

STICKS & STONES

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TEAM CANADA 2011 WORLD ROSTER SHAPING UP

Looking to repeat as world champions, Team Canada has named its first 5 members to its roster for the 2011 World Indoor Lacrosse Championships. The management staff looked no further when announcing returning veterans as well as some of the most prolific scorers in the game today. All 5 players can be summed up as strong, natural leaders and consummate team players.

John Grant Jr, Colin Doyle, and Brodie Merrill were the first three players named to Team Canada. All of them bring a wealth of experience from past world championships. All of them returning veterans, they are honoured to be selected and excited to don the Team Canada jersey once again. This will mark the 7th time Grant represents Canada at the senior level, while it will be the 4th time for both Doyle and Merrill.

Team Canada will have a tremendous depth of talent in their lineup. But that's not to take away from the Americans and the Iroquois, Canada's toughest competition.

Merrill says, "We'll need to find the right mix of guys, guys who'll be willing to take on specific roles and to play unselfishly. It'll be important to gel quickly."

Dan Dawson and Jordan Hall were the most recent selections. Dawson is a clutch performer who is known for his goal scoring ability. He's the captain of the NLL's Boston Blazers and throughout his career averages over 5 points per game. Hall's strengths are his speed, athleticism and how well he sees the floor. The No. 1 pick in the 2007 NLL draft has quickly built a reputation as one of the best transition players in the sport in just 3 years. Each player brings a different element to the team

Executive director Dean French and GM Johnny Mouradian, alongside assistant GMs Brad Banister, Dr. Don Hedges and the coaching staff are continuing the selection process to find the right chemistry that will bring home a 3rd consecutive gold medal from the tournament. More additions to the roster are expected in the coming weeks.

The World Indoor Lacrosse Championships will take place May 21 – 28, 2011 in Prague, Czech Republic. This marks the first time that the tournament is played overseas. It was hosted in Ontario in 2003, and in Nova Scotia in 2007. Doyle likes the idea of taking indoor lacrosse to a global market, "Showcasing the world's best indoor lacrosse to a new market is going to be neat."

**Excerpts taken from Neil Stevens press releases*



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CANADA
L A C R O S S E

THE CANADIAN LACROSSE ASSOCIATION HOSTED THE 2010 CLA AGM

The Canadian Lacrosse Association Head office, located in Ottawa, Ontario, hosted the 2010 CLA Annual General Meeting. Fifty four delegates from across Canada met November 18th-20th to review the year and plan for the upcoming year.

The meetings opened with the President, Joey Harris, thanking all those involved with lacrosse, directly and indirectly for their support and many hours spent volunteering in all aspects of the game. He went on to thank the families for their patience and support for the countless hours their spouses, and children spend away from their families for the love of the game.

There were many items of discussion during the two day meetings which included two presentations from our Sport Canada Representative on key priorities many sports deal with – Membership & Governance.

A long term National Team strategy was approved and the CLA will be working towards implementing the strategy that encompasses both Men's and Women's National Teams within Canada.

The 2010 AGM also saw the election of 2 new members to the CLA Executive Committee. Steve O'Shaughnessy, from New Brunswick, was elected to the position of VP Domestic Development and Chad Fairfoull, from Quebec, was elected to the position of VP Administration. Steve and Chad take over for Russ Sheppard and Tom Engel in their respective positions. We would like to thank Russ Sheppard for his 4 years of service as VP Domestic Development and thank you to Tom Engel for his 2 years of service as VP Administration. Good luck in your future endeavors.



Men's National Team Head Coach Dave Huntley (left), presents NFLA President James Hearn (right) with a game-worn John Grant Jr. jersey at the AGM.

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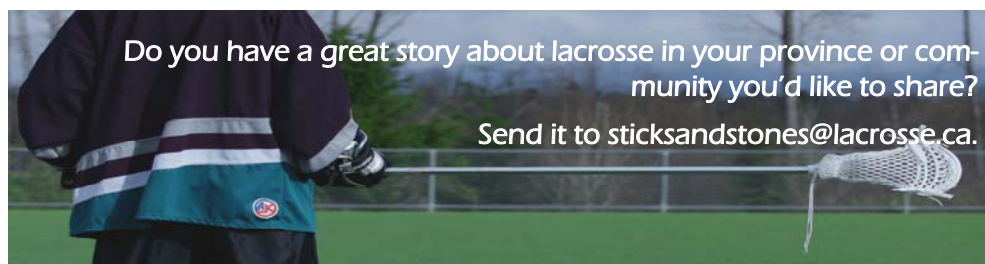


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Do you have a great story about lacrosse in your province or community you'd like to share?

