







# THE FURTHER YOU GO, THE MORE YOU'LL FIND

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# Welcome to the 49th annual Vail Lacrosse Shootout

ELL I DON'T KNOW ABOUT EVERYONE, but we are personally so thankful to be able to welcome players, coaches and fans back for our 49th annual gathering to honor the game, each other and our ability to finally gather together again after a bit of a hiatus.

We do need to clarify that there was a 48th annual event with the "Local Favorites", our staff team alias, finally able to overcome the competition at the hallowed Athletic Field in Vail. Out of habit, or lack of planning anything else to do, a large portion of your "lifer" staff members gathered in Vail for the 4th to have a picnic, play some Chumash in Flip's honor and wonder at the state of everything in the summer 2020.

We tried strange activities for us on the 4th weekend like biking, fishing, 4-wheeling and spending leisurely afternoons on the patios in the Village. This was such a polar opposite of lining fields, prepping scorebooks, taping ankles and worrying about the weather. While it was a nice taste of what we hope is your time in Vail, we look forward to seeing you on the field again and renewing old friendships or making new ones.

We are truly thankful to all who give of their precious time to run this event, it takes a true village of selfless people that make the event the greatest club lacrosse tournament in the world. We hope you enjoy your time in the beautiful Vail Valley and create memories for a lifetime at 8000 feet.

Tournament Directors Jim, David and Brian

Director From Above Flip



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Welcome to the 49th Annual Vail Lacrosse Shootout! We are excited to welcome you back after one of the toughest years any of us has lived through. Seeing all of you back in Vail to play lacrosse will be a highlight of the summer. The past four decades have shown that the Shootout and the Town of Vail form a wonderful partnership with great competition in an ideal location. Although we couldn't host you for the full tournament in 2020, we were so thankful to see many of you in Vail for summer vacations.

Under blue skies more than 300 days each year, Vail is an extraordinary mountain resort destination. The vacation experience is exceptional, from the awe-inspiring terrain and natural beauty of the surrounding Gore and Sawatch Ranges to world-class events, activities and festivals, shops and spas, and the abundant culinary experiences and luxurious accommodations that line the pedestrian-friendly streets of Vail Village and Lionshead. Vail is where outdoor pursuits meet village sophistication. Offering more than 5,200 acres of developed ski and snowboard terrain including seven legendary Back Bowls in winter, and flourishing with new summer activities at Epic Discovery, the options for year-round adventure are endless. Coupled with the vision inherent in the spirit of Vail's founders, and a modern-day commitment to excellence in all aspects of guest service and operations, Vail is a mountain resort like nothing on earth.

With everyone's commitment to public health and safety, we were able to successfully navigate a busy summer in 2020 and a ski season like no other. The Town of Vail and Eagle County are now seeing the fruits of our labor with a return to events that looks relatively normal. While most restrictions are no longer in place, we continue to ask that everyone respects and protects each other while you are in town. Mask restrictions have been lifted in most businesses and in the village core, but certain businesses may still require masks inside or follow other safety protocols. Masks are also required by federal mandate on our Town of Vail buses.

We've planned a great celebration for you this year which includes a reverse Fourth of July Parade, themed "America's Heroes", where the floats and exhibits will be placed in the villages, available to view all day. Also returning is an annual favorite, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra returns to Bravo!

Vail to present the Patriotic Concert, with gates opening at 12:30 p.m. and the performance at 2:00 p.m. Visit www.BravoVail.com for ticket information. The Vail Farmers' Market will also be taking place on the 4th of July in Vail Village. That evening you can watch the traditional Vail America Days<sup>TM</sup> fireworks display, visible from across Town from the new launch location. Check out www.vailamericaday.com for info on the reverse parade and maps of the fireworks viewing areas. For updates on possible fire restrictions or other public safety announcements, subscribe to our emergency notification system at www.ecalert.org to receive alerts on your phone.

On behalf of all of us at the Town of Vail, have an enjoyable stay. Also, we invite you to be our guests during the winter season for some incredible skiing and riding.

Warm regards,

TOWN OF VAIL

Dave Chapin Mayor of Vail

## Acknowledgements

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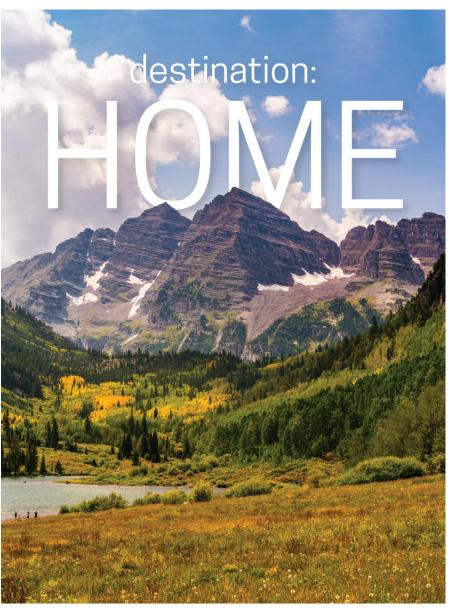


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# 2021 MEN'S ELITE

By Matt Soran

the Flip Naumburg Cup at Ford Field and Shakedown bar wayyyyyy back in 2019. No other elite team is better at compiling a roster where everyone

does their role and does it well. Their success is no coincidence and it has shown throughout the past few years. Can their usual cast of hard hitting defenders and all tournament team mainstays defend the throne? Big Green Herd would want nothing more than to take

ACROSSE, LACROSSE IS BACK, Tournaments are back. The Vail Lacrosse Shootout is back for the 49th orbit. This year's Men's Elite Division is well, you guessed it...back. Scorebreak returns as reigning champions after hoisting it from them after falling short in 2019. Will they make it their 8th straight final 4? The Herd never fails to bring a well-disciplined and experienced roster to the Vail Valley, and 2021 will be no different.

> Now to the next wave of favorites in the hunt. Bull fries. Montana tenders, huevos de toro, cowboy caviar, Rocky Mountain Oysters. Call them what you want, but they are Colorado to the core. The Oysters trek up I-70 from Denver year in and year out to wow the crowds with their offensive creativity and



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#### Men's Elite Preview-continued from page 7



flare. Rumor has it, some of their defenders have been known to use cut off tube socks as arm pads. Expect them to be tough and go far yet again this year.

Igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic ... Attack, midfield, and defense. Mohawk Tile may have their best roster to date. The Tile was solid in 2019, but is this the year they turn the Denver raised core sprinkled with some East Coast Old Bay into a granite masterpiece?

