



Good day,

Thank you for your patience as we try to navigate our current reality during this health crisis.

As we have shared with our membership, the Quinte Minor Lacrosse Association (QMLA) has been following the directives from the City of Belleville along with neighbouring communities, the Province, local and provincial health authorities and the Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA). These directives had initially suspended in-person lacrosse activities until May 15, however this timeline has now been extended until June 15 with the hope of moving forward with an abbreviated season this summer. While this outlook provides some optimism for our competitive program, it does not allow sufficient time for a house league season to occur.

It is with great disappointment that we must announce the cancellation of the 2020 House League season.

### **Next Steps**

You currently have two options:

1. House league registrations can be refunded less \$20 in OLA fees\* (see below for explanation). Refunds will be issued via e-transfer (sent to your email). We anticipate this process will take up to three weeks to complete.
2. Families can opt to transfer their entire registration fee to next season in lieu of a refund, thus providing the association with time and flexibility to maneuver going into 2021. The complete amount of your 2020 registration fee will be credited toward your 2021 registration.

A decision on the Competitive Program will be made in mid-June in conjunction with the OLA's timelines.

Additionally, we hope to have an opportunity to provide a skill development program for players who don't want to go without any lacrosse this season. We are currently looking to implement a field lacrosse program later this year that will give our players the chance to learn a different aspect of lacrosse and work on their fundamental skills at the same time.

## **Details on Refunds**

As you know, the Quinte Minor Lacrosse Association is a volunteer-run, registered not-for-profit organization who only began operation last year. Due to the expenses associated with beginning a minor sports organization, we have not had the ability to accrue the funds necessary to safeguard us from this unprecedented circumstance.

**OLA Fees\*** - When each player registers, approximately \$20 is automatically allocated to the Ontario Lacrosse Association. According to the information we have at this time, this amount will not be reimbursed back to the minor associations, leaving us with the difficult choice to retain these funds when issuing refunds to our members in order to protect the financial stability of our organization.

This has several impacts on the association and our membership moving forward. For reasons listed above, the QMLA is unable to absorb the \$20 fee taken by the OLA and refund the full amount of registration for each player. Based on the association's current financial circumstances, families can help the QMLA by opting to transfer their registration to next season in lieu of a refund. This is optional, but it would provide the association with time and flexibility to rebalance its accounts by stretching the period to absorb the \$20 OLA fee into the 2021 season. Start-up operations for next season will be impacted based on our expected lack of surplus and as such, certain parts of our program will need to be reviewed to ensure the QMLA is in a strong fiscal position moving forward.

These have been new and challenging times for everyone and we will make it through this experience together - supportive, strong, and Bayhawks proud!

**Please email our Registrar ([registrar@quintelacrosse.com](mailto:registrar@quintelacrosse.com)) by Monday June 15th stating if you would like a refund or if you would like to transfer your fees to next year.**

Joe Fee  
President – Quinte Minor Lacrosse Association