



DEC 2025

WIZARDS LACROSSE

NORTH EDMONTON MINOR BOX LACROSSE NEWSLETTER

LACROSSE PRESEASON IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

Get ready for our biggest + boldest season yet!

Lacrosse season officially kicks off in April, but the action starts now. We're gearing up for a massive preseason packed with chances to try the sport, sharpen your skills, meet teammates, and join the fastest-growing community sport around!

Whether you're brand new, returning for another season, or a future lacrosse superstar, we want YOU on the floor with us in 2026!



WHY 2026 IS THE YEAR TO PLAY LACROSSE

This season, we're focused on:

- Growing our Female division
- We are introducing more schools and more kids to lacrosse than ever before
- Building strong teams across every age group (4-16 years), **co-ed, male and female**
- Creating an inclusive, family-first community

If you know a kid who would love lacrosse, send them our way. **We've saved them a spot!**



!! IMPORTANT NOTICE: League Moving to **Tiered Play**

As we prepare for the upcoming season, we want to share that our league (GELC) **is transitioning to a tiered system**. Because of this shift, we strongly encourage all players (new and returning) to come out to our preseason events (drop in's), ID camps, and evaluations. **Your participation helps us** accurately assess overall interest, determine the number of teams we can field at each age group, and place athletes where they'll succeed and grow.

If your player is considering joining us this season, **now is the perfect time to get involved**. The more athletes we see, the better we can plan for a **strong and successful season ahead!**



PRESEASON 101

FOR PARENTS WHO ARE STILL GOOGLING THE RULES.



Lacrosse Preseason: No Experience Required, Just Enthusiasm and a Helmet.

Lacrosse **preseason** is about learning fundamentals and building skills through drills and practices, focusing on individual and team-based development in a less intense environment.

The **regular season** shifts to applying those skills in high-stakes situations, with official games against opponents, focusing on strategy, game play, and competitive outcomes. Think of preseason as "school" where you learn the material, and the regular season as the "final exam" where you compete against others using that knowledge.



PRESEASON Development + Practice

- **Focus:** Fundamentals, improve individual skills, develop player chemistry
- **Activities:** Drills for passing, catching, shooting, and cradling; position-specific practice; team-building exercises; and learning basic plays.
- **Environment:** Practice-focused. It's a time for growth and conditioning without the pressure of winning.

PARENT NOTE: SINCE PRESEASON OVERLAPS WITH OTHER SPORTS, LIKE HOCKEY AND INDOOR SOCCER, COSTS FOR PRESEASON PRACTISES + EVENTS ARE PAY-WHEN-YOU-GO. IT IS COMMON TO REGISTER ONLINE AND/ OR PAY AT THE DOOR.



REGULAR SEASON Competition + Strategy

- **Focus:** Applying skills in game situations and executing strategy against opponents.
- **Activities:** Games against other teams, which require advanced strategy, game management, and playing under pressure.
- **Environment:** Competitive, with a focus on performing under official game rules.

PARENT NOTE: REGULAR SEASON REGISTRATION BEGINS EARLY! THIS ALLOWS US TO PLAN FOR EQUIPMENT AND COACHES. REGISTER EARLY TO GUARANTEE YOUR SPOT ON A TEAM!

LACROSSE PRESEASON

EVENTS COMING UP IN JANUARY

THIS IS YOUR OFFICIAL REMINDER TO FIND LAST YEAR'S MOUTH-GUARD. ○



ID CAMPS: Show Us Your Game!

A perfect chance for all players with intention to play 'A' level to shake off winter rust, run through high-tempo drills, and get noticed by coaches in preseason.

WHY ATTEND?

- High-rep skill sessions
- Pro-style evaluations
- Great warm-up for tryouts
- Confidence boost

DETAILS:

U13, U15, U17 Players
Saturday, January 10th
8:30pm - 9:30pm
Servus Place, St. Albert



DROP-IN DAYS

These drop-in floor times are for players to come out and shake the dust off, flex their throwing arm, and get back into their lacrosse groove! They are full of skills 'n drills!

Also, if your player intends to try out for an 'A' level spot or attend evaluations, drop-in days are a **great way to warm-up and prepare**.

\$10 / DROP-IN SESSION

CHECK OUT ALL THE DROP-IN DATES AT:
WIZARDSLACROSSE.CA



BRING-A-FRIEND (TRY-IT) DAYS

New to lacrosse? These are the perfect intro events to try the sport. **Best part, friends play FREE!**

These days are fast-paced but low-pressure, and are designed for kids who want to give the sport a try. We know you'll have fun!

Players aged 4-16 years are welcome, no matter their experience level.

WE PROVIDE: STICKS, COACHES, FUN.

YOU BRING: INDOOR SHOES, GLOVES (IF YOU HAVE THEM), CAGED HELMET, A FRIEND, THE HYPE!



Try the sport. Learn the game. Have a blast!



GIRLS WANTED!

We strongly encourage girls to attend our Try-it + Drop-in days! Lacrosse is for everyone, and we are committed to growing the female division in Edmonton and area!



CHECK OUT BRING-A-FRIEND (TRY-IT) DATES:

WIZARDSLACROSSE.CA

LACROSSE PRESEASON COACHING & REGISTRATION NEWS

FOR PARENTS WHO LOVE THE SPORT (OR ARE LEARNING TO)



WANTED

Coaches + Bench Staff

Do you love the game of lacrosse? Have you ever thought about stepping behind the bench? Our club is gearing up for the 2026 season, and we're excited to **welcome new and returning coaches** to our team!

