

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

2018 marked the 18th Annual BC High School Field Lacrosse Championships as we know it.

The history of BC High School Field Lacrosse dates back to the 1930's, but the sport didn't really catch on until the 1960's and 70's.

From 1959 to the mid-1970's, the Vancouver & District Inter High School Association offered a Field Lacrosse league. Schools played the outdoor version of the game during a time when Box Lacrosse was the more mainstream discipline most enthusiasts recognized.

Schools like Vancouver Tech, Lord Byng, Lester Pearson, Templeton, Burnaby North, Burnaby South, Charles Tupper, Gladstone and others competed amongst each other. BCLA President, Sohen Gill, remembers those days well.

"Yes, there were high school teams back then, I played for my school (North Burnaby)," remembered Gill. "Gladstone was the big team then – Bob Babcock, Bob Salt and Sid Warick were big names that played back in the day."

Ironically, a mothballed Field Lacrosse trophy was found in New Westminster Secondary five years ago called the Gifford Trophy. This piece of history noted High School title winners from 1959 to 1975 – the first winner being Vancouver Tech (1959) and the last, Charles Tupper (1975).

Local athletes became more engaged with Field Lacrosse in the 70's and 80's. As many players honed their skills indoors, it was the news of the odd athlete got a "look" from an NCAA school and was offered a scholarship that raised the interest of young budding athletes. Canadian Lacrosse greats like Dan Wilson, Stan Cockerton, Doug Deschner and Mike French were some of the early trail blazers that took their trade south and made a name for Canadian lacrosse players in the college ranks.

In BC, Field Lacrosse enthusiast, Ted Fridge, was instrumental in introducing the outdoor version to young Box Lacrosse athletes to expand their lacrosse skills.

Fridge was a pioneer who saw that the game offered athletes new experiences in competitions and travel opportunities.

"This goes back to the high school exchanges we did with Bay Area schools like Skyline (CA) and Novato (CA) when we got introduced to Field Lacrosse by these schools," remembered Daren Fridge. "Ted saw the educational aspects and the great opportunities these programs offered -- it was a novelty."

In the early 1980's, schools like Rutgers University toured Western Canada and played local clubs in Vancouver and Victoria exposing more BC talent to US schools. This piqued the interest of other schools to tour BC not only to train, but to recruit from a relatively untapped market.

The doors truly opened for young Canadian Lacrosse players in 1986 when Hall of Famer, Bobby Allen, tipped off Syracuse Head Coach, Roy Simmons, about two incredible lacrosse players from Victoria, brothers named Paul and Gary– and the rest is history!

Those were the early years of Field Lacrosse in BC, but a common link goes back to the passionate athletes that played the game in clubs and high school teams. High School Field Lacrosse hit a peak in the 60's and 70's, but never became ingrained in mainstream school sports.

What started some 65 years ago has grown into something special today. Almost two decades after the league fizzled out in the 70's, a new group of lacrosse fanatics picked up the pieces in 2001 – enter Coquitlam's McKinlay family (Wendy, Sandy, Stephen) and Dr. Charles Best teacher sponsor Shawn House.

"From the outset, High School Field Lacrosse struggled to gain acceptance into the fold of High School sports," noted Shawn House. "I attribute this to the lack of 'lacrosse people' in the school system -- as the years have gone by, this has slowly started to change."

Stephen McKinlay, a grade 10 student (in 2001) at Dr. Charles Best Secondary in Coquitlam was instrumental (with the help and determination of his mother, Wendy) in starting a tournament in 2001. Seven teams participated and the sport took off from there.

The McKinlay's and House picked up the torch of High School Lacrosse. In spite of a labour dispute that cancelled high school sports the following year, the game picked up in the Fall of 2002 and hasn't looked back.

Many star lacrosse players cut their teeth with this tournament over the years and used it as a stepping stone to greater achievements. One such person was FIL 2014 World Champion Canadian Men's coach, Matt Brown of Burnaby, who played for the St. Thomas More Knights in 2001. Playing any sport, especially lacrosse, for

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Rachfall Selected for SBC President's Award

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The 52nd Athlete of the Year Awards and President Award ceremonies founded by Sport BC took place Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver, BC. Hundreds of BC's finest athletes, coaches and volunteers were recognized at the prestigious event. The event was a who's who of the local sports community with past Olympians & Paralympians, professional athletes, builders and media types taking in the celebrations. Gemini Award winning Sports caster, CBC's Scott Russell, wowed the crowd as banquet emcee.

The BC Lacrosse Association's 2018 selection for the Sport BC President's Award was BCLA Field Lacrosse Directorate Chair, Coquitlam's Dirk Rachfall.

Dirk Rachfall has been a valuable volunteer for the past 19 years with the New Westminster Minor Lacrosse Association and the BC Lacrosse Association.

An advocate of all lacrosse, Dirk has volunteered his time with both the field and box games, but his passion lies with the field discipline. As a coach, his teams have medaled at many Provincial Championships. He has also coached a Team BC U16 Men's Field team to a national title.

Dirk has been a mainstay at the Subway® BCLA Youth Field Lacrosse Provincial Championships serving as Convener, Co-Convener and an experienced volunteer for over a decade. His knowledge of events and his uncanny way to engage people makes him an integral part of the overall successes of BCLA's Provincial Championships.

Whenever Rachfall is asked to volunteer, he is always quick to say "YES". He has served as the Pacific Coast Field Lacrosse Chair, and since 2013, served as the Field Lacrosse Directorate Chair, a position he holds today.

Dirk has served on the International stage as a key executive member that assisted the planning of the 2008 and 2016 Federation of International Lacrosse U19 Men's World Field Lacrosse Championships in Coquitlam.

"When I was informed that I was receiving this award, I felt honoured and humbled to be recognized," said Dirk Rachfall. "I keep going because I'm surrounded by a great group of volunteers who have become friends, many of which are also deserving of this award."

Rachfall's volunteerism has not gone unnoticed as he was the recipient of BCLA's highest honour, the Tom Gordon Plaque winner as Mr. Lacrosse in 2015 and the prestigious Fridge Family Award recipient in 2017.

An intelligent, thoughtful, no-nonsense volunteer, Dirk has done it all.

"Being at the Sport BC event was inspiring, it was an impressive group of volunteers from other sports in BC and it showed the power of volunteerism. The event also showed the magnitude and importance of sport in BC."

Dirk Rachfall is the consummate volunteer and BC Lacrosse Association's 2018 recipient of the Sport BC President's Award.

Previous Sport BC Athlete of the Year Award President's Award recipients from the BCLA are: Gloria Siegner (1999), Elinor Hinds (2000), David Soul (2001), Jack Crosby (2002),



Dirk Rachfall (centre) and BCLA's Don Scott pose during Sport BC Presidents' Award Ceremony in March.

Hugh Tait (2003), Greg Toll (2004), Deb Stocks (2005), Shawn House (2006), Greg Toll and Toni Lowe (2007), Ron McQuarrie (2008), Mike Hall (2009), Gene and Judy Regier (2010), Dave "The Wall" Jenkins (2011), Terry Mosdell (2012), Doug Wright (2013), Dennis Quigley (2014), Don Scott (2015), Harold Corbett (2016) and Angie Schwan (2017).

The BC Lacrosse Association thanks Dirk Rachfall for his commitment to lacrosse.

Nanaimo's Boas Nominated for Sport BC Award

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

In April 2018, Sport BC, BC Games and KidSport BC will honour local Nanaimo sports volunteers with the next round of Community Sports Hero Awards.

The Community Sport Hero® Award was created by Sport BC in 2001. In celebration of the 40th Anniversary of BC Games, Sport BC, KidSport BC and BC Games have partnered in the delivery of the 2018 edition of the Community Sport Hero awards. Volunteers will be recognized in the past six BC Games host communities.

Celebrating its 15th year, the Community Sport Hero Awards, partnered with the BC Games Society and KidSport, recognize coaches, officials, mentors and administrators who have dedicated themselves to grow and develop amateur sport at the community level. In 2018, Sport BC will travel to 6 communities across British Columbia and celebrate sport volunteers in local communities. Since its inception in 2001, 50 Provincial Sport Organizations have honoured over 600 sport volunteers in 51 different communities.

Long-time Nanaimo lacrosse volunteer, Brian Boas, was the latest lacrosse volunteer to be nominated for this prestigious award.



Brian Boas started playing youth lacrosse in Nanaimo in 1979 after moving from Saskatchewan. As a Senior B Timberman player in the early 1990's, he volunteered for his first coaching role when coaches were needed for Pee Wee and Bantam teams.

Over the years, he has also coached ice hockey and school volleyball over and above his lacrosse commitments. Brian jumped in with both feet coaching his son in Mini-Tyke in 2009, then, he took on more leadership roles with the NMLA executive as the association Coach Co-ordinator (2010-2012) and the association President for 5 years finishing his tenure in 2016. Boas recently has added the Vancouver Island Minor Lacrosse Commission Chair position for 2018.

Brian offered his services and worked closely with BCLA's Greg Toll at the 2014 BC Games in Nanaimo. He was a WLA game commissioner for the Nanaimo Timbermen for two seasons. A few cherished lacrosse moments include winning the Island Pee Wee A1 title and capturing silver at Provincials in 2016, as well as being a high performance coach for the Team BC Pee Wee team in 2016 that won a bronze medal at nationals.

"Thank you for thinking of me for this nomination," said Boas.

Brian Boas is the consummate BCLA volunteer and a cog in the Nanaimo and Vancouver Island lacrosse community.

Cowichan to Host 2018 Summer Games



By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The BC Lacrosse Association will once again compete at the 2018 BC Summer Games, July 19-22, 2018 in Cowichan, BC.

Eight Zone Midget Box Lacrosse teams, for 15 and 16 year old athletes, will compete indoors, while six Zone Field Lacrosse teams, for 14 and 15 year old athletes, will compete out on the field.

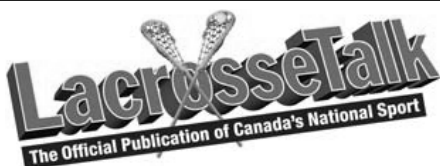
The BCLA, in partnership with the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council (ISPARC) will be adding an All-Indigenous Box Lacrosse team. This team will be comprised of athletes of Indigenous descent from across the Province to participate in the Box Lacrosse division of the 2018 BC Summer Games being held in Cowichan, BC. The BCLA and ISPARC are excited to work together on this new pilot program with the BC Games Society.

Hurry up and don't miss out on an incredible opportunity to compete at one of BC's largest sporting events. Player Registration Deadline is May 3, 2018 at 4:00PM.

Player application and information can be found on the BCLA website, at www.bclacrosse.com on the Summer Games page.

For more BC Games information, please visit www.bcgames.org

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Pioneers Win 2018 Men's Title



Ladner Pioneers win CWFL Tier 1 title with a 7-6 win over New West.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

Ten teams competed for the 2018 Canada West Field Lacrosse League (CWFL) Provincial Championships over the Easter long weekend at the Coquitlam Town Centre Park. Teams included the Ladner Pioneers, Beer Hunters, Corncrackers, Whalley Ballers, Vancouver Barbarians, New Westminster Warlocks, Coquitlam, UBC Thunderbirds, Abbotsford Attack and Nanoose Bay.

The Ladner Pioneers are the 2018 Tier 1 Provincial Champions after defeating the regular season CWFL champion New Westminster Warlocks 7-6 in the gold medal showdown. Ladner's only blemish was a 9-9 tie on the opening game to Whalley, before they ran the table and outscored their opponents 60 to 33 in six games.

In Tier 2 action, the Whalley Ballers needed overtime to knock off the Corncrackers 10-9 to take the Tier 2 gold medal. Whalley went 3-2-1 and outscored their opponents 55-41 in six games.

The tournament all-star team was as follows: Attack - Tyler Kirkby (Ladner), David Beaumont (New West) and Jake Doucet (Ladner); Midfield - Reese Robinson (New West), Jack Berry (Ladner) and James McBride (New West); Defense - Shawn Williams (Ladner), Quinton Bradley (Whalley) and Spencer England (New West); Goaltender - Ross Manson (New West).

Many thanks go out to the CWFL volunteers for another successful tournament.

Continued from cover article: High School Lacrosse – Old School, New School

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

for your school, meant a lot.

“At STM, we had so many lacrosse players that played for a wide variety of box associations and we were so excited to be a part of that first High School Field Lacrosse tournament,” remembered Brown. “To represent a school that gave us so much was a complete honour and we took great pride in doing so.”

Brown, the Associate Head Coach at Denver University, is in his tenth season with the Pioneers. He has also been an assistant coach with Team Canada Men's programs since 2012.

“To see this tournament grow is a testament to a lot of hard work by a lot of people,” said Brown “Though Field Lacrosse is great and the High School tournament has grown dramatically, what makes lacrosse special in Canada is our box lacrosse roots and skills we develop playing inside the rink. Taking those skills and being able to represent your High School is something you'll never forget.”

The BC High School Field Lacrosse Championships is a culmination of High School students that love lacrosse and a desire to play lacrosse for their school. This dynamic group makes the machine move. Few teams would exist if it wasn't for these people that go the extra mile.

Long-time tournament Co-ordinator and Charles Best teacher, Shawn House, has experienced the tournament from all aspects since 2001. He has seen it through challenging times, but persevered to make sure there were competitions for the students.

“High School teams are driven by the students at their schools who wish to play lacrosse for their school,” noted House. “It is born upon them to organize the athletes, coaches and volunteers to make the team happen. The most important link in forming a team is the teacher sponsor that agrees to mentor the team -- without a sponsor, the team doesn't happen.”

Field Lacrosse is not one of the many BC High School Sports -- teams compete as clubs. After 18 years of High School Lacrosse, the sport is being noticed with the arrival of sport specific academies. The introduction of lacrosse to sport specific academy programs is gaining traction.

In the early 2000's, the High School Sport Specific Academy system was born to offer selected sports at certain institutions offering excellence inside the classroom and out.

In 2005, past WLA and NLL player, Daren Reising, brought the academy concept to Claremont High School to offer athletes the

tools to succeed in academics and athletics. His program has grown from one team to over 100 students in 2018.