Hiding in the shadows and hungry for glory this year are the Black Seals. These guys are seasoned and will make you pay for turning the ball over with poles that can shoot and play offense with the best of them. It will be a Dark and Stormy day for anyone who does not show up against the RIT faithful. Speaking of teams that are wise and have beverage sponsors, Finkel and Garf are known to make complacent teams pay and are no tourists to Eagle County.

Continued on page 10



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Jammin' Salmon and their always anticipated crowd favorite jerseys will be missed this year in the Elite division. There are big shoes to fill from the unofficial champion of best jerseys at the tournament. The people are wondering if newcomers, Nut Chasers will get creative and pay homage to the Jammin' Salmon with their threads.

The Deli has promised to bring the meats in their second year. With a midfield unit that will most definitely cause problems between the lines, don't be surprised if they top off some big wins with some mayo and mustard.

As we welcome everyone back to Ford Field this Fourth of July weekend, there will be many familiar faces and some new ones as well. There are four new Elite teams that are looking to make their mark. It is never easy being a new team in this division. Who will become an Elite Division staple? One team could be newcomers Magic Wands. The "new generation" Wands have done their homework and collected a nationwide roster. The Silver Bullets have a talented roster composed

of current college stars that may run circles around the post grad teams cardiovascularly, but will they have the game management it takes? Though Vegas was unable to make odds on the newcomers this year, Team Spire and Team Rogue could be wise bets to stay on Ford Field and out of the losers bracket.

If there's one thing I have learned from coming up to the Vail Shootout since I was the naked baby on the sidelines with a lacrosse stick, it's that the shot clock, 2 point line, altitude, Coors Light, immense greenery and F-16 flyovers on the 4th are all factors that will test new teams but also keep them coming back year after year. Just ask the Zenmasters.

#### 2021 Men's Elite Seeding:

2021 Men 5 Ente Seeunig.				
Seed	Team	Seed	Team	
1	Scorebreak	10	Lowkey Boys	
2	BGH	11	Sons of Joe	
3	Mohawk Tile	12	Silver Bullets	
4	RM Oysters	13	Omnia	
5	Black Seals	14	Nut Chasers	
6	Rogue	15	Texas Forever	
7	Finkel & Garf	16	Spire	
8	The Deli	17	Matty Marks	
9	Magic Wands			

#### **Big Green Herd**

The Big Green Herd (of Bulldogs) return to Vail seeking revenge from their championship game loss in 2019. BGH will have a relatively new look between a group of Vail Veterans mixed with talented newcomers from Dartmouth, Yale and Denver, respectively. The attack unit will be quarterbacked by former BGH Rookie of the Year, Matt Paul and former CT Hammerhead, Ben Martin. Defen-



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#### Men's Elite Preview—continued from page 10



sively, The Herd will be anchored by: Deguzman, O'Connor and Craft complemented by lock-down defenders: Lipkin, Ambrose and Menendez between the lines. A diverse and deep Midfield unit will be led by Dylan Burke from the X and his valuable 2-way contributions. Between the pipes, newcomer Danny Hincks is primed for a big Shootout performance. BGH would like to thank our loyal sponsors: Shakedown Bar, String it Up and Nose Tork for all of their support.

#### **Mohawk Tile Lacrosse Club**

The Mohawk Tile Lacrosse Club is looking for redemption after a 3rd place finish in 2019. This year's team consists of our core group that has been with us since the leg-

endary Chico Bail Bonds Team of 2016, with some exciting new additions of former and current Drexel. UNC, Loyola, Delaware and Penn State players. These river boys turned men are now seasoned vets when it comes to the shootout and want nothing more than to finally hoist the elite men's championship. Physically, this team looks less like a lacrosse club and more like an NFL locker room. Led by our brick wall of a goalie,

Ross "Ross Hogg" Blumenthal, this defense group is ready to lay some lumber. Offensively, we have a mixed bag of seasoned vets and fresh legs. We have a flurry of playmakers and sharpshooters that will be putting those upper 90s to work. Lets hope we are just as lethal at Red Lion and Bridge Street. This is the deepest team to date and we are excited to get back to competing for an elite title

in beautiful Vail, Colorado. We would like to thank our sponsor Mohawk Tile and Joey and Matt Klingles. Your source for flooring in Philadelphia

#### **Rocky Mountain Oysters**

The Oysters, long a staple at The Shootout, are excited to be heading back up the mountain for another shot at glory. With no annual Vendettas dinner last year, the team is hungrier than ever. Oysters will be led in spirit as always by The Don, Logan Bobzien. Veteran savvy will also come in the form of former 2017 All-Tournament team Ryan Parietti, former 1st team All-Bridge Street Taylor Young, former All-American and cer-





#### Men's Elite Preview—continued from page 12

tified weapon Christian Burgdorf, and 1st Team All-American Jack Hannah's older cousin. Jack "Special J" Bobzien will also be back, fresh off an engagement. Semi-Young Bucks such as Zach Runberg, Nick Phillips, Wilkins Dismuke, and Colt McCaffery will lead the charge in terms of being semi-productive on the field. We hope they don't get kicked out of their Airbnb this year. Ryan LaPlante, Brian Kormondy, and Jack Hannah round out the list of actually still talented players. With a slimy concoction of smoke and mirrors, the Oysters might just have a championship run in them. We'll see you at Vendettas—we do it every year.

#### **Black Seals**

The Black Seals had their chance of winning the 2020 Vail Shootout ripped from their fins due to, dare I say, unprecedented times. Luckily for some, and not as much for others, a handful of the Black Seals were able to compete for an extra year of college lacrosse. They took their frustrations back to the playing field and won a DIII National Championship as Tigers instead! The Seals have always had an RIT core, but this year, the current/recent grads on the team have some extra gold to bring along with them.



The Black Seals managers decided to keep it close to home this year, with 4 different sets of brothers being added to the roster. You'll see Brothers Sickler, Brothers

Shuster, and Brothers Tackett putting on clinics up and down Ford Field. The last set of brothers are a force to be reckoned with You won't find a family as dynamic, or thick, as the Hill Trio of John, Kevin, and Matt who played at RIT (2017), PSU (2020), and UMASS (202?) respectively. All of them bring their own skill set and accolades to the team. and even their mother will tell you that she







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#### Men's Elite-continued from page 14

doesn't have a favorite and loves them all equally. The Seals also picked up Paul Warner off of waivers. I can go on and on about the fire power of the Black Seals, but no one in Vail Colorado packs a bigger punch than Paul, who is consistently above 500 points on Punch O'Meter.

