

STICKS & STONES

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August 2008

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON IS NOW UPON US

The month of August means our National Championship season has now begun. At the time of writing this article, the Pee Wee and Bantam Nationals were taking place during the Ontario Lacrosse Festival in Whitby, ON. Eight teams will compete in both age categories. Visit www.ontariolacrossefestival.com/index2.php for more details.

Following the Pee Wee and Bantam event, the end of August will see six Championships take place over the span of 2 weeks. The Founders' Cup (August 20th – 24th) will see thirteen teams compete in Guelph, Ontario for Junior B supremacy while seven Senior B teams will travel to Sherwood Park, Alberta to compete for the Presidents' Cup (August 18th – 24th). Please visit the official websites at www.founders.regalslacrosse.com and www.sherwoodparkoutlaws.com respectively. The Minto Cup, the Canadian Junior A lacrosse championship will begin in Calgary, AB on August 22nd with the champion being crowned on Saturday August 30th. The Calgary Mountaineers will host the BC, Alberta and Ontario Provincial Championships. All games will

be carried live via PointStreak which you will be able to track through the website at www.mintocup.ca. Individual game tickets are now available through the website

Also running in Calgary, in conjunction with the Minto Cup, are the Midget Nationals. Seven provincial teams from across the country will compete for the Tackaberry Trophy and the title of Midget National Champions.

Up the road in Edmonton, AB the First Nations Trophy and

Alumni Cup will take place over the Labour Day weekend August 29th – 31st. The U19 and U16 events will showcase Men's Field lacrosse with multiple teams from various provincial members competing at both age groups. Visit www.edmontonrazorbacks.com/nationals/index.html for details on the event.

The end of the Box lacrosse season is capped with the playing of the Mann Cup.

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U19 TEAM WINS SILVER AT 2008 WORLD FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team Canada lost 19-12 to Team USA at the 2008 ILF U-19 Men's Lacrosse World Championships at Coquitlam's Percy Perry Stadium.

The game was not as close as it was during the round robin where the game went to overtime in a 16-15 U.S. victory. In the 20 year history of the tournament, the U.S. has won every single game they have played. This win marks the sixth straight gold medal for the U.S. on the way to their 36-0 record.

Canada has taken Silver medal the last three years. For more details on this game and games throughout the championship, visit the event website at www.2008worldlax.com.



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Quote

« Pour progresser, il faut commencer. Pour commencer, il faut décomposer les énormes tâches complexes en petites tâches réalisables, puis amorcer la première. »

Mark Twain

CLA FUNDS NEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Canadian Lacrosse Association has recently approved and allocated funds from the Heritage Grant to a variety of exciting new development projects. These projects are taking place before March 31, 2009 and are being carried out by some select Member Associations. The following provides a summary of the new projects underway for the betterment of lacrosse...

The Alberta Lacrosse Association will be training coaches and referees in the northwest area of the province by delivering coach and referee clinics and will be providing a technical director to target areas to run player clinics and skill development sessions. The project also includes Aboriginal development in the High Level, High Prairie and Valleyview areas. The project will target teens aged 14-17 years of age and is intended to stimulate lacrosse growth and to raise the overall Alberta membership by 100 players, 15 coaches and 10 referees.

The Federation de crosse du Quebec will be carrying out two new development projects. The first project is intended to increase the number of women involved in lacrosse and to create new associations and clubs. The FCQ will produce a French language DVD on women's lacrosse and will organize 20 presentations aimed at increasing the number of women currently participating in lacrosse in Quebec. The presentations will be organized in schools in 20 different locations.

It is hoped that the project will result in 27 new associations or clubs, 540 new participants and 60 new volunteers within the sport in Quebec.

The second project being carried out by the FCQ will include the delivery of 25 one-day presentations aimed at increasing the number of boys in field lacrosse in Quebec French high schools. The

"...a summary of the new projects underway for the betterment of lacrosse ..."

expected outcomes of the project include 25 new schools being involved in lacrosse in the greater Montreal area, 625 new athletes, 35 new coaches and 25 new officials.

