

LAKERS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
APRIL



20
26



LAKERS PRIDE SHINES BRIGHT ON DESCHNERDAY!



Our annual Deschner Day celebration was an absolute triumph, and we couldn't be prouder of this community. From the first whistle to the final buzzer, the energy at the arena was electric. Seeing a sea of green in the stands; with players, parents, and alumni wearing their Lakers colors with such pride—reminded us all why this club is so special! It was also amazing to have our mascot back on the floor! Lax the Laker is back in action and available to make appearances around the club!

The energy at Bill Copeland Arena was absolutely electric during this year's Deschner Days!

Our on-floor inter-club games were a total whirlwind of excitement, featuring non-stop action in both age groups and even some high flying acrobatic goals! It was incredible to watch all our athletes who showed up to support the community, showcase their speed, agility, and pure passion for the game in such a fast-paced environment. From Coast-to-coast runs to some truly impressive teamwork, the skill on display was a fantastic tribute to the start of the box lacrosse season. We're already looking to make next year even bigger and better! If your team wants to be part of the action-packed mini-games at Deschner Days next year, reach out and join the fun!



HONOURING A LEGACY

The heart of the event was our special tribute to the Deschner family, whose multi-generational commitment has helped build the Burnaby Lakers into what we are today. We were deeply moved to be joined by Marj Deschner, wife of the late Frank Deschner. It was a true highlight of the day to present Marj with flowers as a small token of our immense gratitude.

The Deschner legacy continues to thrive through Marj's son, Clarke, a tireless volunteer whose support has touched nearly every corner of this club, and her grandsons Steven and Cameron. A huge shoutout to Cameron, who is currently carrying the torch as coach of our U13B Female team!



CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

We are proud to introduce the Model Laker Awards, a new tradition dedicated to celebrating the character and integrity of our athletes. These awards shift the focus from the scoreboard to the person behind the jersey, recognizing those who demonstrate exemplary attitudes, a commitment to self-improvement, and a positive impact within the Burnaby community.

Starting this season, coaches will nominate players for two prestigious honors:

The Frank Deschner Award (for U7–U11)

The Jack Crosby Model Laker Award (for U13–U22).

We look forward to celebrating our first group of recipients at next year's Deschner Days season-opening ceremonies, where their names will be etched into our club's history on the permanent trophies displayed at Kensington Arena. Coaches, keep an eye on your athletes and on your inbox for nomination forms coming soon!

A TEAM EFFORT

An event like 'Deschner Days' doesn't happen without a massive team behind the scenes. We want to extend a huge "Thank You" to:

- **Our Athletes** - Your sportsmanship, grit, and passion on the floor were inspiring. You played with heart and represented the Lakers name with class.
- **Our Parents & Families** - Thank you for the early mornings, the loud cheering, and for fostering such a positive environment for our players to grow.
- **Our Volunteers** - From the jersey coordinators to the timekeepers and everyone in between—you are the engine of this club. We see your hard work, and we appreciate it more than words can say.
- **Our Sponsors and Vendors** - Your generous support allows us to provide the best possible experience for our youth. Thank you for investing in the future of Burnaby Lacrosse.



LOOKING AHEAD

The success of Deschner Days has set a fantastic tone for the rest of our season. Let's carry this momentum, this "Lakers Pride," and this sense of family into our upcoming games and practices. Thank you to everyone who came out to make Deschner Day 2026 one for the history books. We'll see you at the rink!





LAKERS STORE

**GET FREE SHIPPING
ON ALL \$99+ ORDERS**

**USE CODE:
LAKERS26**



- Any team apparel orders go directly to Mat Bird (matbird@soccerx.com) and will receive 20% off the MSPR pricing on-line.
- Shipping will be combined into 1 total - typically around 6% of the order value, but may vary based on product and overall volume.
- Shipping costs for team orders are quoted individually for each order. Custom options like player names, numbers, and team sponsor logos are included in the price.
- Custom Lakers Duffel bags are \$110 and Custom backpacks are \$125. These are not discountable on a team basis. **Samples will be available on photo day**
- **Multi-Sport Backpack** - 18" x 13" x 9.5"
Duffel Bag - Medium - 24" x 11" x 11"
Duffel Bag - Large - 28" x 11" x 11"
Duffel Bag - XL - 34" x 13" x 13"

CLICK TO HERE VISIT STORE

LAKERS GIVE BACK:

ONE GOAL, TWO PAIRS OF SOCKS!