Reising, a teacher and Athletic Director at Claremont, has a vested interest in the program, but knows academies have to be structured correctly to succeed.

“Academies need to be done right -- ours and most other sport academies on the Island that started 10-15 years ago, were started as academies of excellence and had very high standards,” explained Reising. “New academies need to ensure that a lacrosse teacher/coach is at the helm and has the desire to have the best interest of the program from year to year.”

As reported in a 2010 Canadian Sport Centre Pacific study, the sport specific academies are providing an enriched training environment for student athletes, however, with the exception of hockey, have been created completely separate from the sport system.

The SCS-Pacific study went on to say, while strong partnerships and connections have not been made, education leaders in sport specific academies tell stories of increased attendance, increased academic performance, improved life skills in addition to improved athletic performance and the securing of post-secondary scholarships.

Currently, five High Schools run lacrosse academies; Claremont (Victoria), Royal Bay (Victoria), Nanaimo District Secondary, Mission Secondary and Delta Secondary. The North Vancouver School District's Lacrosse Academy is in its inaugural year at Carson Graham (North Vancouver) -- the Cariboo Hill (Burnaby) academy was recently announced with continued dialogue of similar academies down the road.

High School Lacrosse teams will continue to push their schools and districts for acceptance so more schools may one day develop a team to compete at the high school level.

“If there is a way to legitimize it (lacrosse in schools) and make it better, we're looking at all aspects to make it grow,” mentioned Daren Fridge. “With the interest in Cariboo Hill and Carson Graham, it should spark an interest for more school districts to follow.”

What was started by past lacrosse greats in the 1950's and 60's has grown to something special that many lacrosse athletes annually experience. The torch burns stronger than ever for students to experience High School Field Lacrosse at their schools.

Matt Brown, Kevin Crowley, Curtis Dickson, Robert Church, Matt King, Logan Schuss, Tyler Digby, Wesley Berg, Ben McIntosh and Ryland Rees -- all went on to illustrious lacrosse careers on the college, professional or international stages. They, amongst hundreds of other student-athletes have a common bond not just for the sport they love, but the role that all lacrosse, including High School Lacrosse, played in their careers as youngsters growing up in BC.

BCLA Scholarships/Bursary – How Can You Contribute?



2016 Dorothy Robertson Bursary recipient Meghan Kinna now attends Northwestern University.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

Each year, the BC Lacrosse Association (BCLA) has three scholarship/bursary awards that are presented to deserving lacrosse participants in the Province of BC -- The Ted Fridge Scholarship, the Wayne Goss Scholarship and the Dorothy Robertson Memorial Bursary. These scholarships were developed to recognize outstanding contributions to lacrosse, and to encourage and assist our members in the pursuit of higher education while furthering the BCLA's objective in helping to provide trained people to meet the needs of our community. DEADLINE for applications is Thursday June 7, 2018.

We want to tell you more about the people behind these financial awards, what the scholarships represent and the criteria required to apply. These scholarships/bursary are connected to the National Sports Trust Fund (NSTF), which means that anyone who would like to make a donation of \$25 or more in support of any these scholarships/bursary can receive a tax deductible charitable receipt.

Wayne Goss Scholarship – Wayne Goss is still the number one fan of the New Westminster Salmonbellies. If you ever drop by the traditional Queen's Park Arena for a Salmonbellies game, you're likely to see Wayne cheering on his team. Wayne was one of the most decorated Salmonbellies in the 70's and 80's. During his 14-year, 465-game career, Wayne accumulated 812 goals and

1,040 assists for 1,852 points - the all-time assist and point records for Senior "A" box lacrosse in Western Canada. At the time of his retirement, Wayne held 41 WLA scoring and faceoff records and shared four others -- today he still holds 26 of those records. Goss won six Mann Cup titles in seven attempts.

This \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a person with a broad spectrum of the following categories including players, referees, coaches, team management, association executive and club executive. The person(s) selected must show a high standard of ability in his/her particular area of participation; possess strong leadership potential; have demonstrated good character, a sense of citizenship, and have a history of participation in school and community activities. The person selected should have taken part in a community lacrosse member association's program and have indicated a desire to remain in lacrosse upon completion of his/her education.

Ted Fridge Scholarship – Ted Fridge was a school teacher by profession with a penache for sports, especially lacrosse. Ted's involvement began in Port Coquitlam as his two boys, Tom and Daren started to play for the Saints when he volunteered as coach and executive member. He joined the Adanac family in the 90's, then in 1994 served as GM of the Burrards senior club that shifted its franchise from Vancouver to Surrey and later to Maple Ridge. Fridge was a pioneer developing field lacrosse in the lower mainland in the 1980's. He spent countless weekends managing the Adanacs men's team as well as being commissioner of Senior Men's Field Lacrosse League. Fridge was inducted into the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 2009.

To be considered for the \$500 scholarship, a candidate for the Ted Fridge Scholarship Fund must be an person currently registered with the BCLA as a Field Lacrosse player, coach, referee/umpire, executive committee member or other volunteer position; a person who displays sportsmanlike behavior, who is regarded as a helpful, upstanding leader with his/her peers; involved in the community; academic standing of A or B average and currently in Grade 12.

Dorothy Robertson Memorial Bursary – Dorothy Robertson was the face of the BC Lacrosse Association in the early years serving in almost every capacity possible. She was part of the BCLA from the 1960's into the 1990's doing everything in the name of lacrosse. In 1996, the Dorothy Robertson Memorial Trophy is dedicated and annually awarded to Western Lacrosse Association Coach of the Year.

Dorothy was inducted into the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame in the Builder category in 1991. The Dorothy Robertson Memorial Bursary celebrates Women in Lacrosse. To apply for this \$500.00 bursary, one must be 16-years or older involved in lacrosse as a player, coach, official and/or volunteer; has shown enthusiasm for lacrosse, exhibits sportsmanship, promotes the sport in her community and has shown a strong commitment to the game of Lacrosse.

All scholarship/bursary applications must be received by Thursday, June 7, 2018, by 4:30 PM. Those wishing to apply for a scholarship/bursary in any category will do so by using the Application Forms on the BCLA website. After careful completion of the application form, the need for references and the verification of registration, applicants must submit the form and supporting documentation to the BCLA Office, Attention: BCLA Scholarship Committee by the deadline date. The scholarship/bursary winners will be announced in August, and all participants will be notified.

The scholarships and bursary are registered as programs within the National Sport Trust Fund (NSTF). Individuals or companies making contributions of \$25 or more toward one of these programs will receive a tax deductible charitable receipt. Following is the process for making a donation to one of these three scholarship/bursary programs:

1) The donation cheque must be written to THE NATIONAL SPORT TRUST FUND.

2) On the cheque in the Memo section at the bottom of the cheque, it must say BC Lacrosse Association - with the Name and Number of the Project. The name of the Scholarship/Bursary should also appear.

Wayne Goss Scholarship - Program #268

Dorothy Robertson Memorial Bursary - Program #266

Ted Fridge Scholarship - Program #267

3) The person making the donation cannot receive any benefit from this except for a tax deductible receipt. If you have a donation, you would give (send) it to Rochelle Winterton at the BCLA Office, #101 – 7382 Winston Street, Burnaby V5A 2G9, and it will be sent on to the National Sport Trust Fund for processing.

For more information or questions, please e-mail info@bcla-crosse.com.

Indigenous Development–Spirit Lacrosse Program



BCLA Indigenous Developer Bryan Baxter & Squamish Nation's Destri Baker introduced lacrosse to youngsters.



By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The BC Lacrosse Association continues the quest of lacrosse development in Indigenous communities across BC. The BCLA, in partnership with The Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council (I-SPARC), formerly the Aboriginal Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Partners Council, have partnered to deliver development programs.

I-SPARC is a consortium of the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, First Nations Health Authority, and Métis Nation BC. As the stewards of BC's Aboriginal Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Strategy, I-SPARC works with First Nations, Métis Chartered Communities, Friendship Centres, schools and other sport and physical activity stakeholders to deliver community-based programs designed to promote active lifestyles and support the desire for transformative change in the health and well-being of Indigenous communities, families and individuals across BC.

Indigenous Development has been a constant with the BCLA over the last 9 years. In addition to the fourteen Spirit Lacrosse Programs that were run in the province last year, the BCLA and ISPARC have committed to three additional programs for fiscal 2017-2018. The Quesnel, Prince Rupert and Squamish communities were added to this year's roster of programs.

The Spirit Lacrosse Program consists of 6 to 10 one hour sessions for Indigenous youth between the ages of 5 and 10. The program will permit older participants if the demand is great.

The instruction included fundamental movement skills along with the traditional lacrosse skills. One hour sessions follow the format of the Canadian Lacrosse Association Lacrosse FITS Program, developed by Kylo Harris and Dave Little from Winnipeg. Their research and writing has been compiled into a series of six manuals consisting of 10-one hour sessions in each manual that include lacrosse specific skills (passing, catching, scooping, cradling and shooting), as well as fundamental movement skills that are necessary for the development of balance and coordination.

In order to have a Spirit Lacrosse Program, it is necessary to find champions in the areas where The Spirit Lacrosse is to take place. The original three champions were Naomi Walser in Cowichan, Nick Kojima in Chilliwack and Bernard (Buzz) Manuel in Merritt; our newest champions are Lisa Scott in Quesnel, James Zlatanov in Prince Rupert and Destri Baker in Squamish.

In recent trips to the newest communities, Bryan Baxter attended four Squamish schools and taught an introductory lacrosse lesson to 292 students; in Quesnel, he attended 6 schools and taught introductory lacrosse to 556

students; and in Prince Rupert, he hit another 4 schools and introduced 165 students to lacrosse. Each of these trips represented new communities where the Spirit Lacrosse Program will be conducted.

In addition to the Spirit Lacrosse Program, the BCLA is also committed to expanding Indigenous capacity in the coaching ranks by conducting coaching clinics for Indigenous coaches. There have been 11 more coaches trained this year to augment the coaches trained in previous years.

Finally, the 2017 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) were held last July 2017 and the BCLA was front and centre in assisting the selection of three NAIG lacrosse teams that competed in the Toronto games. Those teams' garnered two bronze medals and a fourth place finish to help Team BC win the overall title at the 2017 NAIG.

"I am truly excited with the reception we are getting as we ensure the Creator's game continues to touch hundreds of Indigenous youth," said Bryan Baxter. "It is so enlightening to see them embrace the Indigenous roots of what has become Canada's National Summer Sport."

Island Teams Top High School Field



Senior Tier 1 Champions-Claremont 2 Spartans.



Senior Tier 2 Champions-Nanaimo District Islanders.



Junior Champions-Royal Bay Ravens.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The 18th Annual High School Field Lacrosse Provincial Championships took place March 5-9, 2018 in Coquitlam.

Thirteen Senior and twelve Junior teams, representing 16 schools, squared off in the 4-day event. Senior teams included Best, Claremont 1 & 2, Riverside, Vancouver College, Centennial, Mission, Heritage Woods, Nanaimo, Pitt Meadows, St. Thomas More, Royal Bay and Sardis. Penticton, New Westminster, Vancouver College, Terry Fox, Best, Claremont 1 & 2, Mission, Maple Ridge, Nanaimo and Royal Bay (2 teams) competed in the Junior division.

2018 marked the year of the lacrosse academies with 9 of the 25 teams being an academy lacrosse program (Claremont, Royal Bay and Nanaimo). More lacrosse academies look to start up in Metro Vancouver in the years to come with Cariboo Hill (Burnaby) starting in 2018.

For the first time in many years, the Junior division was not tiered and had a total of 12 teams compete.

Junior Division: In the semi-finals, Claremont 1 dropped a 13-9 decision to Claremont

2, while Royal Bay Ravens 1 defeated Terry Fox Ravens by a score of 9-6 for a spot in the finals. The all-Island final pitted the Royal Bay 1 versus rivals Claremont 2 Spartans -- both Island lacrosse academies being no strangers to each other. Both squads were in perfect form in a close see-saw battle, but Royal Bay 1 outlasted Claremont 2 by an 11-10 score, for their first high school title. Junior MVP: Jacob Obee (Royal Bay).

"Being only in our second year, that win was amazing," said Royal Bay Lacrosse Coordinator Head Coach Lucas MacNeil. "The win wasn't just for that team, it was a win for the program as a group -- it is honestly just a reflection of the effort and energy the boys bring to the class each day."

"We have a very tight-knit group that mostly played and grew up together in the West Shore," noted MacNeil. "We started with just 17 kids, and now, we are looking at 90 and growing for next September. I cannot be more proud of them."

Senior Tier 2: In the semi-finals, Royal Bay knocked off Riverside Rapids 8-7 in overtime, while Nanaimo Islanders handily beat Van-

couver College Fighting Irish 7-2. Both Island academies play a similar style of play, the team that took more chances and made more mistakes fell in the end. With a short bench due to illness, the Islanders continued to play a disciplined possession game and took advantage of their opportunities en route to a 9-7 victory over Royal Bay in the Senior Tier 2 title match. Senior Tier 2 MVP: Isaac Prochnicki (Nanaimo District Senior Secondary).

"The message to the boys was when you achieve your goals while battling through adverse situations, the results at the end will be that much sweeter," mentioned NDSS coach Joel Smith. "As a coach, it was so cool to watch their belief in themselves grow as the tournament went on and in turn how that reflected in their play on the field was very impressive."

"The boys gave everything of themselves in each game, said Coach Smith. "Winning the Tier 2 Senior title in our third year means so much to our program and continues to help give recognition to our athletes and their commitment to the game of lacrosse and their desire to be successful student athletes."

Senior Tier 1: Centennial battled Claremont 2 in one semi-final game with the Spartans edging the Centaurs 6-5. In the other semi, Claremont 1 handed Charles Best a lopsided 12-3 loss and a spot in the title match. The all-Island-Claremont final was evidence that Claremont is the top of the heap this year. The Claremont 1 team was the grade 12 athletes versus Claremont 2 team the grade 11 athletes.

