



# VICTORIA INTERMEDIATE "A" SHAMROCKS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week #12

July 17, 2008



## Coach's Corner

Now the real fun begins!

Our regular season is over with a 14 win, 6 loss and 1 tie record. This gives us 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the league standings, behind New Westminster and Coquitlam. We

beat Coquitlam twice and New West once this year; the team was capable of a better record however inconsistent play has plagued the team this season. I am confident that the right group will show up for playoffs.

So on to the playoffs. To put it frankly, the Playoff format in the BC Intermediate "A" league boggles my mind. First off, after a 21 game season, all 8 teams make the playoffs. I believe there should be some reward and consequence to league play. This would make results more important, especially at the end of the season. Teams are playing to get a favorable first round matchup, not just to qualify for the playoffs.

The Intermediate Provincial Championships are decided in a tournament format over the August long weekend. This year's tournament is being hosted by New Westminster. The first round of the playoffs sees 1<sup>st</sup> play 8<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> play 7<sup>th</sup> etc in best of 3 game series. The four winners of these series all go to the Tournament.

I favor a format where 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place get a bye to the Tournament, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> are eliminated, and 3<sup>rd</sup> plays 6<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> plays 5<sup>th</sup> for the final 2 berths at the provincial tournament. This would add some excitement and uncertainty to the league at both ends of the standings. There have been discussions about changing the format so perhaps it will change in the future.

But, back to this year....We will play the 6<sup>th</sup> place finisher at home this Saturday, 1:30 start. Our opponent will likely be Nanaimo but that will not be confirmed until after a Friday night game between South Fraser and New West. If South Fraser were to upset NW they would finish in 6<sup>th</sup> and be heading to the island the next morning. Date and time for game 2 is up in the air, and the 'if necessary' game 3 would be Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 at the Bear.

Hope to see you out for our Playoff game this Saturday. It could be our last home game of the year.

Yours in lacrosse,

Scott Browning,

Co-Governor & Head Coach



Intermediate "A" Shamrock Lacrosse 2007

## Weekend Recap

After a shocking loss to Burnaby last week, the Babyrocks regrouped to play PoCo on Saturday. PoCo scored first, less than two minutes into the game. The Rocks then came back with two shorthanded goals 30 seconds

apart: The first scored by Kyle Hofer from Ben Stebbins and the second scored by Casey Jackson from Stebbins and Jason Gregg. PoCo scored another two goals, one on the power play, to end the first period up 3-2.

It took 11 minutes into the second period before either team found the twine. PoCo scored first then the Rocks scored back to back goals: Hofer (unassisted) and Jackson from Kyle Dexter. PoCo scored a second power play goal late in the second to end the period still up by a single goal: 5-4.

The Rocks came out gunning in the third as Hofer scored his third of the game from Mitch McLaren after only 36 seconds. Twenty five seconds later, Gregg scored from Karsen Leung and Jordan Wong to put the Rocks up by a goal. PoCo then scored three in a row to regain the two goal lead. At the 10-minute mark the Rocks and PoCo exchanged goals; the Rocks goal being scored by Jackson from Dexter and Brandon McLean. PoCo went up by three less than 30 seconds later to make the score 10-7. At that point, the Rocks sent Scott Bannister into the goal in relief and the move seemed to generate a spark in the team. With 6:54 left in the third Jackson scored unassisted, 30 seconds later Leung scored from Gregg and Hofer to get the Rocks to within one. Down by a goal with two minutes left on the clock, Jackson scored his 5th of the game from McLaren. The third ended tied at 10-10. In sudden death overtime, Robert McAllan went back into the net for the Shamrocks and held PoCo off the scoreboard as Victoria killed an early penalty. Then, with the Rocks on the power play, McLaren scored the winner with 5:32 left on the clock from Wong and Jackson. The Rocks had completed the come-from-behind 11-10 victory.