Standing in net for the Seals is the twotime winner of "Ensign C. Markland Kelly, Jr. Award" for DIII's Most Outstanding Goalie, Walker Hare. Splitting time with Walker is his elder, Jon Berg. With the master and apprentice with us, who can be against us? The fact of the matter is, the veteran Seals think they might have done their best job yet finding the perfect balance between young and energetic, old and wise, and most importantly talent and friendship.

The Blacks Seals are extremely excited to be back at the Vail Shoutout and would like to thank the greatest and most delicious sponsor, Gosling's Rum, for making this whole experience possible again. Whether you're grabbing a slice at Vendetta's, dancing at Bridge Street, or jamming at Shakedown, we strongly urge you to try an always refreshing Gosling's Dark 'N' Stormy. For those of you above the age of 21 of course!

were in charge of designing uniforms and developing the team roster. They played in two tournaments as Rocky Mountain Rogue, winning the Championship at the Rocky Mountain Cup in 2014 and in 2015 placing second. The next year they graduated and off to college they went! Fast forward three years later and when an opportunity came up to play together again they took it; however, the next generation of Rogue looks slightly different. Dropped is the "Rocky Mountain" from the team name. The uniforms have been slightly redesigned, and the roster has expanded to include college teammates. The players of Rogue represent every division in men's lacrosse; MCLA, DI, DII, and DIII, (even the CCBLL), and colleges coast to coast! The players are already talking about playing in this tournament when they can be Zen Masters! Looking forward to Vail — Go ROGUE!

#### **Finkel and Garf**

Finkle and Garf is back and better than ever, ready for a big showing in 2021. The many new faces on the squad will be anchored by veteran goalkeeper Mitchell Fenton, a true spirit of Vail player, and veteran defensive

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#### Rogue

The first generation of Rogue began in August of 2014 when a number of Denver Elite Club players wanted to continue to play in tournaments even after the club season ended. With the blessing of the club coaches and their parents, Rocky Mountain Rogue was born. The then tenthgrade young men

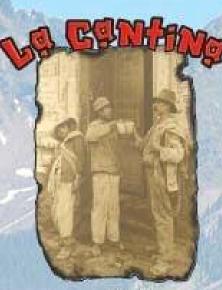




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#### Men's Elite Preview-continued from page 16

animal Aaron Gray. Finkle and Garf will lean on new young and in-shape talent to get up and down the field, and when in doubt will utilize the possession shot frequently to catch their breath. Certified "Bridge Street Bandit" and Vail veteran John Roach looks forward to the extracurricular activities, and the whole squad looks forward to doing a whole lot of dunakaroos to stay fresh between games. Keep your head on a swivel, these guys are slightly above average. Thank you very much to Finkle and Garf Brewery in Boulder, Colorado. They are the best people in the business and their family-owned brewery keeps pumping out the best suds on earth year in and year out. Thank you also to Tom Fox and Bruce Barker at Bruczilla Sportswear for always supporting Finkle and Garf with the comfiest uniforms out there

## The Deli: Making Heavenly Sandwiches Since 2019

Making their second appearance in the Vail Invitational, *The Deli* returns with a squadron full of beauties who are primed to make an indelible mark on this historic tournament. Ranging from the Tarheel state to

the Centennial state. The Deli is comprised of a geographically and divisionally diverse mix of lacrosse talent. Players from all division levels (i e Division 1 to club) are represented. With Coach Williams commanding the helm, the Deli are sure to be a well unified and cohesive unit.

Describing this team is like describing the marriage of flavors in a perfect sandwich: starting with the bottom layer of bread is the face-off X led by JJ Hoots. Next, the tandem of mayo and ketchup is exemplified by the delicious wing-play of perennial LSMs Luke Snider and Creighton Funke gobbling up ground balls like a Dyson vacuum. Playing between the lines, preventing goals, and pushing transition, is the 'meat' of the game. With that being said, our middies, defenseman, and goalies are undeniably the 'meat' of this team, giving this sandwich more juice than a juicy fruit. Topping off this divine culinary masterpiece is the lettuce, tomato, and pickles depicted by attackmen Richie Connell and Anders Erickson. These two lefty gunslingers provide the finishing taste that will make the people coming back for more.

With talent permeating all over the field, fans can expect to see The Deli chopping up their opponents more than a butcher chops up his meats. After the conclusion of this tournament, the Arby's franchise is going to question the voracity of their claim "We have the meats" because it is going to be irrefutably clear that The Deli, in fact, has the meats.



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#### **Magic Wands**

The Magic Wands' tradition is being carried by a newer generation with its players hailing from all over the country. Team captains and former Chumash teammates, Lito Flanagan and Kevin Rogers, decided to continue their fathers' tradition by playing in the Elite Division this year. The team is composed of players from High Point. Stevenson, Georgetown, Air Force, and other DI/DIII programs. Players like All-American and

SoCon Player of the Year attackman Asher Nolting and SoCon All-Conference Braden Mayea and Colin Munro along with FOGO James Reilly anchor the team offensively. The defense is centered around AA LSM Lito Flanagan and High Point's all conference Grant Ammann. Air Force Goalie Braden Host anchors the defense.

Coach and former Maryland defenseman, Wingate Prichett, will lead the new generation of the Magic Wands helping to continue the tradition since Chip Flanagan and John Rogers played in Aspen more than 40 years ago.

#### **Lowkey Boys**

The Lowkey Boys are headed out to the Vail Shootout for the first time and are looking to make some noise in the men's elite division right away. They are a diverse group with many current and former players across the Division 1 and Division 2 landscape. Keep your eyes out for a big time goal scorer in Mercer's Sean Goldsmith down at attack. The defense will be anchored by one of the top face off guys in college lacrosse, Ashton Wood, as well as a 4-year All American, SSDM Brady Elbin, out of the University of Mount Olive. A big thank you to our sponsor this year: ONS Lacrosse Foundation for their kind donation to the team