Both teams were evenly matched and played hard to the bitter end -- each stuck to a methodical possession game and took advantage of their opportunities. With the score knotted at 5 late in the game, Claremont 2 held possession of the ball in the last minute and scored the winner with 30 seconds remaining for a 5-4 decision over their grade 12's to win the Senior Tier 1 championship title. Senior Tier 1 MVP was Ari Stevens (Claremont 1).

"I continue to be impressed by both the individual talent along with team talent and organization," said Claremont Head Coach Darren Reisig. "From when Claremont started attending in 2005, our group has come a long way in their development and that is a credit to athletes and coaches."

"The Senior division was a very good pool of competitive games," noted Reisig. "We are proud of the way our teams played and the commitment to team offence and defense rather than individual play. From our perspective, that is often the difference to competing at next level lacrosse and preparing student athletes for next level both indoor and outdoor."

Thank you to Daren Fridge, Gord Kask, the volunteer organizing committee and volunteers that made this event happen. Many thanks to Jody Weatherby for scheduling all of the officials. Thanks for all their organization, time, and efforts on another well run event.

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BCJALL 2018 Pre Season Preview

By: Owen Munro

Another season of Junior lacrosse is here, and the landscape has changed significantly. Gone is the divide between Intermediate and Junior and replacing it is the new five-year program that will operate under a tiered structure. The move was voted in by BCLA directors at the AGM in Whistler last fall.

The BCJALL remains the lone Junior A league in the province, but will now be supplemented with three tiers of Junior B. The goal is to provide more opportunities for player development and create a more competitive atmosphere through ages 17-21. It will also allow teams that may previously have never thought about creating a team the chance to do so by retaining players who may otherwise have quit or moved away after minor lacrosse.

The Tier 1 league replaces the BC Intermediate A League with 10 teams - 8 on the Mainland and 2 on the Island in Nanaimo and Victoria. The Thompson-Okanagan Junior League has also declared a Junior B Tier 1 league with four teams. Both Tier 2 and Tier 3 will see separate leagues on the Mainland and Vancouver Island. The growth also means new teams are coming into the fold, such as the Valley Rebels based out of Abbotsford who will play Tier 2 in its inaugural season.

Junior A will also undoubtedly be another exciting year as well. All 8 clubs have looked to strengthen their rosters over the offseason and several have done so with the aim of knocking off the Coquitlam Adanacs.

The biggest move was arguably New Westminster's acquisition of 2015 BCJALL Rookie of the Youth Tre Leclair, who is currently having another standout campaign in NCAA Division 1 field lacrosse with the Ohio State Buckeyes. Others went the route of Victoria, who is bringing in Orangeville Northmen goaltender Cameron Dunkerley to try and find every advantage possible.

It all sets up for another busy summer packed with quality lacrosse and gets started on Sunday, April 29th when the Victoria Shamrocks host the Port Coquitlam Saints at The Q Centre at 4:00 p.m.

Burnaby Lakers
Last Year: 4-16-1

Burnaby stayed competitive in almost every game it played in last season, and now with some welcomed additions and another year of growth; they can expect to take more positive steps this season.

The Lakers will look at players like Dylan Kaminski to keep the offense going after scoring 2 GPG in 10 games. Patrick Shoemay will be a player to watch coming out of the defensive gate. Teams peppered the Lakers goalies, so limiting teams to fewer shots or lower qual-

ity shots will make things easier for projected starter Elijah Uema-Martin. Burnaby has also invested previous draft picks on goalies that may be ready to take the leap and challenge for starts in the crease.

They will also rely on rookies to help fill out the roster. Burnaby Now's Dan Olson reports the Lakers have big plans for a pair of players: Milos Sukunda and 2018 fourth-round BCJALL draft pick Nicholas Dos Santos from Surrey.

Coquitlam Adanacs
Last Year: 20-1; Won BCJALL Finals; Lost in Minto Cup Final to Six Nations

It's never easy sitting at the top of the food chain in a kill-or-be-killed-world, but it sure looks like it to the purple and yellow. The Adanacs cruised into the BCJALL Finals, where they fought off a game Salmonbellies team, but never found a second-gear in its Minto Cup Finals series against Six Nations. Supporters of the team will point out that last year's team was a young one and will be able to compete over the long-term, especially with the new five-year program.

Players like Dennon Armstrong, Thomas Semple, and John Hofseth will pace the team offensively, but the A's always have a tough backend, and it starts Christian Del Bianco. Del Bianco is coming off another fantastic season with Coquitlam and has now had the added benefit of having an extended run of starts in the NLL with Calgary. He arguably kept the Adanacs in a lot of its Minto series against the Arrows, and had several great performances in the lead-up to it.

Don't be surprised when players like Will Clayton return from school that the Adanacs return to the powerhouse that's now expected.

Delta Islanders
Last Year: 4-17

Last year wasn't an easy one for the Islanders, who felt the pains of the rebuilding process after a successful run at making a Minto in Langley two seasons ago. That run also left them bare when it came to draft picks, so the team will look largely within its former Intermediate A team to supply some immediate depth to what is a promising core.

Ryan Jones had an outstanding year and will be complemented by a solid core including Liam Macdonald and Dawson Trimble. It's unclear if the Islanders will also make room to bring in American Austin Mello once again. Mello provided some spark as he developed into a bit of a sharpshooter down the stretch for the black and red.

Brody Harris and Roman Rose largely shared the reigns between the pipes last season, and Harris could prove to be the team's starter going forward. Despite sporting a 2-7 record in 563 minutes of play, Harris had a respectable .760 Save %. New General Manager Matt Disher had his own great run as a goaltender in both the NLL and WLA and will surely want to shore up this position either way.

The Islanders will no doubt be tougher to play against this year thanks to the addition of Hall of Famer Andy Ogilvie behind the bench. His approach to the game will rub off on his players; don't be surprised if Delta quickly becomes a team others just don't want to play against. Kyle Goundrey returns for a second season behind the bench and will look to build off a solid start to his tenure.

Langley Thunder
Last Year: 12-9; Lost in BCJALL Play-in Game

Despite a bitter ending to last season, the Thunder are stacked across the board and could become a prime championship contender this year. They have the necessary blend of top-end talent, quality depth and proper goaltending to get them far in the BCJALL playoffs.

Critics point to the fact Langley is top-heavy offensively; while that's probably true, they have a number of players ready to step up com-



BCJALL Outstanding goaltender and All-Star Erik Kratz returns to New West for the 2018 campaign.

undoubtedly be one of the tougher losses to overcome for the Saints.

The team was busy during the draft and got a pair of quality players out of Semiahmoo in Jacob Dunbar and Francis LaRoue, who will join a stable of young prospects that includes 2017 first-round pick Garret Winter and Dayton Vidovich, who both had strong seasons with Intermediate A Maple Ridge. The Saints starting shorthanded due to the number of players away at NCAA schools also tested some of the organization's younger players, who may be asked to play a much larger role this year.

The Saints may drop a few spots in the standings but still figure to be a team right in the thick of things for a playoff spot. Returning for another season is Tewaaron Award watch list nominee Ryland Rees, who's having another solid campaign with the Stony Brook Seawolves. He will bring stability and experience to Poco's defense and transition game.

Victoria Shamrocks
Last Year: 12-9; Lost in BCJALL Semifinals to Coquitlam

The Shamrocks used a late-season run of momentum to turn the tide on what was increasingly looking like a disappointing season. This year we can expect Victoria to build on that successful campaign while integrating one of the most well-run Intermediate programs. Victoria stands to be one of the teams that sees immediate short-term benefits to the move to a five-year program. They will be able to bring along players at Junior B Tier 1 that need more development while the group that can step in right away at Junior A will be asked to do so.

One of the more underrated additions may prove to be the one mentioned earlier, with Victoria tabbing Orangeville netminder Cameron Dunkerley as their new starter. Goaltending was a tough go for Victoria last season and may have held the team back from its true potential. Dunkerley will make the move from out east where he played 206 minutes and had a .878 GAA.

The 'Rocks lose some integral pieces to both their O and D but return one of the deeper squads in the league.

Prediction: Coquitlam over Langley

The Adanacs look to have the deepest and most talented team again this season, and that's before they've added anyone from back east or from south of the border. Many may be surprised to see New Westminster not continuing the rivalry, but the vibe around the Thunder seems to be one that this team can beat any other club this season. Whether they can go out and prove it will be a story to keep an eye on throughout the season.

This year's playoff format sees the top four teams make the playoffs. For a full regular season schedule, headed to our website www.bcjall.com. You can also learn more about the new five-year program and find links to other valuable resources such as video and the latest scores and stats.

In Memoriam

Guze, Ray, Born in Vancouver on June 8, 1975. Guze established a well-earned reputation as a top defensive specialist while playing with five WLA teams over a 14-year period. He broke into Senior lacrosse in 1997 with the Burnaby Lakers and later saw action with North Shore, Okanagan, Langley before ending his 143-game career with Coquitlam in 2010. Ray, just 42 years old, passed away February 20, 2018 while vacationing in Costa Rica.

Robinson WLA's No. 1 Pick to Thunder

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

New Westminster Salmonbellies all-star Connor Robinson was taken first overall by the Langley Thunder at the 2018 Western Lacrosse Association Entry Draft on February 7th at the Langley Events Centre. 56 athletes were drafted in eight rounds to the seven WLA teams.

The 21-year-old forward is also a member of the High Point University Panthers of the NCAA Div. 1 Southern Conference where he plays both midfield and attack. The New West native has already shown that any adjustment in leaving Junior for the Senior ranks will be managed smoothly, after scoring at a goal-per-game pace in 25 WLA and Mann Cup games over the past four seasons.

Robinson was a dominant force in the BC-JALL as he bagged back-to-back scoring titles and two MVP awards. Over five BCJALL seasons, Robinson netted 176 goals and 268 assists over 96 regular season games for 444 points and a 4.63 points per game average.

1st Round

- Pick Selection
- 1st Connor Robinson (Langley)
- 2nd Sam DeGroot (Coquitlam)
- 3rd Drew Belgrave (Nanaimo)
- 4th Cole Pickup (Victoria)
- 5th Eli Salama (Langley)
- 6th Andrew Gallant (Coquitlam)
- 7th Preston Lupul (Langley)

2nd Round

- Pick Selection
- 8th Kai McDonald (Langley)
- 9th Danny Smith (Victoria)
- 10th Keenan Koswin (Nanaimo)
- 11th Gord Philips (Nanaimo)
- 12th Baden Boyenko (Nanaimo)
- 13th Mitch McDole (Maple Ridge)
- 14th Jeremy Boshier (Coquitlam)

3rd Round

- Pick Selection
- 15th Greg Lunde (Maple Ridge)
- 16th Mac Dailly (Coquitlam)

- 17th Brad Rowbotham (Nanaimo)
- 18th Alec Molander (Victoria)
- 19th Nick Jensen (New West)
- 20th Ryan Sinkie (Nanaimo)
- 21st Brandon Del Grosso (Langley)

4th Round

- Pick Selection
- 22nd Jordan McKenzie (New West)
- 23rd Connor Leies (Maple Ridge)
- 24th Kevin Orleman (Nanaimo)
- 25th Zac Christianson (Victoria)
- 26th Nick Chaykowski (New West)
- 27th Jayden Campbell (Coquitlam)
- 28th Cody Clark (Nanaimo)

5th Round

- Pick Selection
- 29th Jake Sundar (Langley)
- 30th Trevor Chernoff (Coquitlam)
- 31st Sam Shiel (Maple Ridge)
- 32nd Jake Bye (Nanaimo)
- 33rd Mitch Stokes (New West)
- 34th Cole Bevan (Maple Ridge)
- 35th Tyler Vogrig (Burnaby)

6th Round

- Pick Selection
- 36th Shawn Richardson (Langley)
- 37th Mickey Fitzpatrick (Coquitlam)
- 38th Chase Anderson (Nanaimo)
- 39th Adam Golia (Victoria)
- 40th Colton Bykowsky (New West)
- 41st Pearson Willis (Maple Ridge)
- 42nd Tommy Robertson (Burnaby)



Connor Robinson.



WESTERN LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

7th Round

- Pick Selection
- 43rd Steph Charbonneau (Langley)
- 44th Brine Rice (Burnaby)
- 45th Nick Preston (Nanaimo)
- 46th Tommy Scanlan (Victoria)
- 47th Jared Pozzobon (New West)
- 48th Josh Kemp (Maple Ridge)
- 49th Alex Bodin (Burnaby)

8th Round

- Pick Selection
- 50th Patrick Szabo (Langley)
- 51st Jesse Gastaldo (Coquitlam)
- 52nd Cody Graden (Nanaimo)
- 53rd Rees Cullen (Victoria)
- 54th Mitch Flintoff (New West)
- 55th Andrew Gresham (Maple Ridge)
- 56th Julian Infanti (Burnaby)

