



BURNABY MOUNTAIN LACROSSE

PRESS RELEASE

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Burnaby Mountain Selects Tournament of Champions Report

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By William Howard, BMSL Media Relations
Burnaby Mountain Selects Lacrosse

EVENT: Dicks Sporting Goods Tournament of Champions - Elite High School Men's Lacrosse

SITE: Wesley Chapel District Park, Wesley Chapel, Florida

SENIOR ELITE SCORES:

L – Bby Mtn 2, Nor Cal (California) 13
L – Bby Mtn 5, Headstrong (Pennsylvania) 13
L – Bby Mtn 0, Team Warrior (North Carolina) 16
L - Bby Mtn 9, Krunch (New York) 10
L - Bby Mtn 8, Copperheads (Georgia) 9
W - Bby Mtn 14, Top Tier (North Carolina) 4

FRESHMEN ELITE SCORES:

W - Bby Mtn 10, Blue Devils (Florida) 4
W - Bby Mtn 11, Texas Outlaws (Texas) 2
W - Bby Mtn 14, T2 Black (North Carolina) 5
L - Bby Mtn 4, Blue Devils (Florida) 8
W – Bby Mtn 9, Krunch (New York) 4
W – Bby Mtn 11, Team Illinois (Illinois) 0



RECORDS: Bby Mtn Senior Elite (1-5), Bby Mtn Freshmen Elite (5-1)

TAMPA, FL (January 27, 2010) – Coached by Simon Fraser University men's lacrosse Co-Head Coaches Jeff Cathrea and Brent Hoskins, the Burnaby Mountain Selects Senior (1992 born) and Freshmen (1995 born) Elite fall touring teams travelled to Tampa, Florida to compete at the 2010 Dicks Sporting Goods Tournament of Champions (TOC) January 1-3.

More than 50 teams across three divisions descended on Wesley Chapel District Park to compete for the right to be called the national club lacrosse champions. The Senior Selects placed 25th in the High School Elite Division while the Freshmen Selects placed 9th in the tournament's U15 Division.

THE ROAD TO FLORIDA

Each year, the top club teams in North America must qualify to attend the Dicks Sporting Goods Tournament of Champions. For the second straight year, Burnaby Mountain Lacrosse was one of only a handful of programs to qualify two teams for this prestigious event and the chance to compete for the coveted TOC crown. The Burnaby Mountain Senior Selects earned an automatic qualifier for the 2010 TOC by placing 2nd at the Atlantic Cup in Baltimore, Maryland in July, while the Freshmen Selects earned a Directors bid this past November by placing 2nd with a 9-8 overtime loss in the Championship Game of the Charlotte Fall Classic in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The TOC is owned and operated by NDP Lacrosse, a division of Kroenke Sports Enterprises based out of Denver, Colorado, who owns the National Basketball Association's (NBA) Denver Nuggets, the National Hockey League's (NHL) Colorado Avalanche, Major League Soccer's (MLS) Colorado Rapids and the National Lacrosse League's (NLL) Colorado Mammoth. Kroenke Sports Enterprises also owns the Pepsi Center in Denver and co-owns Dick's Sporting Goods Park in

Commerce City, Colorado. Other Kroenke properties include cable channel, Altitude Sports and Entertainment and majority shares in both the National Football League's (NFL) St. Louis Rams and the English Premier League football club, Arsenal FC.

CANADIAN CONTENT

In addition to teams from seventeen (17) different US states, the Burnaby Mountain Selects were one of only two (2) Canadian programs in attendance and the only representative from Western Canada. Edge Lacrosse from Ontario was the other program from north of the border with both their Junior and Senior teams competing in the High School Elite Division.

RECRUITING SPOTLIGHT

At the TOC, athletes were given the opportunity to showcase their skills in front of over 30 coaches from NCAA college lacrosse programs, including NCAA Division I 2009 National Champion Syracuse.

HIGH SCHOOL ELITE RECAP

After a top ten finish by the Burnaby Mountain Senior Elite team in 2009, this year's Senior Selects were determined to prove that they were once again among the top club teams in North America despite fielding one of the more inexperienced rosters in the Elite Division, with only two players having previous TOC experience.