The Burnaby Minor Lacrosse Club is proud to continue its long-standing partnership with [Your City Sports](#) through our ongoing “Buy One, Give One” sock program. For many seasons now, this initiative has allowed our Lakers family to look great on the floor while making a meaningful difference off of it; for every pair of Lakers socks purchased for \$20, a second pair is donated directly to [those in need](#). We believe that being a part of this club means more than just sport—it’s about fostering a spirit of leadership and empathy by supporting our broader community alongside our own. [Socks are always available for purchase](#), and we encourage everyone to keep this tradition of giving alive. For those looking to gear up as a group, please reach out to the [Executive Board](#) to coordinate team orders and help us continue providing essential comfort to those who need it most.



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the vendors and sponsors who played a vital role in our recent celebrations and continue to support our community. A huge thank you to our vendors; Venom Lacrosse, Rage Lacrosse, Junior and Senior Lakers, and Gummie Gainz. A huge thank you our incredible sponsors:

- [Dolce Amore](#)
- [Real Canadian Wholesale Club](#)
- [Alina Luxury](#)
- [Venom Lacrosse](#)
- [Il Cappello Restaurant](#)
- [Adanac Sales Ltd.](#)

Without your generous support, many of our special events simply would not be possible. These partnerships allow our club to continue celebrating the accomplishments of our teams, players, and

community members in the style they deserve. Congrats to [Benjamin Merino Quinteros](#) from [U9 team #1](#) for Winning a Free Rage Lacrosse Summer Camp!!!

Join Our Sponsor Community

The club is always looking for new sponsors to help us grow and support our athletes. Whether a business is large or small, all sponsorships are welcome! If you or someone you know would be interested in partnering with us, please reach out to a member of the Executive Board for more information. Your support makes a direct impact on our community’s success.

A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

SUSAN KIRKBY INDUCTED INTO THE BURNABY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

It was a monumental and deeply moving evening for our community on April 10th as we gathered at the Riverway Golf Course to witness a legacy being etched into history. We are overjoyed to announce that our very own Club President, Susan Kirkby, has been officially inducted into the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame as a Builder in the sport of lacrosse. Surrounded by Mayor Hurley, esteemed past inductees, and many influential leaders of our city, the night served as a powerful reminder of the incredible impact one person can have. For over 20 years, Susan has been the steady heartbeat of the Burnaby Minor Lacrosse Club, giving selflessly of her time, energy, and spirit to ensure that generations of young athletes have a place to thrive. While the Hall of Fame recognizes her as a “Builder,” we know her as the soul of our organization—a mentor and advocate who has shaped the lives of countless

players both on and off the floor.

This milestone is also a beautiful opportunity to recognize the Kirkby family, to whom we owe a debt of gratitude. Beyond standing by Susan, the entire family has been a constant source of strength for our club, contributing their own hard work and dedication to ensure our community remains vibrant and strong. We are profoundly thankful for the collective support the Kirkby’s bring to the BMLC; you are all an integral part of our fabric, and we are lucky to have you in our corner. Susan, your induction is a long-overdue tribute to your grit, your heart, and your tireless belief in our youth. You have built far more than a sports program; you have built a community that will carry your influence for generations to come. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you and congratulations!



SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Now that the season has officially kicked off, We've started our brand new 'Team Submission Program'. We want to share and celebrate your success! We'll be looking for content from parents, coaches, and players to help us highlight:

- Individual and team accomplishments.
- Big wins and "clutch" moments from around the league.
- Reminders for upcoming "Game of the Week" matchups.
- Behind-the-scenes team fun.

Start clearing out your phone storage now, we want your best photos and videos! Follow and Tag Us.

@BURNABYLACROSSE



TOP SHELF OPPORTUNITIES: NET A BCLA SCHOLARSHIP FOR YOUR FUTURE!