BCJALL 2018 Regular Season Schedule

AWAY vs HOME	DATE	TIME	ARENA
Shamrocks vs Saints	Sun Apr 29	4:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Adanacs vs Shamrocks	Sat May 5	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Thunder vs Timbermen	Sat May 5	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Saints vs Islanders	Sat May 5	7:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Timbermen vs Saints	Sun May 6	5:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Shamrocks vs Lakers	Sun May 6	5:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Salmonbellies vs Lakers	Mon May 7	8:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Timbermen vs Shamrocks	Tue May 8	7:30PM	The Q Centre
Thunder vs Adanacs	Wed May 9	7:30PM	Sports Centre
Salmonbellies vs Thunder	Thu May 10	7:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Adanacs vs Saints	Fri May 11	8:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Saints vs Shamrocks	Sat May 12	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Salmonbellies vs Timbermen	Sat May 12	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Lakers vs Islanders	Sat May 12	7:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Timbermen vs Lakers	Sun May 13	5:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Thunder vs Lakers	Mon May 14	8:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Islanders vs Salmonbellies	Tue May 15	8:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Lakers vs Adanacs	Wed May 16	7:30PM	Sports Centre
Islanders vs Thunder	Thu May 17	7:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Salmonbellies vs Saints	Fri May 18	8:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Lakers vs Shamrocks	Sat May 19	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Saints vs Timbermen	Sat May 19	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Shamrocks vs Thunder	Sun May 20	4:00PM	Langley Events Centre
Timbermen vs Islanders	Sun May 20	5:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Adanacs vs Salmonbellies	Tue May 22	8:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Adanacs vs Islanders	Wed May 23	8:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Lakers vs Thunder	Thu May 24	7:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Thunder vs Saints	Fri May 25	8:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Islanders vs Shamrocks	Sat May 26	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Shamrocks vs Salmonbellies	Sun May 27	4:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Timbermen vs Adanacs	Sun May 27	5:00PM	Sports Centre
Lakers vs Salmonbellies	Tue May 29	8:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Saints vs Adanacs	Wed May 30	7:30PM	Sports Centre
Salmonbellies vs Islanders	Wed May 30	8:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Adanacs vs Thunder	Thu May 31	7:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Islanders vs Saints	Fri Jun 1	8:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Adanacs vs Shamrocks	Sat Jun 2	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Lakers vs Timbermen	Sat Jun 2	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Salmonbellies vs Islanders	Sat Jun 2	7:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Timbermen vs Thunder	Sun Jun 3	4:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Islanders vs Lakers	Mon Jun 4	8:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Thunder vs Salmonbellies	Tue Jun 5	8:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Islanders vs Adanacs	Wed Jun 6	7:30PM	Sports Centre
Saints vs Thunder	Thu Jun 7	7:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Salmonbellies vs Adanacs	Fri Jun 8	7:30PM	Sports Centre
Thunder vs Shamrocks	Sat Jun 9	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Islanders vs Timbermen	Sat Jun 9	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Timbermen vs Salmonbellies	Sun Jun 10	5:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Shamrocks vs Lakers	Sun Jun 10	5:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Adanacs vs Lakers	Mon Jun 11	8:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Saints vs Salmonbellies	Tue Jun 12	8:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Shamrocks vs Timbermen	Tue Jun 12	7:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Lakers vs Saints	Fri Jun 15	8:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Salmonbellies vs Shamrocks	Sat Jun 16	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Islanders vs Timbermen	Sat Jun 16	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Timbermen vs Thunder	Sun Jun 17	4:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Shamrocks vs Islanders	Sun Jun 17	5:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Saints vs Lakers	Mon Jun 18	8:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Shamrocks vs Timbermen	Tue Jun 19	7:30PM	Duncan Arena
Lakers vs Salmonbellies	Tue Jun 19	8:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Islanders vs Adanacs	Wed Jun 20	7:30PM	Sports Centre
Adanacs vs Thunder	Thu Jun 21	7:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Islanders vs Saints	Fri Jun 22	8:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Adanacs vs Timbermen	Sat Jun 23	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Thunder vs Islanders	Sat Jun 23	7:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Shamrocks vs Saints	Sun Jun 24	5:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Timbermen vs Salmonbellies	Sun Jun 24	5:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Islanders vs Lakers	Mon Jun 25	8:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Thunder vs Salmonbellies	Tue Jun 26	8:00PM	Queens Park Arena
Saints vs Adanacs	Wed Jun 27	7:30PM	Sports Centre
Lakers vs Thunder	Thu Jun 28	7:30PM	Langley Events Centre
Salmonbellies vs Saints	Fri Jun 29	8:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Thunder vs Shamrocks	Sat Jun 30	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Saints vs Timbermen	Sat Jun 30	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Timbermen vs Adanacs	Sun Jul 1	2:00PM	Sports Centre
Shamrocks vs Islanders	Mon Jul 2	2:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Adanacs vs Lakers	Mon Jul 2	8:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Saints vs Lakers	Tue Jul 3	8:00PM	Bill Copeland Arena
Salmonbellies vs Adanacs	Fri Jul 6	7:30PM	Sports Centre
Thunder vs Saints	Fri Jul 6	8:00PM	Poco Rec Centre
Salmonbellies vs Shamrocks	Sat Jul 7	4:00PM	The Q Centre
Lakers vs Timbermen	Sat Jul 7	4:30PM	Nanaimo Ice Centre
Thunder vs Islanders	Sat Jul 7	7:00PM	Ladner Leisure Centre
Shamrocks vs Adanacs	Sun Jul 8	2:00PM	Sports Centre

Western Lacrosse Association 2018 Schedule

Date	Time	Home Team	Away Team	Facility
23-May-18	7:30 PM	Langley	Burnaby	Langley Events Centre
24-May-18	7:30 PM	New West	Maple Ridge	Queen's Park Arena
25-May-18	7:30 PM	Victoria	Burnaby	100.3 The Q Centre
26-May-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	Nanaimo	Coquitlam Arena
27-May-18	6:45 PM	Maple Ridge	Nanaimo	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
30-May-18	7:30 PM	Langley	Maple Ridge	Langley Events Centre
31-May-18	7:30 PM	New West	Nanaimo	Queen's Park Arena
1-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Burnaby	Coquitlam	Bill Copeland Arena
2-Jun-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	Langley	Coquitlam Arena
2-Jun-18	7:00 PM	Nanaimo	Victoria	Frank Crane Arena
3-Jun-18	6:00 PM	Victoria	New West	100.3 The Q Centre
3-Jun-18	6:45 PM	Maple Ridge	Burnaby	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
6-Jun-18	7:00 PM	Langley	Victoria	Langley Events Centre
7-Jun-18	7:30 PM	New West	Langley	Queen's Park Arena
8-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Burnaby	Nanaimo	Bill Copeland Arena
9-Jun-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	New West	Coquitlam Arena
10-Jun-18	6:00 PM	Victoria	Nanaimo	100.3 The Q Centre
10-Jun-18	6:45 PM	Maple Ridge	Coquitlam	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
13-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Langley	Coquitlam	Langley Events Centre
14-Jun-18	7:30 PM	New West	Victoria	Queen's Park Arena
15-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Victoria	Maple Ridge	100.3 The Q Centre
15-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Burnaby	New West	Bill Copeland Arena
16-Jun-18	6:00 PM	Nanaimo	Maple Ridge	Frank Crane Arena
16-Jun-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	Burnaby	Coquitlam Arena
17-Jun-18	6:00 PM	Nanaimo	Langley	Frank Crane Arena
20-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Langley	Nanaimo	Langley Events Centre
21-Jun-18	7:30 PM	New West	Maple Ridge	Queen's Park Arena
22-Jun-18	7:00 PM	Burnaby	Victoria	Bill Copeland Arena
23-Jun-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	Langley	Coquitlam Arena
24-Jun-18	6:00 PM	Nanaimo	Coquitlam	Frank Crane Arena
24-Jun-18	6:45 PM	Maple Ridge	Langley	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
27-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Langley	New West	Langley Events Centre
29-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Victoria	Nanaimo	100.3 The Q Centre
29-Jun-18	7:30 PM	Burnaby	Maple Ridge	Bill Copeland Arena
30-Jun-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	Victoria	Coquitlam Arena
3-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Maple Ridge	Burnaby	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
5-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Coquitlam	New West	Queen's Park Arena
6-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Victoria	Langley	100.3 The Q Centre
6-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Burnaby	New West	Bill Copeland Arena
7-Jul-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	Maple Ridge	Coquitlam Arena
7-Jul-18	7:00 PM	Nanaimo	Langley	Frank Crane Arena
8-Jul-18	6:00 PM	Nanaimo	New West	Frank Crane Arena
8-Jul-18	6:45 PM	Maple Ridge	Victoria	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
10-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Burnaby	Coquitlam	Bill Copeland Arena
11-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Langley	Maple Ridge	Langley Events Centre
12-Jul-18	7:30 PM	New West	Langley	Queen's Park Arena
13-Jul-18	7:00 PM	Burnaby	Victoria	Bill Copeland Arena
14-Jul-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	New West	Coquitlam Arena
14-Jul-18	7:00 PM	Nanaimo	Burnaby	Frank Crane Arena
15-Jul-18	6:45 PM	Maple Ridge	Nanaimo	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
17-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Maple Ridge	Coquitlam	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
18-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Langley	Victoria	Langley Events Centre
19-Jul-18	7:30 PM	New West	Burnaby	Queen's Park Arena
20-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Victoria	Maple Ridge	100.3 The Q Centre
20-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Burnaby	Langley	Bill Copeland Arena
21-Jul-18	7:00 PM	Coquitlam	Victoria	Coquitlam Arena
22-Jul-18	6:00 PM	Nanaimo	Coquitlam	Frank Crane Arena
24-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Maple Ridge	New West	Planet Ice - Maple Ridge
25-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Langley	Burnaby	Langley Events Centre
26-Jul-18	7:00 PM	New West	Nanaimo	Queen's Park Arena
27-Jul-18	7:30 PM	Victoria	Coquitlam	100.3 The Q Centre
28-Jul-18	7:00 PM	Nanaimo	Burnaby	Frank Crane Arena
29-Jul-18	6:00 PM	Victoria	New West	100.3 The Q Centre

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James Abbott is proud to be involved in the lacrosse community for over 40 years playing in Coquitlam, Burnaby, The Tricities, Surrey, and the rest of the lower mainland. He has coached for the past 17 years including Pee wee Team BC as well as having served 6 years as President of Coquitlam Minor Lacrosse. James is currently President of the Coquitlam Junior Adanacs and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the BC Junior A Lacrosse League.

As a STOR-X team member, he serves the areas of Burnaby, the Tricities, White Rock and Surrey. If you don't live in those areas, not to worry! We have representatives all over western Canada. Go to our website to sign up for a free consultation. We'll come to you and, room by room, help you get your home organized with our custom storage solutions.



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Jersey Fundraiser Nets \$14K



Photo: Garrett James Photography

Stealth and Rush players pay respects to the Humboldt Broncos before the April 13 game at the LEC.

In a lacrosse season you can expect ups and downs. In a perfect world you would see many more ups than you would see downs. For the 2018 National Lacrosse League season, the Vancouver Stealth have witnessed more downs than the 1929 Stock Exchange,

the '88 New York Jets and the worst Call of Duty player in history.

Heading into Game 16, Vancouver was looking towards the biggest up of thire season: Lacrosse on the Move Night.

Since moving to Langley, the Stealth partnered with the British Columbia Lacrosse Association to create the Lacrosse on the Move Youth Travel Grant Program. During home games since 2014, Vancouver has sold 50/50 tickets with money going to the assist teams and athletes within BC who are travelling to provincial and national championships.

During the 2015 season the team unveiled new BC flag themed jerseys which they auctioned off to Stealth faithful. It went off without a tee. They re-introduced the idea in 2016 and raised over \$8000, in 2017; \$7575. With the success of the previous three years, the BC flag jersey was a given for 2018.

April 6, 2018 – tragedy strikes.

Tears are shed, meetings are held, decisions are made.

In one fall swoop, the BC Lacrosse Association and the Vancouver Stealth spoke with Vanichuk Transport Inc., and the three entities agree there is only one decision.

Vanichuk, an Aldergrove-based company has been the goodwill ambassadors from years previous, sponsoring to create the BC themed jerseys since the inaugural debut in 2015.

“I have sixteen or seventeen kids on my team, I was in the dressing room and I look at my own kids sitting there and thought, this nightmare could happen to anybody,” said Alex Vanichuk, President of Vanichuk Transport. “A situation like this is absolutely horrible, it is a nightmare, but we are in a position to help and it is the right thing to do and we moved forward without hesitation.”

An online auction is created, the fans respond.

In twenty-four hours, all previous years were bowled-over. A bidding war ensued between Saskatchewan’s Evan Schemenauer and Victoria’s Jim Else on the non-existent Jon Harnett jersey. President and General Manager Doug Locker then introduced it into the auction after

high-demand. Jon Harnett himself added a second jersey from his past to drive up demand, it worked. Schemenauer and Else joined into the Mega Powers and combined for a record \$1,350 bid.

“In sports, you love or hate a team in a lot of ways because of circumstance. But in this circumstance the world was pulled together by a tragic event and we need to show how much we care,” said Jim Else. “Evan and I decided to break the bank and go for it and when a quality person like Jon Harnett offers a jersey from his own personal collection, it just shows you that the whole sporting world is together as one.”

The second highest bid was for Andrew Suitor’s jersey. The bid came from Toronto Rock’s owner Jamie Dawick. Suitor an Ontario native, dawned his first ever BC flag jersey on April 13, 2018.

“This was a great cause, no matter if you play junior hockey or junior lacrosse, you are on a bus with all your friends and travelling around and it is not something you should ever expect,” said Andrew Suitor. “Our hearts are full, everyone is behind that community, not just BC or Ontario, but all of Canada. This game meant a lot because you always hear, there are more important things than just sports and we found out the hard way last week that community is more important than sports. Canada is a community and how we have come together with hockey sticks outside on front porches and wearing jerseys in solidarity, it does not matter where you are from or what your background is, we are Canadian, and we stick together.”

After one quarter of the game during Week 19 action, the Saskatchewan Rush had the game won. But it was not until the third quarter when the auction ended that the Stealth had the true victory, raising \$13,475.

Stealth owner Denise Watkins added \$525 to bring the grand total to \$14,000 for the victims of the Humboldt Tragedy.

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Team BC Box Teams Gear up for 2018 Nationals



Team BC Box teams will search for gold at Box Nationals this summer in Halifax (Female), Ontario (Pee Wee), Saskatchewan (Bantam) and Alberta (Midget).

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The 2018 Team BC Box Lacrosse programs get underway this Spring with the District Camps in April leading to the Provincial Tryout Camps in May. All Men's Field Lacrosse teams have been selected while the Women's Field Lacrosse team selections will take place April 28 and 29. After all camps are complete, nearly 1000 Box and Field athletes will have been identified and evaluated from regions around the province for Team BC programs.

Only one Team BC team brought home a Box National Championship in 2017, the Female Midget team – change is in the winds for 2018! The Female Bantam Box team brought home silver in tough title match to Ontario. The Pee Wee boys won bronze medal, the Bantam boys won silver, while the Midget boys finished fourth. All Team BC teams represented BC and performed well, but gold is the goal in 2018!