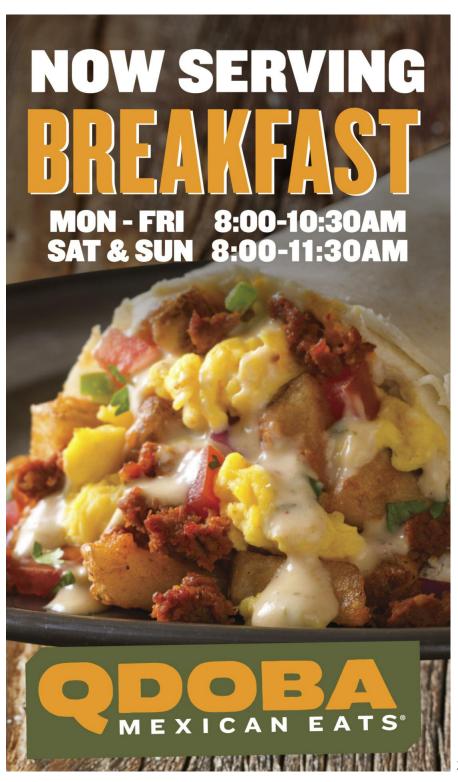


#### **Silver Bullets**

The Silver Bullets are making their first appearance in the Elite division. The Bullets are young and bring together a talented group of men who played together growing up in Denver. They are now at Bryant, Colgate, Denver, UNC, Notre Dame, Johns Hopkins, Loyola, Hobart, Canisius, CU, and Colorado Mesa. They are playing for fun and hoping to make an impact on the field. They have a crafty attack lead by Jack Hall, focused on ball movement and assists. The midfield featuring Jackson Naylor, Connor Brook, TK Hammond, and Jacob Brunner is quick and loves to score in transition. Adam Hangland and Brody Rule are the foundation of the defense that plays in front of Jack Thompson in goal. Expect lots of action and enjoyable memories from their high-powered offense and formidable defense. The Silver Bullets will definitely be a team to watch.

#### **Nut Chasers**

The Nut Chasers are excited to be part of Vail Shootout in 2021. A balanced mix of youth as well as experienced players, look for this group of squirrels to emerge from the long COVID winter eager to compete. Friendship and teamwork are the mainstays of this group as they look to make a splash on the field. Oh... and yeah... their uni's are killer.

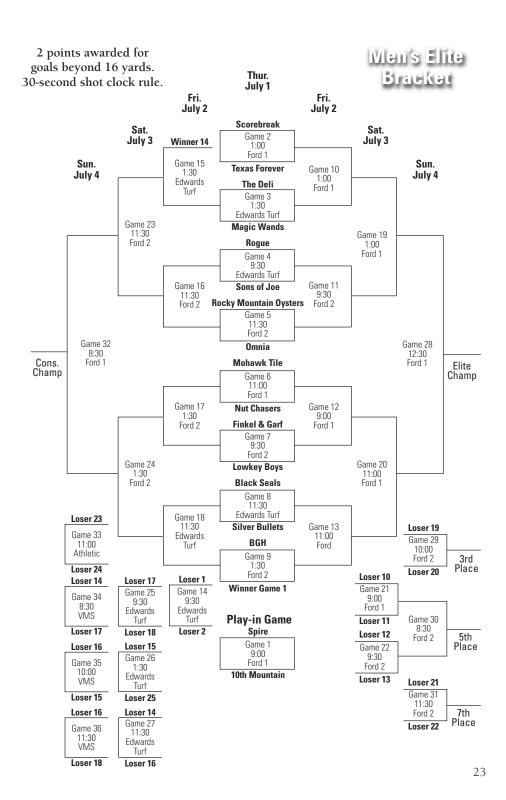


#### **Team Spire**

Team Spire is coming to Vail for the very first time in 2021 and looking to turn some heads. The boys come from a variety of backgrounds with a heavy upstate NY presence. A midfield and defense of gritty Division 3 all stars look to take the field while some experienced attackman will anchor it down on offense. Goalie Conor Cuningham looks to be a brick wall. FOGO Bill Desiderio is a force to be reckoned with at the X with 230 lbs of pure muscle and hands of lightning. Even at 8,150 ft, team Spire looks to elevate to the next level in this legendary competitive elite division. HUGE shoutout to our sponsors, residential mortgage with Spire Financial and Westbound and Down brewery, both here in Colorado!







# 2021 WOMEN'S ELITE

By Jeff Secor

T IS THE START of the post-pandemic return to normal life and the Vail Lacrosse Shootout is an excellent to play lacrosse and enjoy a little vacation. Players have been itching to get back on the field after stay-at-home directives. This has led to an increase in participation and one we hope will continue for

many more years.

This year we have teams of college players and/or teams of club players. All of them are ready for competition and getting out and about in the Vail Village. Pete's Margs is the pre-tournament favorite, but anything can happen! The first day of competition is

place to begin. We are excited to see so many energetic teams come to a welcoming environment for lacrosse! The Vail Valley is always a great place to seed the teams in the bracket. The next three days each team moves on to the Championship path or the Consolation path. Either way the competition should be good.

> We understand there are numerous places to play in tournaments. We embrace the teams who are journeying to Vail and look forward to putting on a great welcome back tournament for the teams and fans. Please read about the ten teams who are playing and celebrating a normal, but special tournament. Welcome to the 2021 Vail Lacrosse Shootout, now in its 38th year for the women.



#### **CO Laxers**

Picking out a name is hard! I defaulted to CO Laxers as a big chunk of our players are from Colorado or played in Colorado at some point in their lives! We have a wide range of players many of which do not know each other. Some players are coming back for their second time, but the majority are coming to Vail for their first time! We are hoping to mesh on the field and have fun while playing the sport we love.

#### **5th Beers**

We are a team full of recent and not so recent grads from the Division 1 and Division 2 levels. Some of us are newbies, others have been here for several years. We are just looking to get out on the field again, have some fun, drink some beer, and play some lacrosse in the Vail sunshine!

#### Landsharks

As Landsharks we are always striving to keep the fit & the fun at the base of our lax. All of us are retired from our college careers, but that does not mean full retirement at all. Quite the contrary, for us it means we get to stay and be involved in the sport that we adore in many ways! As the captain (which for us mostly just means organizer) I am from NJ but have been coaching and playing throughout the country for a decade now. I am extremely passionate about lacrosse, and equally passionate about the ocean (specifically sharks), so I chose our name a couple of years ago-and let's be real here, who doesn't want to be a shark that plays lax?....exactly. With the help of a core group of Landsharks that have been with me for a few years now we compete each summer in at least one tournament, and we bring together ladies from around the country to

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play with us. We quite literally cover the country with athletes from both coasts, the mountains and all over the Midwest. Most of us coach or ref, but all of us share a bond over never wanting to step away from lacrosse. We intend to play & compete until we cannot walk anymore. Oh, we also share a bond over being ready to celebrate lax & life over a postgame cocktail or 2!!!



#### LGR

LGR is in its debut year with young women from Colorado and the East Coast. Many have lacrosse ties to The Lawrenceville



School and Cornell University but many also some from the Mile High City. The team decided there was no better place to rekindle friendships and play a sport they love than in Vail, Colorado. Everyone has, is or did play D1 or D3 lacrosse but what they all have in common is a desire to have fun while playing a sport they love. And yes, there is always more fun when you win!!