As our older athletes gear up to trade their lacrosse sticks for textbooks, we want to make sure you know about some fantastic financial support available right within our own community. If you have a player in the U17 or U22 divisions, there are several incredible BCLA scholarship and bursary opportunities now open for 2026—including a brand-new educational scholarship introduced just this year! We are always so proud of our Burnaby players' dedication both on and off the floor, and we highly encourage all eligible athletes to take advantage of these wonderful awards to help fund their post-secondary adventures. Applying is a breeze! You can download all the



necessary nomination forms directly from the BCLA website [HERE](#). Once your application is complete, the BCLA office prefers that you email it, along with a required digital photo of the applicant, directly to Deb Heard at debheard@bclacrosse.com. Just be sure to fire those completed forms into her inbox before the buzzer sounds on the deadline of Monday, June 15, 2026. We love seeing our players succeed in all their future goals, so please share this information with your teammates. Best of luck to everyone applying!



MANAGERS HUDDLE: GEAR, GOALS AND GAME PLANS!

- As we dive into the heart of the season, we want to extend a massive thank you to our incredible team managers. These unsung heroes keep the Burnaby Lacrosse machine humming!
- We're thrilled to report that all equipment, balls, and dry-fit gear have found their way to our teams. The order of coaches shirts has arrived and they can be picked up from Michelle at Photo Day in May 2nd
- Our recent managers' Zoom meeting was a fantastic showcase of our community spirit, and it's wonderful to see such a supportive group already leaning on one another. TeamSnap is now fully locked and loaded to help you stay organized, but never hesitate to reach out if you need a hand.
- Picture day is coming up on Saturday, May 2nd. The wonderful Rozina has organized and sent out all the teams specific time slots. Please talk to your manager about finding your time slot. White Jerseys, Sticks, Gloves and Lakers shorts are all that's required to bring!.
- On the competition front, Managers should have all tournament applications wrapped up by now, so keep a close watch on your inbox for those essential registration and payment links to keep your team in the running.
- Looking ahead to the post-season, we will be asking all U13, U15, U17, and U22 teams if they wish to declare for Provincials. The great news is that our club covers the \$250 declaration fee per team! We just ask that you fill out the declaration form and submit it to Deb Heard by May 18th, 2026. From there, Deb and Susan Kirkby will proof them and send them off for you.
- Lastly, let's tackle the paperwork so we can get back to the game: Form 100's were due April 24th and should have all been sent in to Deb Heard via **EMAIL**.



HELP OUR LAKERS SHINE

YEAR-ROUND BOTTLE DRIVE

Want an easy way to support our athletes while clearing out the garage? Our Year-Round Bottle Drive is in full swing, and it's a fantastic way for our community to help fund the programs our players love! Next time you're heading to the Burnaby Recycling & Bottle Depot or the Regional Recycling Depot, you can donate your returns directly to the club. It's as simple as can be: just use our club phone number, 604-312-6181, at the Express kiosks when dropping off your bags. Every nickel and dime adds up to better gear, better experiences, and a stronger club for our kids.



GET READY FOR THE MAGIC:

THE JACK CROSBY

TOURNAMENT IS COMING!



We can already hear the echoes of sticks hitting the floor and the roar of the crowd—the Jack Crosby Tournament is just around the corner, and it's shaping up to be our most spectacular year yet! We are absolutely thrilled to announce that this is set to be the biggest tournament in Burnaby Lakers history,

with over 40 teams already vying for a spot in the action. To make this milestone truly special, we're busy welcoming back our favorite local vendors and inviting fresh new faces to join the festivities. But to truly bring the magic to life, we need YOU! Whether you're a parent ready to lend a helping hand as a volunteer, a local business owner looking to shine as a sponsor, or an athlete itching to hit the floor, your energy is what makes our community so incredible. Let's come together to make this tournament an unforgettable experience for our kids and show everyone why the Burnaby spirit is second to none!



THANK YOU

LAKERS COMMUNITY

A big heartfelt thank you for everyone who has helped us start the season. There has been so much work behind the scenes to get us going and we couldn't have done it without you
See you on the floor!

Burnaby Lakers Minor Lacrosse Club