Lacrosse Nova Scotia is entering an upswing in its development with the approval of three projects. The first project is aimed at training additional facilitators, increasing gym teacher knowledge of lacrosse, increasing the number of schools playing lacrosse and to help develop local lacrosse clubs. Trained facilitators will travel through the local school system to run 'how to play' lacrosse sessions. The goal of the sessions will be to have participants leave with the basic skills and knowledge of a few rules so they can enjoy a recreational

game of lacrosse. Sessions will be run for sixteen schools. It is anticipated that at least 40 children will be part of each clinic thereby increasing school participation and fostering the establishment of some intramural school lacrosse leagues.

The second LNS project will send a player development facilitator, a coaching facilitator and a referee facilitator to NFLD and PEI. Three trips to each location will be made providing player/administrator clinics to the communities/schools. The intent is to establish a support system with the necessary human resources (i.e. volunteers, coaches, officials) to develop a functioning association in NFLD and PEI.

The final LNS project is intended to increase the participation numbers of female teens aged 14 to 17 years in the sport. A women's field coaching coordinator and an athlete development facilitator will deliver a clinic to introduce new players to the game of women's field lacrosse and to provide basic instruction on the game. The anticipated outcomes of the project include 50 new women players in the sport in Nova Scotia and the establishment of a platform for LNS to partner with Ringette NS in an attempt to use women's field lacrosse as pre-season training for elite ringette players.

CLA LOOKING TO HIRE

The CLA will be looking to hire someone on a 24-month contract with the possibility of the position becoming permanent. Reporting to the General Manager, the individual will be responsible for assisting, monitoring and reporting to the Board of Directors on programs and initiatives from the various lacrosse sectors and committees.

These projects will be linked directly to the CLA's Strategic Plan and it will be the responsibility of the position to ensure timelines as set out in the plan are met or adjusted accordingly. This will include but will not be limited to the preparation of manuals and technical materials, the interpretation of policies and procedures and providing technical and

administrative support. The position will also entail liaising/working with the CLA's Provincial Member Associations on an on-going basis.

For a complete job description, e-mail David Miriguay, CLA General Manager or visit the website at www.lacrosse.ca

MEET THE EXECUTIVE

We asked the CLA Executive a few questions to provide you with some insight into their background. The Executive we will be profiling in this article are: Erna Hall (**EH**) – VP Administration, Chuck Miller (**CM**) – VP Domestic Competition, Bill Brydon (**BB**) – VP International Competition and Russ Sheppard (**RS**) – VP Domestic Development.

How long have you been involved in lacrosse and in what capacity previous to serving on the Executive (i.e player, coach, administrator, official)?

EH: I first got involved with lacrosse about 15 years ago. My young daughter was playing soccer at the time and there was a gentleman with a daughter playing in the same club. When he found out that I was a single mother of four, specifically three boys and one girl, he decided that he should introduce the game of lacrosse to my boys. Well, needless to say my boys were hooked, and so was I, both to the game and to the gentleman. Kevin and I have been together ever since and we both are still involved in the game. My first involvement in lacrosse was with the boys and Kevin playing with progressed into organizing the local association. From there I got into coaching and then officiating. I also was involved in the Provincial Association in Saskatchewan and from there got involved at the CLA level.

CM: I have been involved in lacrosse since 1972. I was the President of the Ontario Lacrosse Association for 12

years. I also served as a V.P. of Officiating and Coaching within the O.L.A. I have coached and hold a level 2 coaching card and I also refereed for a while. I have only played in an Old-timers Tournament and scored a goal a game, and said that the game is too easy I will stick with administration.

BB: I started playing lacrosse in Alberta during the late 60's in Edmonton Alberta. I played for the "Blues" organization and graduated through their minor system ending my playing

"My goal is to bring our national team programs under the direct control of the CLA." - Bill Brydon VP International Competition

career in Sarnia at a Founders Cup in 1979. In 1980 I joined the RCMP and as I travelled across the country I had the pleasure to coach minor lacrosse in Surrey, BC - in Mississauga, Ontario and senior lacrosse in Halifax, N.S. I became President of Lacrosse Nova Scotia in 2002 and served in that role until 2006 when I became the CLA VP International Competition. A highlight of my lacrosse career was my involvement as Chair of the 2007 World Indoor Championship that was held in Halifax.

RS: I have been involved in the game for the past 14 years. I have coached, played and served as a volunteer on Nunavut's

executive as well as on the CLA Executive.

What do you hope to achieve during your term in your current position on the Executive?

EH: Having been involved with the CLA in the lean money times, my hope is that we can provide Lacrosse with some financial stability now and into the future. I also am endeavouring to bring the CLA governance structure in line with how the Association and its members do business.