The 2018 Team BC Box program consists of five teams -- Boys Box: Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget; Female Box Bantam and Midget teams. The Team BC Provincial Tryout Box Camps for each of the teams will be: Bantam (May 4-6); Pee Wee (May 11-13); Female (May 19-20) and Midget (May 26-27). Please check the BCLA website Team BC page for up to date camp information.

"The Team BC Box program takes a directed approach to seek good people to coach our athletes – the goal, to produce

well-rounded skilled athletes," explained Team BC Director Jeff Gombar. "We believe all athletes that attend a District or Provincial Tryout Camp can't help but learn new skills that will improve their long-term development while having a great camp experience."

The 2017 Female Midgets won gold in dominating fashion and were simply the most skilled and best coached team at Nationals. Their skill and drive to succeed proved they were a level above their competitors. The Bantams battled in every game but lost a tough gold medal game to Ontario -- both will surely build on those experiences.

The Female teams will be reminded of past glory and let down and will compete to their highest degree with the goal to win double golds in 2018.

Past National experience is important when building a team. New Female Bantam Head Coach, Brad Downey (Ridge Meadows) is no stranger to National competitions as a former athlete and coach of the BC Selects & Stars program in the early Team BC days. Downey was 2-time Scholastic and Athletic All-American college athlete and played 10-years in the WLA with the Adanacs and Burrards.

His vast playing and coaching experience in Field and Box lacrosse will bode well coaching the female athletes at nationals. He's excited to construct a winning squad of athletes that play a complete game.

"I'm looking for well-rounded lacrosse athletes, with speed, and girls that have a team-first mentality who are willing to listen and learn the team game and systems," said Coach Downey. "We will play a high-tempo brand of lacrosse with lots of movement off-ball, with a good, solid defense from the goal out."

The Team BC Midgets will have Beau Bradley (Ridge Meadows) as bench boss. Bradley is no stranger to Team BC and has Nationals experience from the 2015 Bantam boy's Box team. Bradley's focus will run the gamut from athleticism to smarts while growing together as a group.

"You always look at selecting players who possess all the athletic traits - speed, power, good hands and quickness," said Head Coach Beau Bradley. "There are those that are pure goal scorers, others possess a remarkable ability to defend, some have "eyes in the back of their head" while others have speed to burn."

As cliché a term Lacrosse IQ may be, it will be key for Bradley's group to really understand the game and think the game at a level

required to consistently be ahead of their opponent. Part of game smarts includes the closeness of a tight-knit group of 20 athletes.

"I believe the mental skills are what separate the good athletes from the great," said Bradley. "I want this team to feel exactly that - a team, a family. When that comradery exists, players will play for one another; do what it takes to be successful at all costs, to ensure they are not letting their teammates down. Championship teams will tend to always have that mentality."

The Team BC Bantams have longtime NLL coach and Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Famer, Curt Malawsky (Ridge Meadows), back behind the bench. Malawsky coached the 2016 Team BC Pee Wees to a bronze medal finish in Whitby. The 2018 version looks to be the first Team BC team to win the Bantam title since its inception in 2007. Malawsky and crew are aware of the rigors of Nationals and the strength of teams, not only Ontario but all others like Alberta, Team Iroquois and Nova Scotia.

"Goals are always a premium at nationals, so we'll look for players that have polish around the net," said Malawsky. "Ontario and Alberta have some very big boys, so size, strength and grit will be essential for our defensive minded players. Goal-tending and face-offs were corner stones for Ontario, so those areas need to be our strengths as well."

"We as coaches are very confident we will find the right mix of players and look forward to getting the process started at the end of the month."

It has been almost a decade since the Team BC Pee Wees won a National title since their 2008 triumph over Ontario. Returning veteran Head Coach, Gerry Van Beek (Surrey), has coached both young and older athletes up to Junior and Senior A, and is motivated to stick with the Team BC program. After a successful 2017 bronze finish with the Pee Wees, Van Beek is ready to put what he has learned into action to take the next step at nationals with the Pee Wees.

"To have success at Nationals the players on the team need a high lacrosse IQ," said Van Beek. "It is advantageous that players can make quick decisions and have played in important games. We'll be looking for confident players that make good decisions -- they may make mistakes, as long as they learn from them and not often repeated."

Van Beek's challenge will be to assemble the right team with the right mix of athletes.

"It is a given that every player on the Team BC Pee Wees will have exceptional lacrosse skills, great athleticism, and a team first attitude," said Van Beek. "The players that make up the team are usually the leaders of their club teams. Many will be asked to play a different role with a different focus than with their club team."

"There are many players that attended camp last year that were not selected for 2017 team's final roster -- I expect all to push for spots this year."

All Box teams have attainable goals and look for the right group of athletes. The current group of head coaches comes with a familiarity of the athletes, a deep knowledge of the game and the desire in what it takes to compete at Nationals.

"Our Box teams are in great hands with the leadership of our head coaches and coaching staffs," said the Team BC Director. "Our coaches will prepare the young athletes for all situations in order to reach their highest potentials. We expect our athletes to increase their lacrosse IQ's, give it their best efforts on and off the floor and have an everlasting Team BC experience they won't forget."

The 2018 Box Lacrosse Nationals for Female Midget and Bantam will be July 21-25, 2018 in Halifax, NS; the Pee Wees August 5-11, 2018 in Whitby, ON; the Midget boys August 12-18 in Calgary, AB; and the Bantam boys, August 9-14, 2018, in Saskatoon, SK.

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Subway® BCLA 2018 Youth Field Provincial Results



Photo: Mike Chaster

U18 Tier 1 Gold-Adanacs 1



Photo: Shana Fehr Photography

U18 Tier 2 Gold-Mission



Photo: Sheri Carr

U15 Tier 1 Gold-Ridge Meadows 1



Photo: Archive photo

U15 Tier 2 Gold-Surrey



Photo: Megan Zazelchuk

U13 Tier 1 Gold-Langley 1



Photo: Dan Soenel

U13 Tier 2 Gold-New Westminster



Photo: Brandi Carr

U15 Tier 1 Women's Field Gold-Surrey 2



Photo: Shona Wallace

U15 Tier 2 Women's Field Gold-Mission



Photo: Karen Hertslet

U12 Tier 1 Women's Field Gold-Port Coquitlam



Photo: Jeanette Dirksen

U12 Tier 2 Women's Field Gold-Surrey 1



Photo: Kasey Peterson

U11 Blue Gold-New Westminster 1



Photo: Amanda Kleprinsk

U11 Red Gold-Surrey

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The Subway® BCLA U18/15/13 Tier 1 and 2 Field Lacrosse Provincial Championships took place February 9-12, 2018 at the Burnaby Lake Sports Complex in Burnaby. Forty-three teams from Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland and Interior competed for Tier 1 and 2 youth Field Lacrosse supremacy in the Under 18, 15 and 13 age groups.

The warmer, drier weather of 2018 was a big relief after snow and freezing temperatures cancelled the 2017 Field Provincials. Fans and families lined the sidelines and took in the action.

In the Under 18 Tier 1 gold game, Adanacs 1 held on to a close 8-7 decision over the Delta, while New Westminster 1 beat Langley 9-8 for bronze. In Tier 2 action, Mission took gold after a 17-9 victory over Burnaby and Victoria Titans outlasted Ridge Meadows 11-8 for bronze.

The U15 Tier 1 title game was a low-scoring affair as Ridge Meadows 1 outlasted the Adanacs 7-6, while the Port Coquitlam Saints beat Pacific Rim 12-8 for the bronze. The Tier 2 Surrey Warriors took gold with a 10-7 win over North Shore, while the Adanacs 2 squad beat Kelowna 10-7 for the bronze.

The U13 Tier 1 Langley 1 team edged the Nanaimo Raiders 7-6 for the gold medal, while the Adanacs 1 team handed Pacific Rim a 12-10 decision for the bronze. In Tier 2 action, New Westminster outlasted the Vancouver Burrards 11-9 for the gold, while Kamloops took bronze with a 7-6 victory over Port Coquitlam.

The Warrior Sports Most Valuable Player award selections were: Erik Forsselius (Under 18 Tier 1-Adanacs), Nathan Facin (Under 18 Tier 2-Ridge Meadows), Sawyer Morais (Under 15 Tier 1-Ridge Meadows 1), Joshua Yachney (Under 15 Tier 2-Kelowna), Ty Banks (Under 13 Tier 1-Adanacs 1) and Kyle Jamieson (Under 13 Tier 2-New Westminster).

The SUBWAY® Team Sportsmanship awards went to the Kamloops U13 Tier 2 team, Adanacs U15 Tier 1 team and Victoria U18 Tier 2 team. The BCLA Volunteer Award recipient was Trevor Webber.

The Warrior Fair Play coach selections were: Paul Foster (Under 18 Tier 1-Langley), Harpreet Grewal (Under 18 Tier 2-Mis-

sion), Mike Newton (Under 15 Tier 1-Port Coquitlam), Jamie MacGregor (Under 15 Tier 2-Kelowna), Adam Smith (Under 13 Tier 1-Surrey) and Sean McInnes (Under 13 Tier 2-Vancouver). The overall Warrior Fair Play Official was Andrew Gallant.

The Subway® British Columbia Lacrosse Association Under 15 & Under 12 Women's Field Lacrosse Provincial Championships were held February 9-12, 2018 at Willoughby Park in Langley. Twenty-one teams from Metro Vancouver and the Island competed in the tournament.

In U15 Tier 1 action, Surrey 2 Warriors defeated New Westminster 8-5 for the gold, while Ridge Meadows outlasted Burnaby 11-9 for the bronze. The Tier 2 Mission squad beat Langley 11-9 for the gold and Pacific Rim won bronze with a 10-9 decision over Adanacs 1.

In U12 Tier 1 action, the Port Coquitlam Saints defeated the Ridge Meadows Burrards 6-5 to take home gold. In the bronze medal game, New Westminster #1 beat New Westminster 2 6-4 for the bronze. In Tier 2, Surrey 1 edges Langley 6-4 for the gold, while Adanacs held on to win 3-2 over Burnaby for the bronze.

The Warrior Sports Canada Most Valuable Player award went to Zoe Bishop (U12 New Westminster 1) and Lily Ferguson (U15 Ridge Meadows). The Warrior Fair Play coach selection went to Tyler MacLeod (U12 Tier 1 New Westminster 1), Naomi Walser (U12 Tier 2 Mid Island), Catie Greenlay (U15 Tier 1 Burnaby) and Linda Jenner (U15 Tier 2 Pacific Rim). The Subway® Team Sportsmanship awards went to the Mid-Island U12 team and Adanacs 1 U15 team.

The SUBWAY® BCLA Under 11 Boy's Field Lacrosse Provincial Invitational Tournament was held February 2-4, 2018 at Newton Athletic Park in Surrey. Twenty-two teams competed for U11 supremacy from Vancouver Island and Metro Vancouver.

The twenty-two Under 11 teams competed in three divisions, Blue, Red and White, which were split into groups to offer parity amongst the teams.

In the Blue Division, the New Westminster 1 team beat Ridge Meadows 1 6-1 for the gold, while the Adanacs 1 beat the Langley Thunder 1 9-6 to win bronze.



Photo: Danielle Connolly

U11 White Gold-New Westminster 2

In the Red Division gold medal game, Surrey shutout Mission 6-0 for gold, while Delta Footmen 2 outlasted Langley 2 5-2 for the bronze.

In the White Division, New Westminster 2 edged Valley 5-4 in an overtime thriller for the gold medal, while Adanacs 2 beat the Burnaby Lakers 7-4 for bronze.

The SUBWAY® Team Sportsmanship award went to the Richmond U11 RED Division team. The BCLA Volunteer Award recipient was Cam Davies.

The Warrior Fair Play Coach Award selections were as follows: U11 BLUE Division Fair Play Coach: John Olson (Ridge Meadows 1); U11 RED Division Fair Play Coach: Sherwin Quilay (Richmond); and U11 WHITE Division Fair Play Coach: Mike Chernoff (Adanacs 2). The overall Warrior Fair Play Official award was Zach Iacino.

Thank you to all the sponsors, partners and volunteers that made it all happen! Thanks to Title Sponsor Subway® Restaurants of BC, Warrior Sports, Xtreme Threads and Branded Athletics for the Game MVP awards, IMPACT Canopy and Silver Ridge Promotions. Thank you to the many volunteers who carry on the SPIRIT of Lacrosse and offer so much of their free time to make the Provincial experience that much more special.

Team BC Field Teams Set for 2018



Photo: CLIA

Team BC U15's look to repeat as National Champs in Oshawa this Summer.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The Team BC Field Lacrosse Program continues to develop athletes and teams for 2018. Of the seven Team BC Field teams (Men's: U13, U15 and U18; Women's Freshman, Sophomore and Senior), many past coaches will return to coach to Team BC in 2018.

The Team BC U18 and U15 Field teams started the player identification process in November 2017, while the Women's Field teams will have nearly 110 athletes compete for positions at the Provincial Tryout Camp at the end of April. Team BC Field Co-ordinator, Reynold Comeault, has returned most of his coaching staffs and is confident the new crop of athletes, who will spend more time together, will grow quicker as a unit.

"With our teams selected and well into Box Lacrosse mode, we are anxiously awaiting another opportunity to represent BC at the Field Lacrosse Nationals," said Comeault. "We have been fortunate to assemble two very talented teams that will surely push their opponents. Our goal is to be in the gold games again in Oshawa."

First year U18 Head Coach, Justin Da Silva, has had Team BC experience with younger age groups and looks to implement what he's learned from past Team BC competitions. The U18's look for improvement on their 2017 silver medal finish at nationals. Joining Da Silva is Bill Reed and Mitch Cavallarin to round out the coaching staff.

The U18 team is a good-sized team and has plenty of talented 16, 17 and 18 year old athletes. Da Silva will look to use their speed and versatility to improve on ball control to take advantage of good scoring situations.

"My coaching staff and I feel like we built a young, fast, tenacious team," stated Coach Justin Da Silva. "All of our midfielders are solid on both sides of the field, and are fantastic transition players with not only the skill to move the ball, but a risk to attack the net at the same time. Our attacks are all very confident ball handlers and natural goal scorers."