We are accepting ALL APPLICATIONS. Whether you're a seasoned player, a dedicated parent, or someone who simply wants to get involved, **no experience is necessary.** If you have the passion, we'll help guide you through the coaching pathway, provide resources, and connect you with mentors to **help you feel confident and prepared.**

If you're interested, or even just curious, please **check out the (revised) Coaching Application on our website!** We'd love to have you join our coaching team and help shape an amazing season for our players.



SPOTLIGHT - CLUB PRESIDENT **CRAIG MONTGOMERY**



Craig has served as President of the Wizards Lacrosse Club for the past four years, bringing unwavering passion, leadership, and heart to the organization. **A lifelong lacrosse player**, Craig continues to compete with the Edmonton Miners Lacrosse Senior C team and channels that same love for the game into the club he leads.

As a **dedicated father of three**, Craig has coached each of his children and remains a familiar, positive presence at the rink, whether behind the bench or cheering from the stands. He **takes immense pride** in seeing young athletes he encouraged grow their confidence, develop their skills, and embrace the **spirit of the game**.

Craig's impact reaches well beyond the Wizards. He volunteers countless hours **coaching multiple teams** and contributes annually to the Indigenous Games, where his generosity, humility, and genuine care for youth shine through. He strongly believes lacrosse is the perfect sport to **complement any athletic pathway** and wants every child to have the opportunity to discover it.

When he's not volunteering or coaching, Craig can be found playing lacrosse, hockey, or golf, or traveling from rink to rink **supporting his kids** and the many players he's helped mentor in the sport.

Growing Our Female Division: 2026 Season Registration News

Last season, clubs within the GELC saw **fantastic growth in the Female Divisions**, and the registration process below proved to be very successful. To continue supporting fair team sizes and creating the best playing experience possible, we will follow the same approach for the upcoming 2026 season.

For all Female Divisions, registration will move to a waitlist once we reach **18 runners + 1 goalie**. Our Registrar will actively monitor the waitlist, and if it reaches **12 runners + 1 goalie**, we will contact those families and move forward with forming a second team.

If the waitlist does not reach the numbers needed to create a second team, players will **have the option to transfer** to another Female team within the GELC to ensure everyone who wants to play has a place on a team. We are committed to transparent communication as our Female program continues to grow. **Updates will be shared regularly**, and parents are welcome to reach out with any questions.



LACROSSE PRESEASON COACHING & REGISTRATION NEWS

HELP US GROW... BECAUSE YOUR KIDS ALREADY OUTGREW THEIR SHOES



Growing Our Club, One New Player at a Time

As we gear up for the new season, one of our biggest goals is to continue growing our club and our community. Lacrosse is an exciting, fast-paced sport that **builds confidence**, teamwork, and friendships — and we want more young athletes to experience that.

Growth starts with **welcoming new players**, especially those who may be trying lacrosse for the very first time. Many kids join a new sport because someone they know brings them, which is why our **Try-It & Bring-a-Friend events** are such an important part of our season. When current players invite a friend, it creates a comfortable, supportive **entry point for kids** who might otherwise feel unsure about trying something new.

Every new player strengthens our club.

Growth allows us to offer more teams, better development opportunities, and more meaningful experiences for athletes at every level. It also helps us **build a more vibrant and inclusive lacrosse community**, one where every child feels they have a place on the field.

This year, we encourage families to help us spread the word. Invite a neighbor, a cousin, a classmate — anyone who might love the chance to pick up a stick and give lacrosse a try.

Together, we can **continue growing the Wizards family**, one friend at a time.



Volunteer Commitment Returns for The Season

The club is bringing back its **volunteer commitment for all registered players** this season. More details in RAMP registration and our next newsletter, along with early-season opportunities for families who want to complete their hours right away.



Early-Bird Season REGISTRATION

We know families are juggling a lot, and lacrosse fees across the Alberta are rising this year. We want to give our returning members the earliest, and best, chance to save on fees, so we are sharing this information with you now.

Early-bird season registration is **coming soon**. Please watch for the email as we want to ensure everyone gets a spot!

LACROSSE PRESEASON

PARENT RESOURCES & SUPPORT

(BECAUSE APPARENTLY KIDS NEED MORE THAN SNACKS TO PLAY)



JOIN!

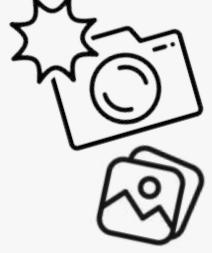
Questions? We're here to help!

Have a question and not sure where to find the answer? The first place to look is our website, as it is updated on a regular basis and great tool for new/returning families.

- Help with **How to Register** is under the **Join Lacrosse** menu.
- Age division information is available under each **age category homepage** (ie. U7 Homepage, U9 Homepage).
- Head Coaches and Managers will be updating division calendars **once teams are formed** (ie. U9-1, U9-2).
- The **For Parents** menu has a variety of helpful info, including: volunteer info, equipment breakdown, and an arena locator.

All Board members are also available to answer your questions. Responsibilities and contact information are directly available on the website homepage.

GOT A GREAT LACROSSE MOMENT? WE WANT TO SEE IT!



We love celebrating our players – big wins, small wins, team moments, and everything in between! If you have photos, success stories, milestones, or a moment that made you proud, we'd love to share it in our newsletters, website, and social channels. **Send the news our way!**

Thank you for helping us highlight the amazing things happening across our club!

Help Us Keep the Jerseys Fresh (& the Shin Pads New!)

The Wizards Lacrosse Club relies on the support of businesses, individuals, donations, and corporate sponsorships to operate. Sponsorship opportunities create a unique win-win: we strengthen your business while you support our mission to make lacrosse accessible to all.

Ready to Become a Sponsorship Partner?

Download our **Sponsorship Package** on our website.

Questions?

Contact fundraising@wizardslacrosse.ca



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