CM: I currently am working on Minor Nationals and hope to see them survive and that the weaker MA's get stronger and start competing for the top prize.

BB: My goal is to bring our national team programs under the direct control of the CLA. The management groups of the various national teams have done a tremendous job at sustaining the program during a difficult time in the CLA's past however the board supported my position to bring the programs under the umbrella of the national body. It is my desire to ensure that all national teams are entirely funded through the CLA and its sponsors.

RS: I simply want to begin to implement our new strategic plan. Getting a few strong projects up and running and making sure there is some continuity to them is very important in my portfolio.

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National Championship Season Is Now Upon Us

National Championship - continued from page 1

Provincial Champions from Ontario and BC compete for Senior A supremacy. The event rotates between BC and Ontario with each champion playing host to the other. The event typically begins on or about the Wednesday following Labour Day. This year will see Ontario host.

Thanksgiving weekend wraps up the CLA national championship with the playing of the Senior Men's Field Ross/Victory Cup – October 10th – 12th, in Calgary, AB.

You can visit the CLA website at www.lacrosse.ca for more details on the Mann Cup and Ross Cup/Victory Trophy events.

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What do you envision for the future of lacrosse?

CM: I feel that the game of lacrosse is a great game and all children should try it.

BB: I am very excited about the future of lacrosse in Canada. I see the implementation of the LTAD as crucial to the growth of the game in all disciplines. I am looking forward to seeing how this initiative affects the overall development of the game as well as its ability to draw new participants and keep existing ones active in the game.

RS: I envision lacrosse working much more cohesively as a nation. Our sport is in multiple stages across the country and all areas need to work together to allow each and every province and territory to develop.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

EH: What spare time I have is spent with my family, especially Kevin, our two dogs and bird.

CM: I have no spare time, but I do like bartending and cooking when I can.

BB: I am active in my policing career and with my wife, Linda, operate a small busi-

ness in Halifax, N.S. When we have free time we enjoy spending time with together, with our families as well as traveling.

RS: I have two dogs that keep me busy and love to camp, hunt etc.

What is a favourite quote or saying that you follow in life?

EH: I believe in living by the statement that "honesty is the best image".

CM: Don't leave everything for tomorrow, do something today.

BB: "Don't bring me problems, bring me solutions". As a manager within the RCMP I work to empower my resources to come up with solutions that fit within the core values of our organization. I follow Stephen Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People as well as Raymond Aaron's 7 Pillars to Success.

RS: No great decisions are ever made from an armchair" General George S. Patton

Jim Burke – Past President of the CLA, started as a player in 1968 in Alberta. He has also played in both B.C. and Ontario. JB began coaching in 1971 and has coached at all levels in both the box and field game in Alberta. He has been a certified coach in Alberta for the past

15+ years. In addition to playing and coaching, Jim has served on the local boards in Calgary and Edmonton. He is also a Past President of the Alberta Lacrosse Association. Jim has served as Alberta's representative to the CLA Board, served as the CLA Men's Field Sector Chair and is currently the Past President of the CLA and Chairman of the Board of the Canadian Lacrosse Foundation.

Jim has received the Jim McFall Award in Alberta and the Lester B Pearson Award from the CLA in recognition of his volunteer efforts. In 2007, Jim was inducted into the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame in the Builder Category.

In a future issue of Sticks & Stones, you will meet Joey Harris, CLA President and final member of the current CLA Executive

IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES TO REMEMBER



National Championships

PeeWee/Bantam Nationals - Aug. 4-9, Whitby, Ontario

Minto Cup - Aug.22 -30, Calgary Alberta

Midget Nationals - Aug.22 - 27, Calgary, Alberta

Founders Cup - Aug.20 - 24, Guelph, Ontario

Presidents' Cup - Aug.18 - 24, Sherwood Park, Alberta

First Nations Trophy/Alumni Cup - Aug.29-31, Edmonton, Alberta

Mann Cup - September, Ontario

Ross/Victory Cup - Oct.10-12, Calgary, Alberta

Administrative Deadlines

August 26th - Deadline for Ross Cup/Victory Trophy entry fees are due

September 30th - Policy change proposals and reports for AGM are due

November 15th - Deadline for receipt of Referee Travel Reimbursement claims