With any team, the best ones are built from the defense out, and the U18's fit that mold. Defensively, they will push the tempo and look

to transition quickly, while goaltending will be the solid backbone in the back end.

"Defensively we are big, fast, and aggressive and also very dangerous in the transition game. Goaltending will be solid as both goalies are returning and are looking forward to another shot at gold."

"I feel like we are a very versatile team, and once we're all on the same page, our team will no doubt be in the finals," said Da Silva. "We're hoping to be a fast-paced, hard-hitting, very aggressive team on both sides of the field."

After three straight Alumni Cup title losses to Ontario in 2014, 2015 and 2016, the tides turned with Ian Radonich's Team BC U15's winning the 2017 Alumni Cup National title. Ian has built a disciplined, hard-working team that is very familiar with each other. The emphasis will be on possession, control and tough defense.

Radonich, a young star coach, has been involved for years and has built some formidable Centennial Centaur High School and Adanac Field club teams over his tenure. Radonich returns to the helm from an incredibly successful 2017 campaign.

Radonich's U15's coaching staff return includes returning coach and Team BC alum Richard Cambrey and Dave Bigley. The U15's will be focused on building a team using the past experiences to compete at the highest level leading up to nationals and will spend extra time to build tight-knit family off the field.

"I am really impressed with our depth with this year's group," said Coach Radonich. "Obviously, we as a coaching staff were able to learn a lot about the process last year and have been able to work to adjust what worked well for us last year as well as items to improve upon."

Coach Radonich applauds the return of Team BC Alums Richard Cambrey and Dave Bigley.



"He was a tremendous asset to have around at practice last year but having him (Bigley) travel with the team to be with our goalies is huge."

"This year's team is going to be fast and gritty, we are really looking forward to working with the group to develop lacrosse IQ. Like last year, we will be keeping things simple in terms of systems. Our big focus is going to be working to build the team culture and relationships within the team, if we are able to have them care about the group as a whole, they will battle that much harder for each other."

Team BC Field Lacrosse Coordinator, Reynold Comeault,

"We're excited with the group of U15's that we have been to assembled," said Comeault. "Having come off a gold medal performance at the 2017 Nationals in Saskatchewan, I am confident that Ontario will put a great deal of energy into the 2018 event particularly since they will be hosting."

"I'm excited to see what Justin Da Silva, Bill Reed and Mitch Cavallarin will do with our U18 group. We have a team built on speed that will be prepared to push the pace in Oshawa."

The 2018 U18 First Nation Trophy and the U15 Alumni Cup Men's Field Lacrosse Nationals will take place August 31-September 2 in Oshawa, Ontario.

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2018 BCLA Field Lacrosse Provincials Warrior Fair Play Awards

U18 Men Tier 1

Luke Benedet (Adanacs 1)
 Mitch Sandberg (Delta 1)
 Carson Hyra (Langley)
 Parker Corbett (New Westminster)

U15 Men Tier 1

Dante Petrescu (Adanacs 1)
 Nick Dewsbury (Langley)
 Sonny Miller (Pacific Rim)
 Tristan Noel (Port Coquitlam)
 Jacob Pahnke (Ridge Meadows 1)
 Matt Boreen (Victoria)

U13 Men Tier 1

Ben McIlhargey (Adanacs 1)
 Ben Hobson (Burnaby)
 Hudson Zazlenchuk (Langley 1)
 Logan Schmidt (Nanaimo)
 Dylan Martin (Pacific Rim)
 Ben Coghill (Ridge Meadows 1)
 Caelan Mander (Surrey 1)
 Marshall Strutton (Victoria)

Fair Play Coaches

U18 Men Tier 1 Coach
 Paul Foster (Langley)

U15 Men Tier 1 Coach
 Mike Newton (Port Coquitlam)

U13 Men Tier 1 Coach
 Adam Smith (Surrey)

U18 Men Tier 2

Nathan Jette (Adanacs 2)
 Basil Copper (Burnaby)
 Matt Abbott (Mission)
 Austin Swanson (Penticton)
 Trevor Shaw (Port Coquitlam)
 Nathan Faccin (Ridge Meadows)
 Eric Kalmbach (Surrey)
 Andy Michalski (Victoria)

U15 Men Tier 2

Brendan Murray (Adanacs 2)
 Kegan Cochrane (Kelowna)
 Ben Nott (Mid Island)
 Cameron Gregory (Nanaimo)
 Willem Barnard (New Westminster)
 Corey Gibbons (North Shore)
 Jared Kyle (Ridge Meadows 3)
 Quinn Lamont (Surrey)

U13 Men Tier 2

Yoshi Matthews (Kamloops)
 Kyle Jamieson (New Westminster 2)
 Spencer Allan (Oceanside)
 Quin Benwell (Pacific Rim)
 Jordan Rekunyk (Port Coquitlam)
 Jacob Bader (Ridge Meadows 2)
 Doran Bodo (Surrey 2)
 Oskar Lucas (Vancouver)

Fair Play Coaches

U18 Tier 2 Coach
 Harpreet Grewal (Mission)

U15 Men Tier 2 Coach
 Jamie MacGregor (Kelowna)

U13 Men Tier 2 Coach
 Sean McInnes (Vancouver)

U15 Women's Field

Jacyln Ward (Adanacs 1)
 Taryn Charney (Adanacs 2)
 Hope Curman (Burnaby)
 Cayley Geddes (Langley)
 Jenay Rennie (New Westminster)
 Paige Tracey (Mission)
 Jannah Llego (Port Coquitlam)
 Aubrey Alexander (Pacific Rim)
 Taylor Cannell (Ridge Meadows)
 Layla Gould (Surrey 1)
 Claire Snyder (Surrey 2)

U12 Women's Field

Jade McKinnon (Adanacs)
 Francesca Cerantola (Burnaby)
 Charlie Dayman (Langley)
 Bria Grounds (Mid Island)
 Ashlyn Dhandwar (New West 1)
 CJ Cook (New Westminster 2)
 Alyssa Clark (Port Coquitlam)
 Sidney Cannell (Ridge Meadows)
 Alexandra Vacek (Surrey 1)
 Isabell Guidel (Surrey 2)

Fair Play Coaches

U12 Tier 1 Women's Coach
 Tyler MacLeod (New Westminster 1)

U12 Tier 2 Women's Coach
 Naomi Walser (Mid Island)

U15 Tier 1 Women's Coach
 Catie Greenlay (Burnaby)

U15 Tier 2 Women's Coach
 Linda Jenner (Pacific Rim)

U11 Men Blue

James Pratt (Adanacs 1)
 Logan Kierstad (Langley 1)
 Wren Ellanville (New Westminster 1)
 Derek Rice (Port Coquitlam)
 Quinn Mulcahy (Ridge Meadows 1)

U11 Men Red

Jesse Renaud (Chilliwack)
 Aiden Jones (Delta 1)
 Cole Lai (Langley 2)
 Fergus Chezzi (Mission)
 Kaden Ng (Richmond)
 Parker M'Lot (Ridge Meadows 2)
 Riley Alexander (Ridge Meadows 3)
 Alex Wates (Surrey)

U11 Men White

Jackson Myers (Adanacs 2)
 Oliver Ward (Burnaby)
 Reid Janssen (Delta)
 Everett Dean (New Westminster 2)
 Ryan Sheldrake (Valley)

Fair Play Coaches

U11 Blue Coach
 John Olson (Ridge Meadows 1)

U11 Red Coach
 Sherwin Quilay (Richmond)

U11 White Coach
 Mike Chernoff (Adanacs 2)

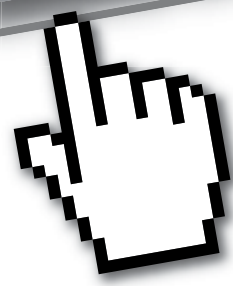
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BC's Lasota, Leclaire & Rees amongst 2018 Teewaraton Award Watch Lists

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The Teewaraton Foundation has announced the 2018 Teewaraton Award men's and women's watch lists. The lists include the top players across all three divisions of NCAA lacrosse and highlight the early contenders for the 2018 Teewaraton Award.

"Six of ten finalists return and this year, as always, will be a wide open and competitive race for the 2018 Teewaraton Award," said Jeff Harvey, chairman of The Teewaraton Foundation. "The 100 players are deserving of being on our first Teewaraton Watch Lists of the season. Our selection committees have as broad a field to choose from as we've ever had."

The Teewaraton Award annually honors the top male and female college lacrosse player in the United States. The selection committees are made

up of premier collegiate coaches and are appointed annually by The Teewaraton Foundation.

The 50 men's and 50 women's watch list candidates were announced in March 2018. On the lists include Team BC alumni and BCLA products Selena Lasota, Tre Leclaire, and Ryland Rees.

Women's Field Lacrosse star, Junior attacker, Selena Lasota of the Northwestern Wildcats, leads her Wildcat team with 53 points (41G & 12A) on 89 shots in 15 games. Selena was a standout Box Lacrosse player who grew to compete at a high level with the Team BC Women's Field program.

Tre Leclaire is a Sophomore attackman with the Ohio State Buckeyes this year. He too leads his Buckeye team with 23 goals and 10 assists on 80 shots in 12 games. Tre has competed at a high level in Field and Box and was a member of the 2016 Team Canada U19 Men's Field team that

won silver in Coquitlam. He is currently on the short list roster for the 2018 Senior Men's Field team that will compete in Israel this summer.

Junior defender, Ryland Rees, leads the Stony Brook Seawolves defensive unit with 5 points : (4G & 1A) on 14 shots in 12 games and leads the Seawolves in ground balls with 29. Ryland is a Port Coquitlam product who was also a member of the 2016 Team Canada U19 Men's Field team and is currently on the short list roster for the 2018 Senior Men's Field team.

About The Teewaraton Foundation

Founded at the University Club of Washington, DC and first presented in 2001, the Teewaraton Award is recognized as the preeminent lacrosse award, annually honoring the top male and female college lacrosse player in the United States. Endorsed by the Mohawk Nation Council of Elders and U.S. Lacrosse, the



Tre Leclaire seen here in action with Team Canada U19 Men's team in 2016. Leclaire, Lasota & Rees are on the Teewaraton Short Lists.

Teewaraton Award symbolizes lacrosse's centuries-old roots in Native American heritage. The Teewaraton Foundation ensures the integrity and advances the mission of this award. Each year, the Teewaraton Award celebrates one of the six tribal nations of the Iroquois Confederacy – the Mohawk, Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca and Tuscarora – and presents two scholarships to students of Native American descent. To learn more about The Teewaraton Foundation, please visit www.teewaraton.com.

Masters Ice Breaker Tournament

By: Steve Varley, North Shore Cowboys Masters Lacrosse

The much anticipated 12th Annual Ice Breaker Masters Lacrosse Tourney took place over the March 30-31, 2018 weekend at Harry Jerome Arena in North Vancouver.

This year's eight team tourney has four teams in the Masters (35+) division including the Shapeshifter, Port Coquitlam, Burnaby Firefighters and Okeefe's; and four teams in the Grandmasters (45+) division including the Cowboys, Coasters, Justice and Stickmen.

The opening face-off was whistled on March 30th, followed by 140 well-seasoned lax veterans playing a hectic mini-game, round-robin schedule. Traditions are meant to be kept, thus the return of the infamous Dangerous-Shot-Orange-Traffic-Vest, adorned by penalized players returning to the floor, and the highly coveted dual Toilet-Seat-Award, presented postgame to the most memorable opposing team player!

On Day 1, teams played a hectic schedule of three-32 minute round-robin mini-games to determine medal game placement. In 35+ division morning action, Burnaby Fire ran the table to take top seed, followed by the Commissioner. Glen Bzowy led New Westminster O'Keefe's, Tewanee Joseph's Squamish Shape Shifters and Captain Paul Horn's Valley Express. In afternoon action in the 45+ division, perennial champs Coasters, led by ageless Ben Chow, went undefeated after playing host North Shore Cowboys, Steve "Langley" Booth's South Fraser Stickmen and Steve Kingra's Justice.

Day 2 commenced with the 45+ division bronze game where, with two goals each from Darren Liptrot and Ross Frehlick, SF Stickmen unbalanced Justice 11-6 in an energetic match. In the gold medal 45+ division final, the Cowboys led 3-1 after twenty, but could not hold the reigns as the Coasters galloped to a fifth consecutive Ice Breaker cooler powered by Russ Heard's 3 goals and 1 assist in a 7-4 win. Randy "Slim" Mellish and Lyle L. Leibing each added two for Coasters with Ian Paterson notching two for Cowboys. In



Coaster win the 45+ Grandmasters Division at the 2018 Ice Breaker

the featured 35+ gold medal game, O'Keefe's held an early lead but were overcome by Burnaby Fire 8-4 paced by Jim Dorman's 5 strikes.

The two fun-filled days featured some remarkable lacrosse, including dubious tales of past glory told (and retold) plus the occasional well-earned soda pop enjoyed. Congratulations to all participants, and many thanks to team leaders and volunteers. A special thank you to the most excellent Referee in Chief, Curtis Gulliford, and his stellar crew. Without the refs, there would be no game.

The Most Sportsmanlike and Valuable Players were: Mike Serr (Justice) and Matt Black (Justice); Jim Nishiyama (Stickmen) and Darren



Burnaby Firefighters win 35+ Masters division at the 2018 Ice Breaker

Liptrot (Stickmen); Trevor Salmon (Cowboys) and Mason Gratto (Cowboys); Ryan Keller (Coasters) and Lyle Leibing (Coasters); Cam Janzen (O'Keefe's) and Steve Porter (O'Keefe's); Chad Miller (Burnaby Fire) and Jim Dorman (Burnaby Fire).

Next up, the 31st annual BC Masters Championship this year hosted June 30 - July 2, 2018 by the New Westminster O'Keefe's and the home of the Salmonbellies. New West is one of the most traditional lacrosse communities in BC and will host games at Moody Park Arena and on the wooden floor at Queen's Park Arena. For additional information contact Glen Bzowy at glenb1@shaw.ca. Masters Lacrosse for life!