#### **Orange County Lacrosse Club**

The Orange County Lacrosse Club is led by Coach Michelle Prietto, OC local and Chapman alumna. Her teammates include other Chapman alumni, coaches and former collegiate athletes from San Diego, NorCal, Utah, and Arizona. The OCLC provides playing opportunities for adult women's lacrosse talent local to Southern California. Members include committed high school athletes, current club and NCAA players, and college graduates keeping the dream alive. For its first trip to Vail, OCLC aims to have fun, dominate, and set a highly competitive standard for all its future post collegiate WLAX activity to come!

#### Pete's Margs

After being rivals in college, CU and DU alumni decided to combine forces and create Pete's Margs. After bonding over our love of Illegal Pete's margaritas and queso, the decision was easy. Hailing from all around the country, most of us are washed-up Division I lacrosse players. We are excited to get back onto the field for our inaugural year in the Vail Lacrosse Shootout. We are hoping this will be the first year of many and looking forward to having fun with some muchneeded healthy competition.

#### Renegades

The Renegades are beyond excited to take Vail, we have competed in other tournaments before and made some adjustments to continue to do well in Vail because of how highly competitive it is. We originated in Colorado when we competed in summer leagues, but we have expanded to adding new players to the team. We got our name because the Renegades is typically a rebel, and somebody wants to compete against others/wants to win. This team is a lot of college coaches, standout college players, and some players who just fit in with us well. Our team comes from NY, CO, OR,

CA, TX, MN, and WI. We want this tournament to be fun and show everybody what we our teammates (especially the set of triplets) can do. Our expectations are to never give up until the end and do well. This is our first year at the tournament but not our first one in the tournament world.

#### **Ripsaw**

Ripsaw is headed to Vail for the first time in 2021. After an upsetting 2020 cancellation, we are even older and farther away from when we graduated college. Our team is a mixed group of former DIII players from Ohio, where playing lacrosse and drinking beers competed for top priority throughout our college years. Looking forward to our first Vail experience! Cheers!

#### The Tools

The Tools are back for their second Vail appearance! Pulling some of the sharpest tools back out of the shed, we are returning some OG gals, as well as adding some new faces and fresh talent. Although our team is based out of Colorado, our diverse team has players from all over the country and even Australia! On the field we are *hammering* away at the competition because we refuse to get

screwed. Off the field we plan on *plowing* through a few cases of adult beverages because this weekend is NOT a drill. We have nailed down a few tournament championships over the past couple years in Arizona and San Diego and we are ready to throw a wrench into this tournament and come out on top! We're a levelheaded group of laxers who definitely measure up to the competition.



#### Win or Booze

Our team is a mix-match group of people just trying to escape the craziness of the world and find some normalcy of life again through our shared love of lacrosse. Some

of us are current NCAA athletes and some are just trying to get back to the good old days of lacrosse. About half of us are from Colorado while the rest are just using this tournament as an excuse to visit this awesome state. A few of us have grown up playing in the Shootout and when we graduated out of the high school division, we simply could not give up going to

the Vail tourney every year. Like always though we are here for one reason, and one reason only, and that is to have some fun, but also maybe to win a few games here and there too.





# Women's Elite Division Schedule

### Teams (in seeded order)

- 1. Pete's Margs
- 2. 5th Beers
- 3. Win or Booze
- 4 IGR
- 5. Renegades
- 6. Ripsaw
- 7. The Tools
- 8. Orange County
- 9. Landsharks
- 10. CO Laxers

# Pool A Pete's Margs The Tools

The Tools
Orange County

Time

#### Pool B

5th Beers Win or Booze

Ripsaw Landsharks

#### **Pool C**

LGR

Renegades CO Laxers



# 8:30 The Tools Orange County 9:40 LGR Renegades 10:50 Pete's Margs Orange County 12:00 Renegades CO Laxers 1:10 Pete's Margs The Tools

Thursday, July 1, Pool Play — Vail Athletic

Home

Visitor

1:10Pete's MargsThe Tools2:20LGRCO Laxers

Thursday, July 1, Pool Play — Edwards Time Visitor Home Win or Booze q.4U Landsharks 10.50 5th Beers Rinsaw 1:10 5th Beers Landsharks 2.20 Win or Booze Ripsaw

Friday, July 2 — Vail Athletic Field

Time	Game	Visitor	Home
8:30	G1	2nd Place A	3rd Place C
9:40	G2	4th Place B	3rd Place A
10:50	G3	Winner G1	1st Place A
12:00	G4	Winner G2	1st Place B
1:10	G5	3rd Place B	1st Place C
2:20	G6	2nd Place B	2nd Place C

Saturday, July 3 — Vail Athletic Field

Time	Game	Visitor	Home
8:30	G7	Loser G1	Loser G5
9:40	G8	Loser G2	Loser G6
10:50	G9	Winner G5	Winner G3
12:00	G10	Winner G4	Winner G6
1:10	G11	Winner G7	Loser G4
2.20	G12	Loser G3	Winner G8

Sunday, July 4

	Time	Game	Visitor	Home	Field	
	8:30	G13	Loser G12	Loser G11	Edwards Turf	
	8:00	G14	Loser G7	Loser G8	Vail Athletic	
	9:00	G15	Winner G12	Winner G11	Vail Athletic	
	3rd Place Game					
	10:00	G16	Loser G9	Loser G10	Vail Athletic	
Championship Game						
	10:30	G17	Winner G9	•	Ford Field	

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## **U19 Boys Division**

By Pat Gartland

e begin preparation for this year's U-19 portion of the Vail Shootout with sadness at the passing of one of the Shootout's stalwarts and an original Director of this Division of the tourney. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 virus claimed the life of **Paul C. Shearer** on January 15 of this year. Paul spent many late-June and early-July days striving to achieve the Founders' goal of having the U-19 portion of the Shootout achieve the esteemed status of the original. Paul has been away from the tournament for the past few years, but he had planned to be here to help run the tournament and be a part of the twenty-fifth an**niversary** celebration. He will be sorely missed this year and for many more. R.I.P. Paul. More about Paul and his place in Colorado lacrosse later in the program.

After postponing last year's Tournament due to the COVID-19 virus, we are especially pleased to celebrate the TWENTY-FIFTH **ANNIVERSARY** of the U-19 Boy's Showcase as a part of the FORTY-NINTH Annual Vail **Shootout.** We join in the Shootout's pride that this Division of the tournament has come

to share the sterling reputation of the original and has developed into a mythical National Championship with star-studded teams from every region of the country competing for bragging rights to what we modestly feel has become the most coveted annual U-19 Championship in the U.S.

