



VICTORIA INTERMEDIATE "A" SHAMROCKS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week #9

June 26, 2008



Coaches Corner

Well, last weekend's results were not the ones we were looking for. The two losses in two days is a rarity for the Babyrocks, and we will need to improve our game in order to be a serious playoff contender.

New West and Coquitlam were both very motivated as we had beaten both earlier in the season and revenge was on their minds. I thought our intensity and hustle were good in both games (still some room to improve) but it was our execution on some of the finer points that hurt us. While there were a few defensive miscues, it is our inability to get in side and score that is hurting us most.

The team has the talent for sure, and is capable of doing the small things correctly, it is just a case of executing of a regular basis.

We have reached out lately for some help on those finer points, with both Chris McKay and, this week, Lewis Ratcliff spending time with the team. The defense has seen improvement and we look for the same result at the offensive end.

The league standings continue to be very tight amongst the top 4 teams and it will come down to games between those teams to determine final standings, and first round playoff opponents.

We are off this Saturday so **NO HOME GAME** and then in Port Coquitlam on Sunday. We had a surprise loss in Poco earlier in the year and we are looking for some redemption this Sunday. Let's hope the offense can turn it up a notch.

Yours in lacrosse,

Scott Browning,

Co-Governor & Head Coach



Intermediate "A" Shamrock Lacrosse 2007

Weekend Recap

New Westminster visited Bear Mountain Arena on Saturday looking to avenge their 12 – 6 loss from a couple of weeks ago.

Leading from start to finish, New West grabbed a 2-0 lead after one

period and then scored again 40 seconds into the second period to take a 3-0 lead. The Babyrocks responded with a goal at 15:41 followed by another goal just 33 seconds later. New West then rattled off 3 straight goals before Victoria found the twine with only 3 seconds left in the second period. The score after two periods was 6-3 for New Westminster with Victoria goals coming from Brandon McLean, Karsen Leung and Mitch McLaren.

The third period was a defensive battle with no scoring until the last 7 minutes of the game when New West added their 7th goal followed by their 8th goal into an empty net with 4:27 left to play. Victoria was held off the score-sheet once again in the third period. The final result was a disappointing 8-3 loss to the reigning Provincial Champions.

On Sunday, the Intermediate A Shamrocks hit the floor in Coquitlam to do battle with the Adanacs. As with New West, Coquitlam is right at the top of the standings and it was a big game for both teams.

The Rocks were first on the score sheet when Casey Jackson netted an unassisted goal to start the proceedings at 2:29. The A's responded at 2:51 to tie the game. The teams battled back and forth for over ten minutes before a red lamp was needed again. Unfortunately for the Rocks, it was the A's who tallied the next two goals. The Rocks went to the room down by two goals.

The A's jumped to a 4 to 1 lead at 2:24 of the second period. The teams then played over eleven minutes of scoreless ball before Shea Wakefield converted a pass from Jackson at 14:06. The Rocks followed that up with a tally from Blair Pinnock at 15:03, with Jordan Wong and Mitch McLaren assisting. The second intermission saw the Rocks trailing by just a single goal, 4-3.

Needing a goal to get even, the Rocks stumbled early allowing the A's to score first at 1:57 of the third period to restore their two-goal lead. The game was still there for the taking when McLaren scored at 4:38, with Karsen Leung notching the helper. It was 5 to 4 for the A's. Again in this period, the teams went scoreless through the middle of the frame, playing just about eight minutes before the ball next crossed the line. To the dismay of the Rocks' fans, the A's found the range at 12:21 to again pull out a two-goal advantage. After that goal the Rocks seemed to sag a little while the A's got pumped up.

The A's added two quick goals at 14:16 and 14:36 to salt the deal. With the Rocks net empty, a couple of long bombs just missed the yawning cage before the final goal was scored in the last minute of the game. The final score found the Rocks on the short end of a 9 to 4 score. The A's were jubilant taking the two points while the Rocks faced the long trip back to the Island reflecting on losing both games on the weekend. *(Sunday Article by Frank Greenlay)*

Meet the Players

Tyler Matheson



Welcome to the Intermediate Shamrocks team, has training camp and the season unfolded as expected?

Yes, the training camp was very competitive for all the players trying out, every player on the team that made it has something special to offer.

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

I hope to achieve the fitness and skills to play Junior or Senior lacrosse in the future, and to be a part of achieving a provincial championship this year.