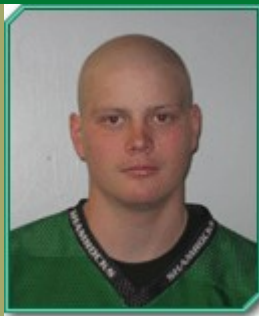
The Rocks traveled to Queens Park on Sunday to play the Salmonbellies. New West scored first at 2:23, before Mitch Bancroft tied the game at 4:11, unassisted. New West took the lead again at 5:39. The teams played even up before Casey Jackson tallied to tie the game once more with the assist going to Bruce Mackie. The first period ended 2-2.

The Rocks started the second period with some jump. Mitch McLaren gave the Rocks their first lead at 1:15, with the Rocks' second unassisted goal. The jump continued when Kyle Dexter found twine short-handed at 4:24, with the helper going to Ben Stebbins. The Rocks had a two-goal lead but the Bellies scored their third goal on the same power play to pull within one goal. The Rocks' made the most of their own power play opportunity with McLaren finding the range for his second goal, assisted by Jackson at 16:14. The Rocks had regained their second two-goal lead but, again, the Bellies scored a late goal at 19:11. The second period ended with the Rocks holding a slim one-goal lead.

In the third period a series of penalties were called against the Rocks allowing the Bellies to take advantage of an extended four on three power play to score a pair of goals and stake a one-goal lead. That was all that was needed for the Bellies to notch the victory, 6 to 5. (Article by Deb Anderson/ Frank Greenlay)

## Meet the Players

### Greg Simpson



*This is your second year with the Intermediate Shamrocks team, what was the most memorable experience from year one with the Baby Rocks?*

The highlight of last year was going to the Provincials.

*What do you hope to achieve with the Baby Rocks this season?*

Like most of the guys on the team, I would like to win a gold medal in the Provincials this year.

*Where did you play your minor lacrosse and who were your biggest influences?*

I played minor for Peninsula Minor Lacrosse and my coaches were a big influence.

*Tell us about your past accomplishments in the sport.*

I am most proud of actually making the Intermediate Shamrock Lacrosse team.

*As a minor lacrosse player, was there one particular player you looked up to who you wanted to emulate and why?*

There was not one specific player but I did look to the defensive players on the Senior Shamrocks to try and learn from.

*Do you have future plans/goals that you hope to pursue in lacrosse?*

Yes, I would like to play in the WLA in the future.

*What about school and/or career goals?*

I am not sure about a career choice yet.

*If you were a script writer, what would the perfect ending to a lacrosse movie be?*

It would have to be to bring home the gold in the Provincials.

*Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us today.*

You're welcome, I really enjoyed doing this.

## Alumni Corner

### Joel Loucks



*Tell us about your time with the Intermediate Shamrocks team: Years, Players, Coaches, Accomplishments, etc?*

I played under Tyson Leies, winning a silver medal my first year and winning a gold medal my second year.

*What was the most memorable experience that you had with the Baby Rocks?*

Coming from behind and Winning a gold medal in Chilliwack.

*Which team or teams are you currently playing with in the Summer and Winter?*

I am not playing at this time as I plan to be traveling for the foreseeable future.

*Do you feel your years with the Intermediate Shamrocks helped you advance your lacrosse career? Why?*

Absolutely because it helps prepare you for the next level in your lacrosse career.

*What advice do you have for younger lacrosse players hoping to make it to either the WLA or NLL?*

Play smart but don't be afraid to make mistakes.

*Is there one lacrosse accomplishment that stands out from all the others? Why?*

Winning the Jack Crosby tournament because it was the first big tournament we won.

*What are your future goals in the sport?*

I am still undecided about this at the moment.

*What are you doing these days outside of lacrosse?*

Getting my electrical apprenticeship, camping and getting ready to travel. I hope the team does well in the playoffs and Provincials!

**PLAYOFF Game Saturday, July 19,  
1:30 PM versus Nanaimo or  
South Fraser**

**To see more game articles, statistics, and team updates  
please visit [www.babyrocks.net](http://www.babyrocks.net)**