Leaders and coaches from many top clubs and programs have told us that their organizations view the Vail Shootout U-19 championship as their program's pinnacle goal each year. This year also marks our eighteenth year of honoring Dr. Tom Watts, who along with Flip and Paul, was a great supporter of high school lacrosse and can take great comfort in the stature of his namesake tournament and the growth of lacrosse in the Mountain West. Less than a month ago, we watched many **Shootout** U-19 alums playing major roles for the teams making runs at the NCAA Championships in all Divisions.

In keeping with our tradition, Wednesday's championship games will be held on Ford Field, with the Gore Range and Maple Leaf Glacier to the east furnishing the perfect backdrop for these exciting finals, team pic-

tures for the winners, and the naming of the U-19 All Star Team. Barring any last-minute noshows, we will have twelve teams vying for the title. We know that Dr. Tom would be impressed by the quality of these teams and the outstanding talent and balance of all of this year's entries. Although we have only twelve teams this year, the teams represent the entire country, literally from coast to coast and border to border. Almost all of the

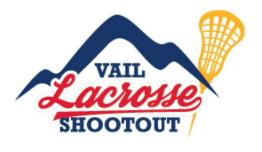




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#### DR. TOM WATTS MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

continued from page 32

twelve have a significant number of NCAA commits, and all seem to have a legitimate shot to compete in the championship game.

This year's field of twelve teams finds four of the top ten finishers from 2019 returning to compete. Returning as Champion this year is the **Adrenaline Tropics** team. Jono Zisi's California-based boys took it all in 2019 after a third-place finish in 2018. They come back loaded with experience and primed for another run at the title and an additional plaque on the Watts Travelling Trophy. 2019 third place finisher, FCA, returns seeking to compete once again in the championship game and add a plaque to their total on the **Watts** travelling trophy. **Team Colorado,** which lost a close one to FCA in the 2019 third-place game hopes to be in the thick of the championship hunt again this year. Last year's tenth place finisher, Wasatch Lacrosse Club, returns from neighboring Utah. The Wasatch boys not only get better each year, but consistently lead the tournament in cool uniforms.

The remaining eight teams are a mixture of national and locally based teams. A few are young, but most bring a number of NCAA commits. Based on early estimates, the Division I bracket of the tournament could be a real dogfight. Three of the teams are led by names familiar to the Shootout's U-19 regulars. Tom DeMaio brings Team 12 Red to Vail after winning a championship with Red Bandanna four years ago, Team 12 Red is primarily composed of Amherst College recruits mixed with players handpicked by Tom and should present an interesting and cohesive competitor. Andy Hilgartner, another name familiar

to Vail fans because of his association with the **Greene Turtle** organization, brings **Barley's Backyard.** He fields a team of accomplished LAXers, primarily from Maryland high schools. We expect they will compete very well. Nate Watkins, a fixture in Colorado High School and youth lacrosse circles, brings the **Watermelon Sugar**, a group composed of 80% Colorado rising seniors and Colorado players from his **Fire** program looking to improve their game by competing against the top echelon players.

Five additional new teams join this year's **High School Boys' Showcase** competition. All are partial mysteries at this point. **Mad Dog National 2021** is the entry from this fast-growing national club and is comprised of a group of NCAA commits who have played together for several summers. Look forward to them being in the thick of the championship hunt. The same goes for another team returning to Vail after a seven-year absence. Formerly **NorCal, ADVNC SF** has shown well in other venues and fields a group



of talented players from top NorCal high schools. Most will play college lacrosse with many in Division 1 programs next season. They bear watching. Coach Rich Mullen, from sunny Florida, brings Strungout Lacrosse, made up of a core group of D-1 commits and other strong players from the eastern boarding school powers. They will certainly be in the mix. Omnia, headed by Dan Catzere, is a Midwest centered team made up of players from the Michigan area who have played together for years. The final entry is the Rocky **Mountain Highlanders**, a team gathered by Guy Cerasoli and almost completely filled with Colorado players. Look for them to take advantage of their altitude edge and represent well the Colorado tradition of scrappy play.

Opening day will feature three-team round robin play in four conferences (seeded

on the basis of last year's finish and recent performance). The top two finishers in each round robin will be seeded into an eight-team bracket for Division I play and the third-place teams will play a round robin format for the final three days to determine the Division II winner. The final games in Division I will be held at Ford Field with the Gore Range as a backdrop. Join us there as teams from across the country vie for team glory and to see many of the college stars of the next four years compete for the Dr. Tom Watts Trophy—and what has become the mythical annual championship of high school lacrosse in the U.S. We can't promise another set of double overtime thrillers in the final two games as we witnessed four years ago, but the level of competition again promises to be heated perhaps the best ever.



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# **Day 1 Round Robin**

Last named team (higher seed) will be home team and wear light jerseys.

Each team will play all other members of its conference. Play will start at 2:00 p.m. The games will consist of 20 minute running halves with a five-minute halftime. The clock will stop for the last minute of the game if the score is within 3 goals. One timeout per half is permitted. Overtime periods are four minutes with a one-minute intermission. Penalties are 1 ½ times normal length due to the running clock. All other rules are NFHS rules. Games will be concluded if within the last five minutes one team leads by more than 5 goals.

Teams will be seeded into two Divisions (Divisions I and II) for continued play on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday per the brackets. The top two teams from each Conference will advance to Division I for bracket play for the final 3 days. The third place teams will enter Division II for Round-Robin play for the final three days. Tie breakers for division seeding will be: (1) Head to head, (2) Fewest goals against, (3) coin toss—in that order.

All games in the remainder of the tourney will be 12 minute stopped time quarters using the NFHS Rules including the 20 second midfield clear rule and the 10-second offensive area rule. Sticks will be checked and must comply with NFHS rules.