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

I played for JDF and my biggest influences were Tyler Heavenor and Dave Bremner.

Tell us about your past accomplishments in the sport.

I won the hardest shot in Pee Wee!

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

There was never a minor lacrosse player that I looked up to, particularly. If there was a player who I wanted to emulate it was a Sr. player that played for the Coquitlam Adanacs and that was Pat Coyle. I loved his quarterbacking of a team.

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

To one day possibly play for the Sr. Shamrocks and/or a NLL team.

What about school and/or career goals?

If I don't make it as a hockey player or a lacrosse player, I would like to pursue being a fireman.

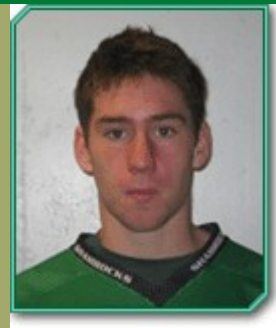
If you were a script writer, what would the perfect ending to a lacrosse movie be?

The game is tied, there is a loose ball down the floor, I outrun the opponent and pick up the ball for a breakaway and score the winning goal for the Mann cup.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us today.

My pleasure.

Ben Stebbins



Welcome to the Intermediate Shamrocks team, has training camp and the season unfolded as expected?

Yes, I did it all last year so I knew what to expect, and the early season has gone very well.

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

Personally, I hope to have a successful season at both ends of the floor and I hope our team can win a gold at the Provincials.

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

I played with the Saanich Tigers, my biggest influences were probably my teammates and different coaches I've had over the years.

Tell us about your past accomplishments in the sport.

I've been to the provincials many times placing second and a couple of thirds but the thing I am most proud of is the gold medal at the BC Summer Games.

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

Probably Ryan Ward, he's a great player who's been through the same system I am right now and I hope I can be just as successful.

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

Well, I would like to go as far as I possibly can playing lacrosse, hopefully ending up in the NLL.

What about school and/or career goals?

I will be attending College next year but I haven't made any concrete decisions on what I will end up doing.

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

The underdogs coming back to win the game in Overtime!

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us today.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Alumni Corner

Ted Jenner

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

The two years I was in the intermediate program, we were the Mansell Bobcats. I know that in my first year, Brian Spaven was our coach and I think he was for the second year, as well. A lot of the local guys that are on the Sr. Shamrocks now, that are in the 28-30 age group, were on those teams back in the mid-90's: Jordan Sundher, Ryan Ward, Noah Talbot, Tyler Heavenor, Ryder Bateman and Kelly Hall. All of those guys came through the Mansell system in those years. My first year, we finished 3rd in the provincials after beating a very new Prince George team that had a few future NLL players on it in: Jeff Molewski and Ryan McNish. My final year of intermediate, we played POCO in the gold medal game only to be shellacked 20-2 in one of the most lop-sided games I've ever been part of. That year I was co-MVP with Randy Daly, who now plays with the Maple Ridge Burrards

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

Being able to play with all of my best friends has to be one of the best experiences. Every 2nd year we would always have a dominant team. Plus, being able to take road trips every weekend, get together for some chase-the-ace and story telling on the ferry, is always a bonus.

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

I am currently playing for the Victoria Sr. Shamrocks and hope to be back in the NLL this winter.

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

Of course they did! The two years I was able to play in Intermediate allowed me to mature at a better pace as an athlete. In Ontario, you go from midget to Junior right away; being 17 years old and playing against 21 year olds can be a big jump. By being able to keep the age group closer, it kept the playing level equal and allowed for players to hone their skills that much more and become more comfortable in their various roles as a player.

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

You can never work hard enough. When you are tired, somebody else isn't. Keep going and never let go of your stick!

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

MANN CUP 2005. Again, we had all my childhood buddies on that team. We were able to win it at home in front of family and friends. To beat a great Peterborough team, with the talent they had, was just a great feeling!

What are your future goals in the sport?

Well, eventually, I would like to be the broadcasting voice of the NLL. With expansion and major TV deals just around the corner, I'm hoping that my experience and education will allow me to fulfill my lifelong dream.

What are you doing these days outside of lacrosse?

Outside the lacrosse box, I am currently writing for NLLInsider.com. I also work for the family business, Jenner Chevrolet, running our websites and keeping track of inventory.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us.

Cheers, and good luck with the season!



**Next Home Game Saturday, July 5,
1:30 PM versus Delta**

**To see more game articles, statistics, and team updates
please visit www.babyrocks.net**