



BURNABY MOUNTAIN LACROSSE

PRESS RELEASE

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Former Selects attackman Brian Gillis to play in FIL World Championship



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By William Howard, *Bby Mtn Lacrosse Media Relations*
Burnaby Mountain Selects Lacrosse

BURNABY, BC (July 6, 2010) – Former Burnaby Mountain Selects attackman Brian Gillis (North Vancouver, BC / Windsor Secondary) has been named to the 23-man national team roster that will represent Ireland at the Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) World Championship in Manchester, England from July 15-24, 2010.

Gillis, a 2009 graduate of the Burnaby Mountain Selects program, recently completed his freshman year at New England College (NCAA Div. III) in Henniker, New Hampshire. During his freshman season with the Pilgrims, Gillis scored 15 goals and 3 assists and was named NEC's departmental Male Rookie of the Year.

The North Vancouver, BC native played two seasons on Burnaby Mountain's Senior Elite team in the summer and fall of 2008, helping to lead the Selects to successful tournaments in Colorado, New York, Baltimore and Florida.

The Irish Lacrosse Foundation selected Gillis from a pool of more than 80 candidates that participated in selection camps in Ireland and New York earlier this year.

"I showed up not knowing what to expect," Gillis said of the tryouts that were held in New York approximately 5 hours away from where he is going to school at New England College. "We hit the field and it was really intense. We then took a break and went through a long talk about Ireland and where everyone is from."



#52 Brian Gillis scores for the Burnaby Mountain Selects vs. Connecticut Hurricanes at the 2009 NDP Tournament of Champions in Tampa, Florida. (Photo by Joyce Simons)

Gillis who is the youngest player on the Irish National team is also the only Canadian-born player to be named to the 2010 roster.

"There was a big coaching staff. They put us through physical and agility tests and it was really competitive. They told us to go out there and fight for your spot and that they would contact the top 35 to compete in some scrimmages."

After the tryouts, Gillis got the call to represent Ireland in a scrimmage versus the New York Athletic Club, a team consisting of many former NCAA lacrosse players. Gillis continued to impress the Irish coaching staff and was extended an invitation to play for Ireland at the 2010 FIL World Championship.

When asked what it will mean to play for Ireland, Gillis a second generation citizen of Canada whose grandparents hailed from Ireland, replied "It means a lot. I am really proud of my Irish heritage and it is awesome being able to travel to Ireland and compete against different countries. It makes me feel a lot more Irish and I am really excited."



#10 Brian Gillis
New England College - NCAA Div. III
(Photo by Fred Testor)

Gillis will get on a plane to Ireland this evening where the team will hold two-a-day practices from July 8-12 at University College Dublin, before leaving July 12 for Manchester, England.

Ireland will be one of 30 national teams participating in the 2010 FIL World Championship which will start on July 15 and will be the largest World Championships tournament to date. At the last World Championship, in London, Ontario in 2006, Ireland won five of seven games, finishing in 7th place among 21 teams.

The 2010 Irish Men's National Team players and staff include:

IRELAND NATIONAL TEAM ROSTER

Name – Position (Hometown)

Sean Bodie – Midfield (Dublin, Ireland)
Chris Byrne - Defense/LSM (New York, NY, USA)
Mike Conway – LSM (Bethpage, NY, USA)
John Frame – Defense (Dublin, Ireland)
Sean Gibson – Midfield (Blackrock, Co. Louth, Ireland)
Brian Gillis – Attack (North Vancouver, BC, Canada)
Zak Jordan – Midfield (Dublin, Ireland)
Michael Kennedy – Midfield (Dublin, Ireland)
Dan Leidl – Defense (Westover, WV, USA)
Ryan Licht – Defense (Bridgewater, NJ, USA)
Dara McCreary – Defense (Dublin, Ireland)
Sean McTernan – Attack (Seattle, WA, USA)
Jerry Nevin – Defense (San Francisco, CA, USA)
John O'Connor – Midfield (Waterford, Ireland)
Paddy O'Leary – Midfield (Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Ireland)
Kevin Owens – Midfield (Fairfield, CT, USA)
Kristian Prior – Attack (Merrick, NY, USA)
Kevin Quinn – Goalie (Ballina, Co. Mayo, Ireland)
Tom Riley – Midfield (West Nyack, NY, USA)
John Ryan – Midfield (Astoria, NY, USA)
Martin Scanlon – Midfield (Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, Ireland)
Connor Sweeney – Goalie (South Salem, NY, USA)
Matt Walsh – Attack (Dublin, Ireland)

Richie Moran - Team Leader
Tim Weir - Head Coach
Bob Deegan - Associate Head Coach
Tom Prior - Assistant Coach
Tony Devine - Assistant Coach
John Cavanaugh - Athletic Trainer / Strength & Condit. Coach
Larry Carroll - Equipment Manager

ABOUT FIL WORLD LACROSSE CHAMPIONSHIP

The FIL World Lacrosse Championship is the premier international men's lacrosse tournament. Held every four years, the 2010 Championship will take place July 15-24 in Manchester, England. A record 30 nations will compete at the event, nine more than the 2006 World Lacrosse Championships, which were held in London, Ontario, Canada.

From its inception in 1967 through the 2006 event, the World Lacrosse Championships were sanctioned by the International Lacrosse Federation (ILF). In 2008, the ILF merged with the former governing body for women's lacrosse, the International Federation of Women's Lacrosse Associations (IFWLA), to form the Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL). From the 2010 World Championship, all future World Championships will be sanctioned by FIL.

This will be the third time that the tournament has been hosted in Manchester, having hosted the 1978 and 1994 World Championships. Canada is the defending champion having defeated the United States 15-10 in the 2006 Final.

The events are being held at the Armitage Centre, Manchester University's sports grounds.



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. More than 230 athletes in grades 5-12 have participated in the Selects program from over 30 communities across British Columbia's Lower Mainland, BC Coast, BC Interior, Washington State and Idaho. 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>.

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