# Conference A

Team 12 Red Adrenaline Tropics Rocky Mtn Highlanders

# Conference B Omnia Lacrosse

FCA Barley's Backyard

### **Conference C**

Strungout Lacrosse Team Colorado ADVNC SF

### **Conference D**

Watermelon Sugar MadDog Lacrosse Wasatch Lacrosse

# **Day 1 Round Robin Schedule**

# **CONFERENCE A**

# Sunday, June 27, Ford Field 1 East

2:00 Team 12 Red Adrenaline Tropics
 2:50 Rocky Mtn Highlanders Team 12 Red
 3:40 Rocky Mtn Highlanders Adrenaline Tropics

# **CONFERENCE B**

# Sunday, June 27, Ford Field 2 West

2:00 Omnia Lacrosse FCA
2:50 Barley's Backyard Omnia Lacrosse
3:40 Barley's Backyard FCA

# CONFERENCE C Sunday June 27, Vail Mountain School

2:00 Strungout Lacrosse Team Colorado 2:50 Strungout Lacrosse ADVNC SF 3:40 ADVNC SF Team Colorado

# CONFERENCE D Sunday June 27. Vail Athletic Field

3:30	Watermelon Sugar	MadDog Lacrosse
4:40	Watermelon Sugar	Wasatch Lacrosse
5:30	Wasatch Lacrosse	MadDog Lacrosse





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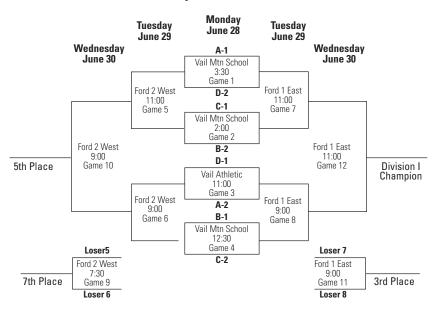
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# DR. TOM WATTS MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

# **U19 Boys Division I Bracket**





# U19 Boys Division II Round Robin Schedule

Last named team is home team

# Monday, June 28, Vail Athletic

9:30	Conf. D 3rd	Conf. A 3rd
3:30	Conf. C 3rd	Conf. B 3rd

# Tuesday, June 29, Vail Mountain School

9:00	Conf. C 3rd	Conf. A 3rd
11:00	Conf. D 3rd	Conf. B 3rd

### Wednesday, June 30, Vail Mountain School

9:00	Conf. B 3rd	Conf. A 3rd
7:30	Conf. D 3rd	Conf. C 3rd

Division winner will be determined by number of wins. In case of tie in wins, tie breakers will be:

- 1) head to head
- 2) Fewest goals against
- 3) Coin toss

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—Jim Soran, Head lacrosse coach, Regis Jesuit High School 2014 & 2016 State Champs, 2015 & 2017 Runner-up

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# **U19 Girls Division**

By Jeff Secor

elcome back to the Vail Valley! After a pandemic cancelled year, we are ready to get back to a normal, albeit excellent, Vail Lacrosse Shootout! Twenty-four high school girls' teams are anxious to get on the field and play the game we all love while enjoying the sites and sounds of the Vail Valley. These teams come from across the country, coast to coast, north to south, and across Colorado. Familiar faces will be back like Georgia, Tennessee, Houston (their 23rd year!), Stars, and perennial con-

tenders, Team HLA and Heroes. Colorado is well represented with teams from Denver, Telluride/West slope, and in between. Of course, representing the West Coast is Puget Sound. There are new teams from Maryland, Utah, and new club programs in Colorado. Review the writeups, check the schedules and follow vour favorite team over the 4 days of competition. Enjoy your time in the Valley and be safe.

As organizers we welcome these teams with open arms to get the Shootout back to its high standard of

lacrosse. For that we thank each and every organizer, player, and fan who is stepping out to enjoy lacrosse! To keep the tournament running well it is important to have energetic and enthusiastic teams from all the lacrosse areas throughout the country. This year is no different. Teams are here from Maryland, Pennsylvania, DC, Tennessee, Georgia, Washington, Minnesota, Texas, New Jersey, and of course, Colorado! We welcome all the teams who have made the

trek to the Vail Valley to enjoy a few days of lacrosse and probably, a few activities like white water rafting, biking, hiking, and taking in the scenery.

# **Colorado Command**

This is the first year Colorado Command is attending the Vail Shootout. We are a new club in the Denver area with players who have the drive to work hard, get better, compete, and have fun every day! This team has played together for a couple of

years and were planning on attending Vail last year before being shut down by COVID. This year we are ready to compete, have fun, and play lacrosse in the mountains!



5280 Girls Lax is a team made up of 2024's from Denver and surrounding areas. This is our first time attending the Vail Lacrosse Shootout and we

are looking forward to playing in the Shootout against great competition. The players are passionate about lacrosse and have a great time playing together. Playing against great competition only makes us better and we cannot wait to get our summer started in Vail!

# Team 4D

Team 4D has been playing together for 7 years. This team has traveled the country for summer tournaments and are so



happy to be able to play this summer in their home state. The players met through 3d Lacrosse and are looking forward to the next chapter in their careers. Many are off to play at college in the fall. Without the support of their parents, high school coaches, trainers and 3d the team would not be where they are today. The players

where they are today. The players are grateful for the opportunity to play in Vail together especially after missing out on a season due to COVID-19.

# Georgia Outlaws Gray & Georgia Outlaws Purple

The Georgia Outlaws (both Purple and Gray) are from the north-Metro Atlanta area. Most of the core of the team has been playing together for the past 3-4 years. We have been to the Shootout before (older Outlaws team)-but this is the first time for this group. We expect to come out—have a great time, get a chance to play teams from across the country that we normally do not see—and finally enjoy all that the Vail area has to offer.

# Hero's Green

Hero's 2022 Green is from central Maryland, and we have been playing lacrosse together since 2014. We value teamwork, improving, winning, and having fun. We are a quirky bunch of gym rats who do not mind playing in the rain and enjoy practice as much as the games. This is our final season playing together and we hope to enjoy our time together in Colorado!



# **Team HLA**

The HLA Foundation is committed to engaging and inspiring youth girls and women through sport and lacrosse with a positive and constructive atmosphere. Players are selected by committee from across the Nation and are the defending champions from 2019.

# **Houston Heat**

Houston Heat looks forward to coming back to Vail after last year's COVID-induced break. We bring most of our players from the greater Houston area, with a couple of Colorado players that we have "adopted" for the Shootout in the past. We are one of the few that have had a team every year of the U19 girls' bracket since 1998! We look forward to playing hard, having fun, and relishing the ability to be back playing lacrosse in Vail again!

### No-Excuse

This group is comprised of players from both Memphis and Nashville, TN. They represent 7 different high schools in those two cities. This group has played together for

continued on page 42



about three years and have several players that made significant contributions to their high school teams as freshmen. This will be the first trip out west for the group, and they are extremely excited about playing lacrosse in the mountains - - the landscape is pretty flat back home!!

# Team Tennessee

Team Tennessee had a great tournament in 2019, winning the Silver Bracket. Just a few of those girls remain on this year's team, but they have a talented group of younger players. Most of the team play for the No-Excuse Lacrosse Club out of Memphis and Nashville, TN; however, additional girls have been added to round out a great team. For several families, this will be their 3rd trip to the Shootout, so everyone is excited to be back!

