

sports

Stars come out to play alumni lacrosse game

by Jessica Tieszen
Contributor

The stars are back in town.

The Richmond Roadrunners alumni team will play an exhibition field lacrosse game against the newly-formed U19 Richmond lacrosse team this Saturday (Aug. 21) at Minoru Park.

The alumni team will feature a number of professional and collegiate athletes all on the same court.

The game, scheduled to start at 11:30 a.m., isn't the only fun event taking place however. The Richmond Lacrosse Association will be hosting a camp filled with events for people of all ages starting at 9 a.m.

The camp will highlight a skills clinic for new and returning lacrosse players, with coaching from some of Richmond's most decorated players.

"The game and clinic will prove to be a reminder of all the past successes that Richmond players have achieved and to forecast the successes to come," explains Richmond lacrosse's Scott Jensen.

Among those returning to play for Richmond's alumni is Chris Sella, who played for Team Canada in 2002 and 2004, as well as professionally for three different teams. Shaun Dhaliwal, who last season was the youngest player in the National Lacrosse League will also be representing the alumni along with Chris Manwaring who plays for the Burnaby Lakers in the B.C. senior A lacrosse league.

"These boys have been great ambassadors of the sport. They have represented Richmond



Wade Galbraith, Parker Sahota and Tyler Nett are captains of the U19 Richmond field lacrosse team.

on so many levels," explains Jensen. "Hopefully the younger kids will get inspired and see the future that lies ahead in field lacrosse."

Lacrosse is the fastest growing sport in the U.S. and one of the few sports where getting a scholarship is a real possibility. Lacrosse offers endless opportunities for teens, one being here in the Lower Mainland with the Burnaby Mountain Selects, a development team under the Simon Fraser University lacrosse program. Paul Sahota, vice-president of Richmond Field Lacrosse says "as coaches, the development of lacrosse players capitulates secondary. Primarily, we are bringing to being society's future leaders."

The Burnaby Mountain Selects summer team, with talent from four Richmond players, recently returned home

from the nationally-renowned invitation only Champ Camp in Baltimore, Maryland. Burnaby Mountain is the first program to be selected from Western Canada in the tournament's 21 year history. The Selects finished the camp with a 4-4 (.500) record.

"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 goal, in the highest regard," explains Burnaby Mountain media relations' director William Howard.

Trenton Matsuzaki, Danny McDermott and Parker Sahota played for the Selects and are all have developed their skills through the Richmond Lacrosse Association.

Quinton Bradley, who currently plays for Burnaby is also a Richmond resident.

Bradley Hoffman is another Richmond player who competed in lacrosse this summer for Team B.C.

"These guys are getting a lot of recognition from top U.S. schools," explains Paul Sahota. "Through the alumni game and skills camp, we want parents and players to realize the different opportunities through field lacrosse." Richmond Lacrosse Association continues to produce top performing teams, bringing home provincial medals in every age group.

"There is a lot of talent budding in Richmond," says Sahota. "We want everyone to get involved."

All players, new and returning are welcome to attend. For info go to

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Things to do on Saturday!
Been meaning to try Dragon Boating or Kayaking? Now is your chance! Drop in sessions from 12 pm to 5 pm. All ages welcome. By donation. Proceeds go to the Richmond Food Bank. Registration starts at 11 am. Support the Food Bank at the Saturday Night BBQ 5 pm to 8 pm.

FREE SATURDAY NIGHT CONCERTS
Saturday, 5:30 pm - Redgrass - Bluegrass music
Saturday, 7:00 pm - Ezra Kwizera - Exciting African Dance Band
Saturday, 8:30 pm - The Wheat in the Barley - Celtic Music

Don't miss the fabulous Dragon Boat Races on Sunday!

REVIEW www.stevestondragonboatfestival.ca

COME TRY HOCKEY EVENT

Sunday, August 22 | 10:00 a.m. – Noon
Richmond Ice Centre | Garage Rink

No need to pre-register. Come and see what it's all about, meet the coaches, get more information – is this the sport for your child? Let them give it a try!
ALL AGES WELCOME.

If you've been wondering about joining and have some questions this is the perfect time to check it out. Get all the answers while your child is on the ice with the professionals.

Minimum gear requirements: skates, approved helmet and gloves (preferably hockey gloves) and hockey stick.

For more information please call 604-271-3702 or just show up ready to go!

Seafair Minor Hockey Association
"Great Hockey — Great People"