Send it to sticksandstones@lacrosse.ca.

MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We asked the recently elected members of the Executive Committee a few questions to learn about them and their past lacrosse experiences!

Chad Fairfoull, VP Administration

How long have you been involved in lacrosse and in what capacity previous to serving on the executive?

"I started playing lacrosse in 1969 and have been involved by playing, coaching, refereeing, and organizing Lacrosse in both Box and Field since then."

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

"I really hope that we can get all of the MA's and AMA's working even closer together to grow this game even more than it has in the most recent past.."

What do you envision for the future of lacrosse?

"I would love to see it as one of the major sports that kids grow up playing in all areas of the country."

What do you do in your spare time?

"I am an avid movie watcher. I even like to watch bad movies. Sometimes they are the most entertaining."

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

"Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard" Not sure where I heard it but I have seen it happen many times."

Steve O'Shaughnessy, VP Domestic Development

How long have you been involved in lacrosse and in what capacity previous to serving on the executive?

"I have been involved as an Official and administrator since 1990. I started refereeing box Lacrosse in Nova Scotia in 1990 and became the LNS RIC in 1991 through until I moved to New Brunswick in 2001. In 1991, I was asked to be part of the NOCP Referee committee when it was created by Stew Begg and have been on this committee since. In 2001 after I moved to NB, I became the RIC of LNB and have been in that capacity since. In 2008, I also took on the VP Operations seat on our LNB executive."

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

"This position is varied and wide in scope. I'm hoping to help develop and help increase the memberships of the smaller MA/AMA's as well as help to bring on PEI over the next few years. For our 3 major organizations, I want them to continue to grow in the other disciplines outside of Box. MF and WF are 2 areas that I also want to help increase the memberships."

What do you envision for the future of lacrosse?

"Lacrosse is in a bit of transition right now, but I do see a transformation taking place that will need the co-operation of all the MA/AMA's to help grow the game. The future will require a change in how we do things today; some small changes and some big."

What do you do in your spare time?

"I'm a husband and father of 2 girls, so my spare time is mainly being involved in their lives. I'm also a high level Hockey referee so the winter is busy with being in the rinks."

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

"Losers quit when they're tired. Winners quit when they've won."



The Fun with Fundamentals 3-part DVD series is a must have for anyone who is serious about CANADA'S NATIONAL SUMMER SPORT. Elite players, including Shawn Williams, Delby Powless and Steve Toll, provide expert guidance while demonstrating and highlighting the key teaching points of each skill, technique and strategy.

From scooping, cradling, passing, catching, and shooting to motion offense, team defense, line changes and drills, you will better your ability to play and read the game of box lacrosse.

The Fun with Fundamentals series can be purchased through your Provincial Lacrosse Association.



UPDATE: LACROSSE FITS

As we head into the holiday season, the progress on Lacrosse FITS continues. Branding has been completed and we are currently working on the content for the brochures and posters. We have also begun laying the groundwork for the program’s website. In addition, three of the six program modules have been completed and Module 4 will be complete any day now.

We selected two sites, one in Ontario and one in Manitoba to pilot the Module 1 lesson plans and equipment packages. We have already received some initial feedback on the equipment and will be making adjustments to the final packages.

We have also begun translating the program modules and are proud to announce that the program will be launched simultaneously in both official languages.

In the New Year, Dave and Kylo (writers) will be conducting a Lacrosse FITS ambassador training session in Winnipeg in late January, as well as a Lacrosse FITS tour to take place in early March. The tour will include stops in Québec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI and Newfoundland.

At the end of the fiscal year, the balance of the 2010-11 Lax FITS budget will be spent on sending out as many free equipment bags/lesson plans as possible to our Member Associations.

2011-12

We will be applying to Sport Canada in February to continue the funding for Lacrosse FITS in 2011-12. The initiatives we plan to tackle in 2011-12 include:

- Activity workbook for players;
- Travel for ambassadors to introduce the program to new schools;
- Addition of 5-6 additional modules for high school-aged kids;
- More FREE equipment bags

Stay tuned in future editions of Sticks & Stones for more updates on the progress of Lacrosse FITS.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The CLA Office will be closed for the holidays December 24, 2010 and will re-open January 3, 2011.

The CLA wishes you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

IMPORTANT DATES/ DEADLINES TO REMEMBER...

DEADLINES:

January 28 – Officials Clinic fees are due

January 31 – Deadline for notification of attendance at Minor Nationals

March 1 – Deadline for nominations for Lester B. Pearson Award

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Respect

Teamwork