With a rare rain delay postponing start times by two hours on day one, the BMS Seniors would also get off to a slow start falling 13-2 to Nor Cal (CA) in their opening game of the tournament. Next up, the Selects would face perennial powerhouse Headstrong (PA) who have reached the tournament's semi-finals every year since the inception of the TOC in 2007. Looking to bounce back from game one, the Selects ended the first half down 5-4. Unfortunately, a strong effort would not be enough to overcome the one-goal deficit as Headstrong would go on an 8-1 run in the second half to claim a 13-5 victory. In their final game of day one's seeding round, the BMS Seniors would face eventual runner-up Team Warrior (NC). The one-sided contest would see the Selects lose 16-0 and finish the day with a 0-3 record.

The Selects would enter the day two play-off round as the #24 seed and be matched up against the #9 seed, and eventual 5th placed, Krunch (NY). Vying for the upset, the Selects would battle the Krunch right until the final whistle falling just short of a late game comeback by a score of 10-9. The loss would move the Selects to the consolation side of the bracket where they would lose another close game 9-8 to the eventual 17th placed Copperheads (GA). Refusing to be deterred by consecutive one-goal losses, their hard work would finally pay-off as the Selects posted a well-earned win in their final game of the tournament, defeating 26th placed Top Tier (NC) by a convincing score of 14-4.

After being outscored 42-7 in three losses on day one, the Senior Selects put forth an inspired effort on day two and day three, nearly missing a first round upset to advance to the round of sixteen and suffering another one-goal loss in their first game of the consolation bracket. Despite the losses, the Senior Selects would actually outscore their competition 31-23 over the final two days, silencing any critics and gaining some valuable experience along the way.

U15 RECAP

2010 marked the first year for a U15 Division at the Dicks Sporting Goods Tournament of Champions. The Freshmen Selects would quickly identify themselves as early contenders for the inaugural U15 title as one of only four teams to post an undefeated record in the tournament's three-game seeding round. With impressive wins over Blue Devils (FL) 10-4; Texas Outlaws (TX) – 11-2; and T2 Black (NC) 14-5; the Freshmen would earn the tournament's #4 seed and be slated for a re-match with the #13 seed Blue Devils. Having outscored the competition 35-11 heading into Saturday's play-off round, the Selects would look to continue their dominating ways on day two. In a reversal of the previous days match-up, the BMS Freshmen would stumble out of the gate and give an early lead to a much improved Blue Devils squad. Unable to regain momentum, the Selects would fall 8-4 to the Blue Devils and suffer an early exit to the consolation side of the U15 bracket. Despite any disappointment, Burnaby Mountain would continue their winning ways the rest of the tournament defeating Krunch (NY) 9-4; and Team Illinois (IL) 11-0 to claim a 9th placed finish.

In six games, the Freshmen Selects posted a final record of 5-1 (.833) and outscored their opponents 59-23. With the lone loss, the BMS Freshmen would conclude their 2009 fall season with an impressive record of 10-2 (.833) and having outscored the competition by a combined margin of 119-43.

HOCKEY NIGHT IN TAMPA

In addition to playing some of North America's top club lacrosse teams, the Burnaby Mountain Selects were also able to enjoy Canada's other national sport, ice hockey, at St. Pete Times Forum where they watched the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning host the Montreal Canadiens. The Habs defeated the Bolts 2-1 in overtime.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Selects celebrated New Year's Eve at Busch Gardens in Tampa, Florida where they enjoyed a combination of rides and live shows before counting down to the start of 2010. Busch Gardens Tampa Bay is one of the ultimate adventure parks in the world, featuring some of the top rated roller coasters in North America, as well as one of the premier zoos in the US with more than 2,000 animals.

ABOUT BURNABY MOUNTAIN SELECTS LACROSSE

Established in 2006 by Simon Fraser University men's lacrosse Co-Head Coaches Jeff Cathrea and Brent Hoskins, the Burnaby Mountain Selects Field Lacrosse Program is an amateur sports organization designed to train players in a high performance environment to best prepare them for a collegiate field lacrosse career. Selection and consideration into the program is reserved for a select group of elite student-athletes, who possess the desire to work hard and learn in a competitive team environment, while demonstrating the ability to prioritize their academics goals in the highest regard. Over 200 athletes in grades 6-12 have participated in the Selects program from over 20 communities across British Columbia's Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, BC Interior and Washington State. The Selects travel to compete in top college recruiting tournaments throughout North America, helping to place over 40% of graduating players in collegiate field lacrosse programs.

The Selects are proudly sponsored by Harrow Sports and Onyx Lacrosse / Riddell Helmets. For further information on Burnaby Mountain Lacrosse please visit www.selectslacrosse.com or follow the Selects LIVE on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/selectslacrosse>.

CONTACT: Executive Director, Brent Hoskins +1 (604) 836-7748, bhoskins@alumni.sfu.ca

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