



Team Alberta Lacrosse

Press Release

January 2017

TEAM ALBERTA Coach Selection

The Alberta Lacrosse Association is pleased to announce the head coach selections for TEAM ALBERTA 2017 for the Bantam Female Box, Midget Female Box, Pee Wee Boys Box, Bantam Boys Box, Midget Boys Box, and the U15 Men's Field Teams.

Congratulations go to:

Gord Henry and Phil Smyth Co-Head Coaches - Bantam Girls Box Team

Gord Henry is from the Rockyview Lacrosse Association. Last year, Gord coached the Bantam boys to a Silver medal at Nationals. Gord won bronze medals in both 2014 and 2015 with the Peewee boys. Gord is always able to get the best out of each player on his team. He is a 3rd generation lacrosse player and grew up playing in Delta B.C., winning 3 Jr. B Championships. He is committed to helping lacrosse players of all levels understand the game and develop the skills to move to the next level. Gord has coached at all levels of lacrosse and ran developmental camps.

Phil Smyth is from Edmonton. Phil has been involved in lacrosse, in some capacity, for over 31 years. He grew up playing and coaching lacrosse in multiple disciplines of both box and field in Alberta. Phil has represented Alberta at the Presidents Cup (Sr B Nationals) numerous times with the Edmonton Outlaws. The Outlaws took Gold in 2002 and 2007. He is currently working at the Vimy Ridge Lacrosse Academy where he teaches and coaches lacrosse. Phil is a Learning Facilitator with the Alberta Lacrosse Association where he teaches and mentors new Lacrosse coaches throughout the province. He returns the Team Alberta program this year, in 2016 he was an assistant coach for the Senior Ladies where the team took home the Gold.

Robin Finley - Head Coach - Midget Girls Box Team

Robin is from Calgary and returns to the Team Alberta program from his inaugural season as head coach of the Bantam Girls in 2016. Robin has been involved in lacrosse in Alberta for 38 years as player, coach and official. As a player, Robin played for the Calgary Mountaineers Senior Men's team for 20 years where he played in several President's Cup National Championships, as well as multiple National Field Lacrosse Championships. As a competitive athlete, hard work, discipline, and integrity were the foundation of his game and he brings that to his coaching, as well as a healthy dose of fun. He has coached numerous teams at varying levels with the range of athletes from 4 to 17 years old. The past 7 year's Robin has exclusively been coaching female lacrosse, where he has coached multiple teams to City of Calgary Championships.

Shawn Cable - Head Coach - Pee wee Boys Box Team

Shawn is originally from Price George, BC but now hails from Calgary. Shawn played minor Lacrosse in Mackenzie and Prince George. He had the honour of winning the British Columbia Lacrosse Association's Pepsi Player of the Year Award during his midget year. He was drafted into the Senior B League at the age of 16. He finished his junior career playing 3 seasons with the Victoria Junior A Shamrocks. Shawn was drafted by both the WLA and NLL and went on to have a very successful professional lacrosse career. Shawn is retired from playing professional lacrosse but is staying involved as the Calgary Roughnecks video coach. Shawn has coached last two summers with the Hornets Midget A team and took home two provincial titles. Shawn helped develop and coached the very first year of Team Alberta in 2004 and coached the midget team in 2012. Team Alberta is excited to have Shawn return this year.

Richard Lachlan - Head Coach - Bantam Boys Box Team

Richard is originally from BC but now lives in Edmonton. Richard is an incredibly experienced player in both Box and Field Lacrosse. He played Junior A with the Port Coquitlam Saints. In Men's Field, he played with Roanoke College where he made the NCAA final four and was named an All-American. Richard went on the play 2 years with the Senior A New Westminster Salmon Bellies. Last year he moved to Alberta, where he won the Presidents Cup playing with the St. Albert Miners. Richard is no stranger to the National program, he was the offensive coach for Team B.C. U18 Men's Field team where he coached them to both silver and gold finishes. Team Alberta is excited to welcome Richard in his inaugural season with the Team Alberta program.

Dane Dobbie - Head Coach - Midget Boys Box Team

Dane is originally from Ontario but his lacrosse career spans across Ontario, BC and Alberta. Dane resides in Calgary. Dane comes from a lacrosse family. His grandfather, Bob Dobbie, is a member of Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame. His father, Larry, is also heavily involved in lacrosse and competed at a high level. Currently, Dane is a member of the Calgary Roughnecks and is one of the top offensive players in the NLL. This year will mark the fourth consecutive NLL season Dane has been named one of the Roughnecks' alternate captains. Dane has also been coaching as an assistant coach for the Junior A Raiders for the last three seasons (2014-16). Team Alberta is excited to tap into Danes' exceptional experience and knowledge of the game of lacrosse in his inaugural season with the Team Alberta program.

Jim Weller - Head Coach - U15 Men's Field Team

Jim is from Edmonton. Jim returns to the Team Alberta program for his fourth season. In 2014 & 2015, Jim Coached the Team Alberta U16 Men's Field teams to Bronze, and in 2016 the U15 Men's Field Team to Bronze as well. Jim is a former 3 time All-American at UMASS and shares the single season NCAA record for most goals by an attack unit. Jim sits 11th in NCAA single season goal scoring (62) and 9th for single season points (98). Jim is still UMASS's all-time leading goal scorer with 162 goals. Jim has played field lacrosse for Canada on three separate occasions and was named to the 1986 All-World Team as an

attack man. Jim led Canada in scoring in 1982 and 1986. Jim was recently inducted to the UMASS Sports Hall of Fame.

The 2017 Team Alberta tryouts are currently TBD and will be posted on the ALA website shortly. All registrations are to be submitted on line at:

<https://admin.sportzsoft.com/apps/regWeb.dll/Login?OrgId=617>

See the ALA website, <http://www.cla-alberta.pointstreaksites.com/view/cla-alberta/national-competition/minor-nationals> for more details on minor Tryouts. For more details on Field tryouts see the ALA Website <http://www.cla-alberta.pointstreaksites.com/view/cla-alberta/national-competition/field-nationals>.

This year the Female Box Nationals for Bantam Girls and Midget Girls, will be held in Halifax, NS, July 17 - 22, 2017.

The Bantam Boys Box Nationals will be held in Saskatoon, SK, August 1 -5, 2017.

The Pee Wee and Midget Boys Box Nationals will be held in Whitby ON, Aug 5 – Aug 13, 2017.

The U18 and U15 Field Nationals will be held in Saskatoon, August 31- September 3, 2017.

Please contact the Alberta Lacrosse Association for further information.

Thank you

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VP National and Provincial Competition

Alberta Lacrosse Association