GRADUATING MIDGETS (16U) & RETURNING JUNIORS

All players with a 2003 birthday move out of minor lacrosse into Junior in 2020. The governing body for all major lacrosse is the Rocky Mountain Lacrosse League or hereafter known as the RMLL. There is a two step registration process for <u>all</u> players in Junior, including returning players. The first is to complete the 'Intent to Play' which is \$60.25 for the 2020 season and done through RMLL website. This link will be updated and live effective January 10th. <u>Please click here to complete Intent to Play.</u> You are completing this to register with the RMLL and be covered under the ALA's insurance. You must have completed this step before attending the North Combine or any tryouts.

Male and Female registrants have two different flows. Female players are to register and tryout with St. Albert Drillers as they include Parkland County within their boundaries. We currently have several Posse alumnus on that team and they will in fact play and practice out of our arenas this season. Click here to email Coach Brooke Huber for more information.

All graduating male players are required to register with the Posse regardless of their intent to tryout for a higher tiered Junior team. The Junior A and Junior B Tier I teams may charge an additional tryout fee and there will be a fee associated with attending the RMLL North Combine, all of which are optional to the player. There is no additional fee to tryout for the Posse however if you are cut from the roster the we will refund the balance of monies tendered to date less \$75 to cover the cost of the pre-season floor.

What is the RMLL North Combine? This is an opportunity for all graduating midgets and undrafted Junior B tier II players to workout and scrimmage in front of all the local Junior A & Junior B tier I scouts. Many teams will use this floor time on Saturday, January 25th to build their draft list. If a player goes undrafted they return to their home association's tier II team. If there home association does not have a tier II team then they are considered a free agent to tryout anywhere.

All this and much more will be explained to players and parents at the RMLL's Graduating Midget Information Session. I strongly recommend that you attend this event on January 10th, from 7-9pm. In addition to hearing about the transition to Junior lacrosse in Alberta, all of the local teams will have booths set up promoting their programs. Click here for more information.

Our Junior B tier II schedule will consist of 18 league games + playoffs. Our season will have us travelling by bus on weekends to the communities of Cold Lake, Llyodminster, Wainwright, Red Deer and Sylvan Lake. Our weeknight games will be played against Sherwood Park, St. Albert, Westlock and Edmonton Warriors. Your \$700 registration fee covers all travel, lunches and snacks while travelling, hotels for overnights right through playoffs. Each player will be required to sell \$225 worth of raffle tickets in addition to their registration that will cover our costs for the Provincial Final 4 tournament without the need for a cash call should we qualify. The raffle monies collected remain with the team should we not qualify.

We are very excited to offer a 'player swag' bundle this season which will include equipment bags and team gloves (that remain with the team at the conclusion of the season) game day polo

shirt, warmup shirt and team shorts which are the players to keep. In addition, we will be adding name bars to our jerseys this season, and possibly introduce an exciting 3rd jersey option.

Shawn Schimpf is returning as the Head Coach for a second season along with Mike Sim as an Assistant Coach and both are very optimistic at our chances to surpass our playoff success of our inaugural season last year. The staff remains focused on competing at the highest level while developing the necessary skills to be successful in Junior. This is why they will allow unlimited affiliations for players to compete in Junior B tier I so long as the player commits and registers with our Junior B tier II team.

Our Juniors are already out on the floor tuning up! Sunday's from 2-3pm, beginning January 5th we are running a 16U / Junior drop-in program at the Tri Leisure Centre right up to our tryouts. I strongly encourage everyone to attend and polish up as Shawn & Mike are running the camp and will be taking advantage of the opportunity to build team systems with those attending. Refer to the winter schedule by clicking here.

How can you help? At \$700 we are one of the least expensive registration fees in Junior B tier II and more than half the cost of Junior B tier I, while offering the most value with bus travel & accommodations covered. That said, we are still short on hitting our Corporate sponsorship target for the upcoming season. If you know of a business that would like to support us, please share their contact information with me at the email below and I will make contact and forward them a sponsorship package if they wish.

We will also be holding a player/parent info session for Posse registered Juniors in early February to ensure everyone is clear on the tryout process, team budget and volunteer needs to make the season successful. Please stay tuned to your email inbox or our website for more information.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Rob Perneel

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