting our community know can happen/can't happen at certain Alert Levels. Again, a template was created to ensure we have consistency across our platforms, quick to update as circumstances change and our users can see at a quick glance what the post is related to.

Recommendations going forward:

- Streamlining with NZ Mens on lacrosse communications and updates. The Merger should fix this.
- Regular NZ Newsletter created – to let the community know what has been happening, what’s coming up, key highlights from NZ Teams and any other important information.
- NZ Lacrosse website enhancements. Need to investigate a system that could help us with comms management for our members and community, registrations, payments, draws and results. Possibly look at our current provider (All Teams) vs another provider (Sporty) to compare solutions.
- Look to work with NZ Lacrosse Junkie and photographer (Lou Kibby/David Wang) to cover and produce content for NZL National Tournaments.



NZWLA 2020 AGM – Auckland Report

Headlines

- Summer League ran unencumbered over last Summer.
 - A drop in player numbers impacted some Div 2 teams and this is of concern for the ALA.
- Mixed results at National Tournaments.
 - Our goal is always to win all three national tournaments. Auckland won Senior Women's nationals.
- Our development & high performance initiatives have been significantly impacted by Covid19.
- We have begun merger talks with NRLA.
 - These are at a very early stage.
 - The uncertainty created by the NZL requirement to merge is unsettling.

Development Initiatives



Introduce a "Try Lacrosse" Program

We will introduce a program of 'try lacrosse' days. We will seek out opportunities to run 'try lacrosse' events.

The objective is to get as many people as possible to try lacrosse.



We have secured funding for our planned development activities and we have begun a roll out of "try lacrosse" days. Progress was hindered by the Covid19 Lockdowns.



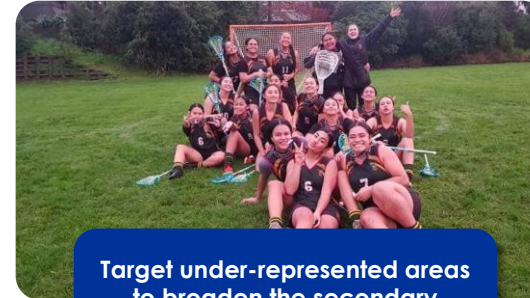
Introduce a league for intermediate schools

We will introduce an intermediate league.

The objective is provide playing opportunities for younger players.



Because of the lockdown related delays in getting our "try lacrosse" program off the ground we hadn't reached enough schools to get the intermediate lacrosse league off the ground.



Target under-represented areas to broaden the secondary schools league

We will particularly focus our development activities on areas within Auckland that are under-represented with our Lacrosse community.

The objective is to increase the number of schools and players participating in lacrosse.



Our development activities have been run in partnership with Sport Counties Manukau and we have focussed on east and south Auckland. There are now two schools from that area playing in our High School league.



Create a sustainable social league

We will tweak the previous social league format to make it an annual league and self-funding/sustainable.

The objective is to provide playing opportunities for players that don't want to play competitively after secondary school.



Because of the Covid19 lockdowns we were not able to get this off the ground in 2019 | 20.

Development Enablers



Coaching Basics Online Course

As lacrosse develops there will be a need for more coaches. We will create an online training program for coaches.

The objective is to get as many people as possible trained so that they can coach lacrosse at a beginner or intermediate level.



We have not been able to get funding for this program. We believe that this could and should be part of NZWLA activities.



Umpiring Basics Online Course

As lacrosse develops there will be a need for more umpires. We will create an online training program for umpires.

The objective is to get as many people as possible trained so that they can umpire games of lacrosse.



We have not been able to get funding for this program. We believe that this could and should be part of NZWLA activities.

High Performance Initiatives



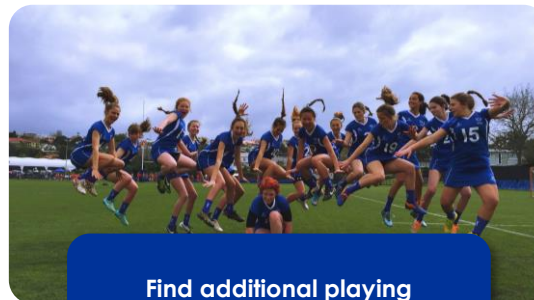
Continue Sustainable Junior Academy

We will continue our junior academy program towards the end of the school season and look to introduce specialist sessions such as goalies, speed work, nutrition etc.

We want the start of the high performance pipeline to have exposure to high level coaches and player. We want them to understand what is required to play for Auckland and to start to understand the Auckland Lacrosse way.



Due to Covid19 lockdowns we were not able to run our academy in its normal slot (Jun – Aug.) We will instead run this in Q1 of 2021 in the lead into U18 nationals.



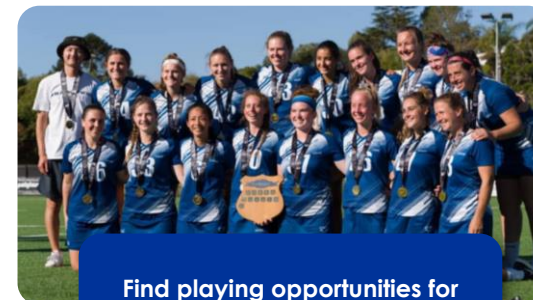
Find additional playing opportunities for U15 / U18

We want to find play on opportunities for our girls U15 and U18 teams.