SFU Season Looking Hopeful

By: Clayton Fenney

With the 2018 MCLA schedule in full swing, and conference playoffs coming quickly, SFU has pushed itself into a strong position with wins over PNCLL and other opponents. The Clan, who as of April 4th are ranked #21 in Division 1, sits first in the conference with a 6-2 record, 3-0 in PNCLL conference play.

The season started with a doubleheader in California, where the Clan showcased their offensive prowess winning both games over Santa Clara and Sonoma State. The early 2-0 record gave the young Clan team confidence throughout the week leading up to their first home game against Idaho on February 24th. As the freshmen learned the ropes to play in the MCLA, and understood the differences in college lacrosse compared to the club and high school level, SFU took down the PNCLL opponent 15-9 on Terry Fox Field.

The Clan hit the road in March with all five games in opponents' stadiums, or neutral a site. The team travelled to San Diego, CA, to take on the reigning MCLA Division 2 Nation Champion, who moved up to Division 1 for the 2018 season. Concordia-Irvine was a well-fought game, but the #16 Eagles gave the Clan their first loss of the season, beating them 18-13. The next day, SFU got back into the win column, beating San Diego State in a thriller that came down to

the last save and check by the Clan, as the defense cemented a 9-8 victory.

The team travelled down to Corvallis after a bye week, to take on the Oregon State Beavers in a rematch of last year's PNCLL Semi-Final, where SFU defeated OSU 6-5. The game was a see-saw battle as the ball changed possession throughout from team to team as the two PNCLL opponents were neck and neck through scores and saves. SFU's offense busted through the OSU defense and ride, to take control en route to a 14-10 win.

SFU most recently travelled to Boise, ID, where the Clan were in for an experience to remember as their games were played on the famous blue turf of the Boise State Broncos.

Up first, the Clan faced the #7 BYU Cougars, who always proved to be a formidable force in the MCLA. Like usual, the SFU-BYU match-up was one to behold, as both teams exchanged goals, checks, and face-offs in one of their closest contests in recent games. The Cougars pushed hard in the fourth quarter before scoring on an empty net during a 10 man press, to hand SFU their second loss of the season with a 10-7 decision.

The Clan had little time to rest, as the next day they faced Boise State in a PNCLL match that kept fans sitting on the edge of their seat. Snowfall delayed the game start by an hour. The teams entered the contest cold, but raring to go, as playoff



SFU Lacrosse attackman Jordan Roberts in PNCLL action.

implications were on the line for both squads. In another back-and-forth game, the Clan mustered up the offensive strength in the 2nd and 3rd quarter to push a lead, while the defense held true in the 2nd half and solidified another SFU win.

With the 10-9 road win, the Clan have clinched a playoff berth as they look for their 10th PNCLL title, and a berth in to the 2018 MCLA National Championship in Salt Lake City, UT.

Offensively, SFU is led by attackmen Tyler Kirkby (34G, 15A) and Greg Lunde (29G, 18A) as they sit 4th and 6th in MCLA points per game respectively, while Kael Naylor (19G, 5A) leads the SFU midfielders in team scoring. Defensively, the Clan has received contributions from everyone in their backfield, with goaltender Tej Grewal manning the pipes (96 saves) and LSM Mason

Hicks with a team high 37 groundballs. While the statistical side shines bright for the Clan, the intangibles during hard fought games, and the look to the future with a younger group, shows the promise in SFU for this season and the future.

Head Coach Brent Hoskins on SFU so far:

"I think the team has battled well all season and it shows in our record. The two losses came in hard fought games against two great opponents, both that we very well could have been on the better side of the scoreboard. While we have showed a lot of promise in the seven months together, there's always room for improvement in a variety of areas, but we are confident in ourselves heading into playoffs. I think the veterans we have leading the way are doing a great job both on and off the field for the underclassmen, and it shows promise in the team moving forward even past this year."

At press time, the Clan finished off their season with two PNCLL opponents in the Oregon Ducks at home on April 13th and their final regular season game in Seattle with the Washington Huskies on April 21st. Lake Oswego High School will be the host field of this year's PNCLL Final 4, as the top teams in the conference clash in Oregon one last time to battle for a trip to the National Championships.

Follow along with the Simon Fraser University Clansmen this lacrosse season online at www.sfulacrosse.com and on social media (Facebook – Simon Fraser Lacrosse, Twitter - @fraserlacrosse, and Instagram - @fraserlacrosse).

New Balance and BCLA Team Up



By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The BC Lacrosse Association has taken a big step in solidifying a new partnership with sport giant New Balance Canada.

The BCLA has had sponsorship relationships with Brine Canada, later, Warrior Sports, as major sponsors of the BCLA for almost 30 years. The relationship began in the 1990's when Brine Canada was headed by Hall of Famer and Oshawa Green Gael icon, Jim Bishop. Warrior continued the relationship in 2006 and has supported lacrosse in BC ever since.

New Balance Canada is the parent company of Warrior Sports. It was a perfect fit to have Warrior and New Balance be a part of the BCLA and the Team BC high performance program. After three years in the making, the connection has been realized.

Stewart Weepers, NB Sales Representative, connected with the BCLA through retailer Mountain Edge Lacrosse of Port Coquitlam. Mike Critchley felt New Balance could be of assistance to the BCLA with a team apparel for the Team BC program.

Weepers replied with a resounding, YES!

New Balance is in the early stage of their "Field of Play" program geared towards young athletes and sports teams. With different target demographics, the Field of Play program hits the high school aged athletes of which lacrosse fits well. New Balance is looking to expand in the

younger team sport category, which has great potential to grow the most.

"This type of program, with the BCLA and Team BC, is a new concept that we are exploring and we're at its infancy in Canada," stated New Balance Marketing Manager, Mark Wasserman.

BCLA's Team BC program includes five Box teams and seven Field Lacrosse teams in 2018. Each participant utilizes Warrior equipment and will now be outfitted with New Balance apparel (hoodies, technical t-shirts, polos, compression shirts and shorts).

"We have been fortunate to have suppliers that we could work closely with in order to fill our gear and apparel requests - New Balance will be there every step in the process," stated BCLA Marketing Director, Jeff Gombar. "This has been 3 years in the making getting on board with New Balance - it will surely stabilize our inventories with a quality product that our athletes can compete to their highest abilities and be impressed with."

So what does this partnership mean to the good people at New Balance?

"We see the biggest opportunity for growth in the brand in the Game Changer lacrosse athlete," said NB Representative Stewart Weepers. "We are actively pursuing that consumer and excited to be partner with BCLA -- it means a lot!"

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Female
July 12-15 - Surrey

Pee Wee
July 12-15 - Coquitlam

Midget
July 26-29 - Burnaby

BC Summer Games
July 19-22 - Cowichan

CLA Youth Nationals

Female Box
July 21-25 - Halifax, NS

Pee Wee
Aug. 5-11 - Whitby, ON

Bantam
Aug. 9-14 - Saskatoon

Midget
Aug. 12-18 - Calgary

Minto Cup
Aug. 16-26 - Calgary

Mann Cup
Sept. 8-16 - Ontario



Way To Go!

Mary Clare (CWFL & BCLA Field Directorate)

Mary Clare started her lacrosse volunteerism as a jersey manager with the Delta Islanders when her sons began lacrosse in the mid-1990's. Mary has been a mainstay in the Delta lacrosse community and continues to give back today.

Clare was with the Intermediate Islanders as a governor & team manager. She has volunteered with both Box and Field teams and leagues. Mary managed the Selects, Stars & U19 Field teams prior to the Team BC program of today.

Clare has served as the Zone 5 rep for 7 years while being a commissioner for all age groups in Box & Field leagues. She volunteers her time with the Box & Field Provincials every year. Mary has assisted with youth Nationals and the World Championships when hosted in BC. She currently serves as the Vice Chair Men's Field & been Commissioner of the CWFL since 2013.

Mary's volunteerism has not gone unnoticed as she was the recipient of Delta's Presidents' award twice, awarded the BCLA Presidents' award in 2015 and received BCLA's Art Daoust Merit Award as the Field Lacrosse Executive of the Year in 2013 & 2016.

Congratulations Mary!

B.C. Lacrosse Association Subway® Restaurants Volunteer Award



Mary Clare

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Lacrosse the Country

CUFLA Alumni Story

By: Stephen Stamp

The Canadian University Field Lacrosse Association has now seen 33 years of high-quality competition with some of the best lacrosse players in the world taking part.

Many would say, in fact, that the best lacrosse player of all time is a CUFLA alumnus. John Tavares went on to become the all-time leading scorer in Canadian Lacrosse Association Sr A history as well as the top National Lacrosse League scorer ever. Before all that, though, Tavares was a Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawk. Tavares, now the offensive coach with the Buffalo Bandits of the NLL and the Six Nations Chiefs of MSL, is the king of box lacrosse. There isn't much he hasn't done in a lacrosse rink.

Tavares is also in the NLL Hall of Fame, where he is sure to be joined shortly by another pair of CUFLA alumni: Colin Doyle and Shawn Williams. Doyle was also a student-athlete at Laurier before going on to win championships with the Toronto Rock, the Brampton Excelsiors, the Six Nations Chiefs and Team Canada.

Williams is a legend at Brock University, where he is the sole lacrosse player in the Badgers' Athletics Hall of Fame. Williams scored over 300 points in his Badgers career. He is also among the leading scorers in CLA and NLL history and has represented Canada at world championships in both the box and field games.

A look through the CUFLA alumni list shows a veritable Who's Who of players who starred in the National Lacrosse League. Ryan Cousins (Brock) is a two-time NLL defender of the year, an award also won once by fellow Badger Sandy Chapman. Yet another Brock defender, Steve Priolo, has never won the DOTY but has been a finalist four times.

Other schools have produced outstanding NLL defenders, too. Scott Self (Guelph) played for nine NLL teams and earned an All-Pro nod.



He also won five Mann Cups with the Peterborough Lakers and a world championship gold medal with Canada. Stephen Hoar graduated from Toronto and went on to a solid career with the Rock, among other teams. Paul Dawson (Windsor) is still playing with the Rochester Knighthawks after helping the team win a pair of Champion's Cups.

Jay Thorimbert played for Guelph and is now the NLL single-season record holder for most faceoffs won and sits second in career faceoff wins to Geoff Snider (Hoar is fifth on the list).

Aaron Wilson went to Waterloo then went on to a storied career in both the NLL and CLA. Curtis Knight has won championships at all levels of lacrosse. He won Baggataway Cups with the Guelph Gryphons, Minto Cups with the Whitby Warriors (including being named MVP of the 2011 tournament) and Champions Cups with the Saskatchewan Rush.

The number of CUFLA players and alumni in the NLL is rising rapidly as more and more players stay in Canada for their education while climbing to the highest ranks of the sport.

Six CUFLA players were selected at the 2015 NLL draft: Mitch de Snoo (Toronto), Thomas Hoggarth (Trent), Riley Campbell (Trent), Brooker Muir (Guelph), Ryan Wagner (Queen's) and Jordi Jones-Smith (Western).

Another five were taken the following year: Justin Martin (Guelph), Kevin Orleman (Guelph), Dan Michel (Trent), Jackson Hulbert (Western) and Spencer Bromley (McGill).

The 2017 NLL draft was the biggest yet for CUFLA members. Ten players plus a pair of CUFLA coaches were taken by NLL teams. The coaches, Queen's assistant Zach Currier and Ottawa offensive coordinator JP Kealey, were both first rounders.



Jesse Gamble of the 2014 Team Canada squad played college lacrosse with the Western Mustangs.

New high-water marks were set for CUFLA with three Trent players being selected and four players being taken in the second round. The Excalibur selections were middle/attack Adam Perroni 14th to the Rochester Knighthawks, middle Nick Finlay 16th to the Saskatchewan Rush and close defender Ethan Schott 20th to the Buffalo Bandits. Nipissing's Nick Chaykowsky, who has actually transferred to Trent for 2018, was taken 17th by the New England Black Wolves.

Other CUFLA players taken last fall were Liam Patten (Guelph), Riley Hutchcraft (Laurier), Chris Boushy (Queen's), Mackenzie Mitchell (Brock), Nik Farrus (Western) and Rowan Kelly (Western).

CUFLA alumni are making their mark beyond Canada's borders, as well, representing their countries at world and European championships.

Jesse Gamble went to graduate school and played for the Western Mustangs. He has also been a solid transition player for the Toronto Rock and was part of the Canadian team that stunned the US to win the World Field La-

crosse Championships in Denver in 2014 as a speedy midfielder. Goalie Angus Dineley has also played for Canada, winning silver medal in 2010.

A pair of CUFLA alums helped England to a fifth-place finish at the European Box Lacrosse Championships in Turku, Finland in 2017. It was the first time the event was held, so forward Josh Gilray (Trent) and defender Danny McDermott (McGill) were trail blazers.

Doug Utting took his trail blazing even further. The Nipissing Laker played a key role to help Israel win the gold medal at the Euros.

Western grad Jesse Cracknell was at the tournament, too. He is the head coach of Team Germany, leading the squad at both the 2017 Euros and the 2015 World Indoor Lacrosse Championships on the Onondaga Nation.

There are undoubtedly players missing from this account; there are so many CUFLA players and graduates having impacts throughout the lacrosse world. And as the league continues to get better and better, the number of those players is only going to increase.

'Honour Our Game' Campaign Launched by Indigenous Development Committee

By: CLA

OTTAWA, ON - The Canadian Lacrosse Association's Indigenous Development Committee (IDC) is proud to launch the Honour Our Game campaign, which will see the helmets of athletes and officials from across the country adorned with an Honour Our Game sticker beginning with the 2018 season.

The promotional campaign, which was made possible thanks to the generous financial support of the Canadian Lacrosse Foundation, will look to help positively promote the sport of lacrosse's values and acknowledge its Indigenous roots and history.

"As the Chair of the Indigenous Development Committee, I wanted to help create a positive promotional campaign for the sport of lacrosse nationwide," said Rusty Doxtator. "It was through a committee brainstorming session

that we came up with the Honour Our Game slogan, and the logo, which encompasses four important elements, was developed from there."

The Honour Our Game image has four crucial components:

The first component is the slogan "Honour Our Game", which promotes respect, reverence, and veneration to the game of lacrosse.

The second component is the Canadian Lacrosse Association logo, which honours modern-day lacrosse and the CLA's continued governance across Canada.

The third component are the eagle feathers, which acknowledges lacrosse's Indigenous roots. Moreover, the feathers signify strength, power, and respect, all of which are crucial elements to the game of lacrosse.

The fourth component is the double-ringed circle, which elicits the principles of community, fraternity, and equality, as well as the conglomeration of past, present, and future by encapsulating lacrosse's Indigenous roots, along with the CLA and the IDC's vision of the future of our sport.

Member Associations will distribute these stickers to their clubs and teams in the coming weeks. A letter detailing the campaign and the elements of the logo will be included in each package so that coaches can explain the meaning of the sticker, and the importance of recognizing the Indigenous roots of the game, to their players.

"My involvement with the Indigenous Development Committee has helped me understand that while lacrosse was part of my DNA growing up in Six Nations, there are

Indigenous communities throughout our great country where the sport is not revered in the same manner, added Doxtator. "Our hope is that by getting participants of all ages involved with this campaign - from the peanut division kids to the Senior A guys - we can help shed a light on the important role that Indigenous people have played in our sport."

For more information on the Honour Our Game campaign, visit www.lacrosse.ca. We also invite everyone to share photos of their stickers, or of other ways they honour the game of lacrosse, by tagging @LacrosseCanada on Twitter and using the hashtag #HonourOurGame.

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Canada Trims Player Pool Ahead of 2018 World Championship



By: CLA

OTTAWA, ON - Canada's coaching staff have trimmed the senior men's national team player pool by a dozen, leaving 34 players on the training roster and in contention for the squad that will compete at this summer's 2018 FIL Men's Lacrosse World Championships in Netanya, Israel.

"It has been a difficult task to get to this point, but we feel confident that our national team training roster checks all the boxes required for us to achieve our collective goal - win a gold medal at the 2018 FIL World Championships," said head coach Randy Mearns.

The coaching staff - comprised of Mearns, Matt Brown, Taylor Wray, Merrick Thomson, Mark Miyashita and Jason Levesque - evaluated forty six players during a selection camp and a series of split squad exhibition games against NCAA opponents held in Buffalo, New York this past October. Players that were not able to attend the camp, due to injuries or other commitments, were also considered for a roster spot.

"This process has been a challenging, yet exciting journey of analysis, evaluation, discussions and debates for our staff," added Mearns.

A number of national team veterans remain in contention for the team, including 13 players from Canada's 2014 world championship squad that defeated the U.S. to capture gold.

Leading the way are long-time national team members Brodie Merrill, Matt Vinc and Geoff Snider, who have represented Canadian field lacrosse on the international stage in 2006, 2010 and 2014. They are joined by 2014 teammates Kevin Crowley, Curtis Dickson, Mark Matthews, Zach Greer, Jesse King, Wes Berg, Jordan MacIntosh; goaltenders Dillon Ward and Brennan Donville; and siblings Jason and Jeremy Noble.

A group of talented younger players, including seven active NCAA athletes and six who graduated from college in 2017, are also competing for a spot on the team.

Tre Leclair, Ryland Rees, and Jeff Teat, who were all members of Canada's 2016 U19 silver medal squad, are joined by notable names such as Connor Fields, Joel Tinney, Matt Gilray, and Ian MacKay. The trio of Josh Byrne, Jack Withers and Zach Currier, recent NCAA standouts and last year's top three NLL draft picks, are also in the running.

"We are eager to take the next step in our process with this talented, motivated and athletic group of team-first athletes," added Mearns.

Moving forward, collegiate and professional performances, as well as injuries, will all be taken into account before the final 23-man roster is announced prior to the world championship in July.

Below is the list of the players still in contention, in alphabetical order of last name:

- Tyson Bell St. Catharines, ON
- Wesley Berg Coquitlam, BC
- Joshua Byrne New Westminster, BC
- Mark Cockerton Oshawa, ON
- Kevin Crowley New Westminster, BC
- Zach Currier Peterborough, ON

- Curtis Dickson Port Coquitlam, BC
- Brennan Donville Oakville, ON
- Connor Fields Buffalo, NY
- Matt Gilray Oshawa, ON
- Zack Greer Whitby, ON
- Latrell Harris St. Catharines, ON
- Graeme Hossack Port Perry, ON
- Matthew Hossack Port Perry, ON
- Jesse King Victoria, BC
- Tre Leclair Surrey, BC
- Jordan MacIntosh Oakville, ON
- Ian MacKay Port Elgin, ON
- Mark Matthews Oshawa, ON
- Ben McIntosh Coquitlam, BC
- Brodie Merrill Orangeville, ON
- Jason Noble Orangeville, ON
- Jeremy Noble Orangeville, ON
- Ryland Rees Port Coquitlam, BC
- Kevin Rice Skaneateles, NY
- Dhane Smith Kitchener, ON
- Geoff Snider Calgary, AB
- Jeffrey Teat Brampton, ON
- Joel Tinney Cambridge, ON
- Alec Tulett Toronto, ON
- Matt Vinc St. Catharines, ON
- Dillon Ward Orangeville, ON
- Jason Weber Whitby, ON
- Jake Withers Peterborough, ON

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CLA Welcomes James Buhlman as Program Coordinator

By: CLA

OTTAWA, ON - The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) is pleased to announce that James Buhlman has been hired as Program Coordinator.

A passionate coach and educator, James' journey in amateur sport has taken him across Canada and around the world.

His most recent role was overseas with Raysports, a leading sports consultancy and education company based in China, where he served as the Director of Basketball Operations. In that role, he facilitated coaching clinics and education session for physical education teachers, while also helping develop the sport curriculum.

Prior to that, James was the Technical Director of Athletics PEI, based out of the Canadian Sport Centre Atlantic in Charlottetown, where he oversaw the day-to-day operations of the organization, while also helping develop the varsity track and field programs at the University of Prince Edward Island and Holland College.

An NCCP certified coach and learning facilitator in track and field, he has held a variety of coaching jobs at all levels of the sport. He was head coach of the cross country running teams at both Seneca College and Sheridan College, a provincial team coach for both BC Athletics and Athletics PEI, as well as the program director and head coach of the Vancouver Thunderbirds Track and Field Club.



In addition to track and field, James also served as the head basketball coach at Redeemer University College. He has also held several teaching jobs in physical education at private schools in Ontario and British Columbia.

A native of Hamilton, Ontario, James attended Trinity Western University in Langley, British Columbia, where he was a member of both the varsity volleyball and basketball teams, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, with a major in Physical Education.

In his new role, he will be tasked with administering and delivering programs, events and projects that foster increased national development in the sport of lacrosse. These programs and projects include, but are not limited to, the areas of athlete development, coach development, and officials development.

Please join us in welcoming James to the CLA office and to our greater lacrosse community. He can be reached by email (james@lacrosse.ca) or phone (613-260-2028 x301).

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Coaches Corner

Bench Management

By: Duane Bratt, CLA National Resource Person

Coaches play an important role in both practices and games. In practices, you are preparing your players for competition by teaching and developing technical, tactical, physical, and mental skills. Drills are specifically chosen to improve each of these skills. While the environment is very different in games, coaches can still help players develop their technical, tactical, and mental skills. Physical skills – outside of warmup and cooldown – are much tougher to work on during a game.

But given the time constraints of a game and, more importantly, the heightened pressure, it is important that a coaching staff work cohesively (a team within a team) during a game. An essential feature to developing coaching staff cohesion is to have clear roles and responsibilities during a game. In the following example, we are going to assume a three person coaching staff for a minor box lacrosse team: a head coach, an offensive coach, and a defensive coach. In addition, none of the three are opening a gate, that responsibility has been delegated to the backup goalie and the trainer. Obviously, the roles change if here are only two coaches, or if they also have gate opening responsibilities.

The offensive coach's responsibilities include: implementing the team's set offence, drawing up special plays, adjusting strategy to beat the opposition defence and goalie, responsibility for the power play, and ensuring that the players know what to do when they go out the front gate. Since the players are just about to go on the floor, the role of the offensive coach is more of a preview. This means that you are advising them on what they need to do when they hit the floor.

The defensive coach's responsibilities include implementing the team's basic defence, set the breakout system, adjusting strategy to defend against the opposition offence, responsibility for the man short and draw unit, and providing feedback for when they come off the floor. Since the players have just come off the floor, the role of the defensive coach is more of a review. This means

that are you advising them on what just happened on the floor and what needs to be maintained, or changed, for the next shift.

The head coach establishes the team's basic tactical structures in practice and the assistant coaches implement these during the game. These include offense, defence, transition, line changes, speciality situations, etc. During the game, the head coach makes the big decisions: major strategic changes, lineup adjustments, maintaining team discipline, changing goalies, calling timeouts, communicating with officials, motivating players, note taking for between periods feedback, etc.

Because of the short time (often two or three minutes) between periods of minor lacrosse games, only one person should speak. Similarly, during a time out you cannot have multiple voices. In both cases, that sole voice should be the head coach. The head coach designs the play and chooses the personnel during a timeout. Also the head coach provides the team with focus points between periods.

Much of bench management is about making tactical decisions. But coaches can improve players' technical skills by detecting and correcting errors on the fly. For example, the offensive coach can work with a player on their ability to engage the defender on the off-ball side or their hand positioning on outside shots. Meanwhile, the defensive coach needs to remind the defensive players that they need to vocally communicate by calling out picks or to focus on containing ball carriers with cross checks as opposed to stick swinging to dislodge the ball.

Mental skills can also be developed during a game. For example, the defensive coach needs to reinforce positive self-talk of their players. They need to recognize body language to determine if players are discouraged and need to be encouraged. When major mistakes are made, such as ball watching that allows an off-ball player to cut and score, coaches need to focus on positively correcting the error to ensure it does not happen again as opposed to berating the player. Similarly, the offensive coach needs to reinforce visualization or relaxation skills. For example, when shooters are getting frustrated and gripping their sticks too tightly, the coach can have them do a quick deep breathing exercise on the bench to soften their hands before they hit the floor.

The above breakdown of a three person coaching staff is just one example of the roles and

Is Referee Abuse Declining?

By: Andy Watson

Since the inception of the Joint Officials-Coaches Abuse Panel (JOCAP) in 2015 aimed to end abuse of referees in lacrosse, we've heard a lot of talk how to stop the yelling aimed towards refs.

While there certainly is more discussion and awareness of this issue, the short answer is that more can be and needs to be done. We are still losing too many officials because of abuse from the benches, the floor and the stands.

Here's a quick look at what abuse looks like from three perspectives I can offer perspectives as a referee, coach and spectator - and some prescriptions to help make improvements.

THE REFEREE

Every year, referees in BC must take a recertification clinic to continue to officiate in both field and box lacrosse. We are reminded that we are to provide a pre-game warning for abuse, unsportsmanlike behaviour (including running commentary or repeatedly questioning calls).

During the game, referees will assess a two minute bench minor for unsportsmanlike conduct and escalate up to a game misconduct for head coaches (door personnel are assessed the immediate game misconduct on any abusive behaviour along with the two-minute minor on the first offence).

Arguably, some referees have taken this as a queue not to engage at all with coaches. So in clinics this year, we emphasized the need for improved two-way communication between officials and coaches; however, this must be respectful dialogue.

A referee can also request the home team's head coach removes abusive fans from the game.

Bottom line, we still see too much abuse happens and young referees are still citing abusive behaviour from parents and coaches as contributing factors to leaving the job.

THE COACH


There's a simple rule of thumb, don't yell at officials.

While coaches are not required at this point in time to recertify every season, when they do get recertified, JOCAP is a key point of emphasis.


All door personnel are now required to be trained or certified coaches – additional education is one tool to curb abuse. Door personnel should focus on opening and closing the door and providing encouragement to players and if a question needs to be asked to an official, it's the role of the head coach via their captains (at pee wee and below, a head coach may respectfully request an interpretation from an official or ask clarifying questions).

Ultimately, the head coach is responsible for the bench and should never argue with officials - if you need something clarified do so in a respectful manner - after all, respect is a two-way street. As a coach, when I was disrespectful, naturally the official was disrespectful back. But, I find that when you ask a question for interpretation with respect, you get an answer and can communicate effectively.

Still, too many coaches think it's their right to influence calls with comments (i.e. running commentary or questioning interpretations). That can be penalized as unsportsmanlike behaviour.



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Subway® Restaurants
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National Rankings
(2018 Pre-Season Ranking)

Senior A Lacrosse Top 7

- 1 Peterborough Lakers
- 2 New West Salmonbellies
- 3 Six Nations Chiefs
- 4 Burnaby Lakers
- 5 Victoria Shamrocks
- 6 Brooklin Redmen
- 7 Maple Ridge Burrards

Junior A Lacrosse Top 10

- 1 Six Nations Arrows
- 2 Coquitlam Adanacs
- 3 New West Salmonbellies
- 4 Mimico Mountaineers
- 5 Brampton Excelsiors
- 6 Whitby Warriors
- 7 Victoria Shamrocks
- 8 Okotoks Raiders
- 9 Orangeville Northmen
- 10 Port Coquitlam Saints

responsibilities of a staff. There are a million different other possibilities, but it is critical that everybody knows their role. Confusion will reign if there are disputes about roles or if coaches are coaching outside their lanes, i.e., a defensive coach working with a player on their shooting or the offensive coach adjusting the man short. The result is that the players' development and performance will suffer.



Field Lacrosse Referees Converse during a High School Lacrosse Timeout.

THE SPECTATOR

We all know 'that parent' or 'that fan' we choose not to sit with because they have a high level of over-excitement - but often we don't do anything about it. We'll see a grown adult yelling abusively at a teenaged ref without consequence. This must stop.

Together, we can be more than spectators. We can empower each other to approach these abusive individuals and be more than bystanders to tell them it's inappropriate and ask that they stop.

Arguably, this is where the game can change the most. Challenge them and ask them how they'd feel if that was their kid being yelled at - better yet, encourage them to be a part of the solution.

Together, we can end referee abuse and collectively take steps to help prevent abuse of officials in our great sport. Let's commit to making a difference.



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