Our objective is to find high level opposition for our U15 & U18 teams. This could be domestic or international. By getting high level competition we believe the standard of play will improve and strengthen our senior women's side.



Due to Covid19 the Australian age group nationals were cancelled.



Find playing opportunities for Senior Women's

We want to find play on opportunities for our senior women's side.

Our objective is to find high level opposition for our senior women's side. This could be domestic or international. By getting high level competition we believe the standard of play will improve and strengthen our senior women's side.



Due to Covid19 we were not able to find play on opportunities for our senior women's team.

Canterbury Lacrosse Association report 2019/20

Canterbury Lacrosse has seen some good indicators of growth over the past year. We still don't have league but have had up to 30 people at sessions over the summer with about 50% of them being girls. We were very proud and excited to be able to have some of our players join with players from Otago and form a South Island Team for the National tournament in March. We hope to build on this and send our own team next year. Our 6v6 sessions proved popular during summer and we will be continuing to run them. Sessions have seen low attendance over the winter but there are several reasons for this and we are confident numbers will pick up again in the summer.

We ran a school clinic last summer and have one coming up next month. We are helping set up a team at the University of Canterbury and will be working with them to help run their program and develop a league. We have lacrosse being introduced to at least one school in Fiordland and look forward to reporting on that and hopefully seeing some growth down there.

We continue to advertise in a number of different ways to try and increase participation and awareness around the game in general. We had great success running the Bunnings Sausage sizzle and will look to do other similar things to increase our presence and increase awareness of our existence. We are also working with other sports on running clinics at multi sports days to try and entice people.

Yours in lacrosse,

Liam Griffiths
President
Canterbury Lacrosse Association



Julie Bryan gave an oral update on Waikato.

After the wholesale resignation of the previous Waikato Lacrosse Board, the NZWLA and Sport Waitakere have been working with the remaining committee members. Waikato Lacrosse's rep teams have performed well at the recent U15 and U18 national tournaments and are sending teams to the ALA U15 national tournament. The AGM will be held in October.

Report from above from last year

This years report from WLA – September 2020

While all the community of lacrosse has had a challenging year, Waikato Lacrosse has been able to sustain and implement changes both for Men/boys and Women/girls. We have been able to secure Rep Programme Coaches and Managers, and Team Head Coaches and Managers. Our programme Coaches and Managers were signed up for a year to give cohesiveness and consistency within the Rep programmes for seniors and juniors.

The numbers are growing in the rep programmes and we have also implemented a full boys u15's programme. The senior men had the best results ever for Waikato in March and we are building on that coaching and managing team. Our recent trials show that the Waikato is heading in the right direction to grow all areas of Men's/Boys lacrosse. We ran a junior boys league in High School season which had four teams enter into it. Our prem division had 3 teams, and one combined team. It will be great to see these boys coming through to that higher level in the next few years.

The u15's recent girls trials saw just under 90 girls trial which was phenomenal to see. Our senior women again made the final and came out with silver. We have collected feedback from our senior players as to how to improve the programme. As a result of this, we are consulting with our clubs to change our calendar to allow for a more comprehensive senior programme, the results of which are still being sent in. Our High School girls league had 24 teams entered across 3 divisions.

We have proposed strategic changes to the districts with a chance for clubs to implement more social leagues, grow their clubs and increase membership, but also be able to play in a high level league in the 2nd half of club season. Waikato lacrosse have been consulting our community throughout this whole process for the last few months with great positive feedback. We have created a Structure Policy to implement this at our AGM on the 14th October. We look forward to another great year of lacrosse in the Waikato but hopefully without a pandemic, fingers crossed.

WLA WOMEN'S 2020 REPORT

The Wellington Lacrosse Association's annual report to the NZWLA

YEARLY PROGRESS

This year's play has been clearly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, but lacrosse nonetheless has been able to continue in an unexpected format in Wellington over 2020

2019 Build-up to 2020 Nationals

Attendance and participation during this time was lower than we hoped for. This has been especially impacted by the various departures of senior and experienced players within the organization. As a result, the women's team that the WLA send to the 2020 national tournament in March was very young and still learning the game to an extent. While it is not completely desirable, it will have been useful development and experience for those players

We had intended to run a league with multiple teams that mixed the age and experience of the players but as mentioned, participation was much lower than expected. This led to a break down in the league and structure to the trainings. It has been estimated that the main cause of this was the lack of signposting and signaling of WLA's summer lacrosse to the girl's HS participants. WLA has also lost some participation due to senior HS students moving away for university.

2020 Girl's HS League

A league was successfully organized and held by the WLA following the move down in Covid restrictions levels by the NZ Government. However, because of the previous uncertainty the parameters and style of the league had to be changed. Issues with field availability and timing were encountered when setting up the league. Because of this, the field had to be halved and the number of players on the field were reduced. Nonetheless, it has still been a successful league

for growing and teaching the sport to new participants. This year saw the induction of a new school to the new league: Queen Margaret's College. The league itself was practically dominated by one school however: Wellington Girl's College. This was because many of the players in their first team participated in the 2019 U18s and 2020 Nationals. This was the third year in a row that the WGC1 has taken out the league.

Wellington 2021 U18s

The planning and organization of this team is currently undergoing a discussion phase as we determine how best to proceed with the training and engagement of the team. Our hope is to draw as many students from HS league as possible and then be able to select representatives from this pool of players. Our overall aim for this is to build upon the progress that has been made over the recent in relation to the lacrosse being played, the success of the team and the development of future senior players.