# **Puget Sound Select**

Puget Sound Select has been a club in Seattle, Washington since 2005. We provide a rigorous opportunity to learn, practice and play lacrosse as well as modeling the importance of teamwork, collaboration among different programs and lasting friendships. We enjoy participating in numerous local and national tournaments annually.

# **Redshirts**

Redshirts is a competitive club team from Baltimore, MD.
Redshirts was established in 1989 as a men's lacrosse club and added a women's program in 2011. The Redshirts name is an homage to the Red Shirt Warriors of the Lakota Sioux. This is our first year in the Vail Shootout and we are excited to take part in this awe-some event.

# Ryleigh's Oysters

Ryleigh's Oysters located in Baltimore Co., MD has sponsored a group of players from

the Maryland IAAM conference primarily from Notre Dame Prep, Bryn Mawr School and Garrison Forest Schools. Many of these friends who have played with or against each other at the club level are also committed to play college lacrosse in the Fall of 2021.

# Stars Light Blue & Stars Navy

The Stars 2025 Light Blue and Navy teams are the top teams for the club and has girls from Virginia, D.C., and Maryland. Our players compete against top teams on the East Coast in the summer, fall, and spring. We aim to work hard, play together, and have fun while doing it! We strive to be better people and players every day. Kathy Jenkins, founder, and co-director of Stars Lacrosse has been bringing the Stars eighth grade teams for a number of years. She also is the head coach of St. Stephen's St. Agnes and coaches the HLA team. We are excited to attend the Vail Shootout.

# Summit Elite & Summit Select

Summit Lacrosse has been competing at Girls U19 Vail Shootout since the club's inception. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful tournament in our "backyard." This lacrosse club aims to educate, coach, and inspire young women to have respect for others, show commitment to community, strengthen their sense of personal integrity, and improve their lacrosse skills. Founded in 2009 by Colorado native and USA Lacrosse standout Devon Wills. Originally associated with the University of Denver, Summit Lacrosse serves the greater Denver area as the premier female-owned, -directed, and -coached program. The program now maintains several satellite regions in the Midwest area, including Chicago, Cincinnati, and western Michigan.

# **True CO Committed**

This team comes from all over the West. Most players are current 2021s or 2022s who have committed to play at the collegiate level in all three divisions. Some will travel

away from Colorado and others are going to be moving to Colorado. Though they do not train together, the team is very excited to meet in Vail and play.

### True CO White

This team is a great representation of players from all over the Denver metro area and the mountains! The team has had one full year together and just completed their first season of high school. They are excited to play in Vail to kick off their summer.

# **True Denver Black**

This team is made of players that come from both 5A and 4A high school programs in Colorado. These young women have great chemistry and a ton of fun. Many have played against each other over the high school season and are excited to start their club season off in Vail.

# **True Denver Green**

Many of the girls just completed their first year of high school and others are preparing to enter high school. This up-and-coming team is new to the club scene but excited to get to Vail for their first event as a new team.

# **Utah Liberty**

Utah Liberty Lacrosse started 9 years ago; the goal was to open up more opportunities for girls in Utah who wanted to have a chance at playing college lacrosse. From the start our team's main goal has been to not only increase the girls' skill level but to build long lasting friendships with girls from all over the state and it has done exactly that. We started out with one team with players

continued on page 44



U19 Girls—continued from page 43

from two different high schools but in the past couple years have been able to expand and include players from fourteen area high schools. We hope to continue to give these girls friendships that will last a lifetime as well as the opportunity to play college lacrosse.



# Wasatch LC

Wasatch LC is from Utah and is named after the Wasatch Mountain Range that runs north/south through Utah. All our players tried out for our team at the start of this year. This is our first year attending the Shootout, as we just started our girls' program last fall. Our expectations are to play the best competition in the country in one of the most beautiful settings in the world!

# West Slope

In their first year, West Slope Lacrosse will be sourcing experienced U19 players from across the Western Slope. As the game expands from Grand Junction to Durango and everywhere in between. Talent is both widespread and diverse. At this level, the coaching staff expects the gals to have fun overall, especially given that this will be the first year of play together. Team dynamics and flow will be the focus as they get through one of the toughest school years, they will likely ever experience, this year's Shootout is meant to be a release.

# 2021 U19 Teams (listed in seeded order)

- 1 Team HLA
- 2 Ryleigh's Oysters 2021
- 3 Hero's Green 2022
- 4 Redshirts 2022
- 5 Team 4D 2021
- 6 Puget Sound Select 2022-23
- 7 True CO Committed 2021
- 8 Wasatch LC 2021-22

- 9 Team Tennessee 2022
- 10 No-Excuse 2024
- 11 Georgia Outlaws Gray 2022
- 12 Georgia Outlaws Purple 2023
- 13 Summit Flite 2024
- 14 Houston Heat 2022
- 15 5280 Girls Lax 2024
- 16 Colorado Command 2023

- 17 Utah Liberty
- 18 True Denver Black -2022-23
- 19 Stars Light Blue 2025
- 20 Stars Navy 2025
- 21 True Denver Green 2024-25
- 22 True CO White 2024
- 23 West Slope 2021-22
- 24 Summit Select 2022-23

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POOL A	POOL B	POOL C	POOL D	POOL E	POOL F
Team HLA	Team 4D	Puget Sound Select	Wasatch LC	Summit Elite	Stars Navy
Ryleigh's Oysters	True CO Committed	No-Excuse	Team Tennessee	Utah Liberty	True Denver Green
Hero's Green	Georgia Outlaws Purple	Georgia Outlaws Gray	Colorado Command	Stars Light Blue	West Slope
Redshirts	Houston Heat	5280 Girls Lax	True Denver Black	True CO White	Summit Select

# All U19 Girls' games are on the Edwards fields 25 minute halves, 5 minute half time

Sunday, June 27, Edwards 1 (Turf)			
Time	Visitor	Home	
9:00	Team HLA	Hero's Green	
10:10	True CO White	Stars Light Blue	
11:20	West Slope	True Denver Green	
12:30	Redshirts	Team HLA	
1:40	West Slope	Stars Navy	

# Sunday, June 27, Edwards 2

ounac	Januay, Janua 27, Earrardo 2			
Time	Visitor	Home		
9:00	GA Outlaws Purple	True CO Committed		
10:10	GA Outlaws Gray	No-Excuse		
11:20	GA Outlaws Purple	Team 4D		
12:30	Utah Liberty	Stars Light Blue		
1:40	Summit Select	True Denver Green		

### Sunday June 27 Edwards 3

Juliuay, Julie 27, Luwalus J			
Time	Visitor	Home	
9:00	Houston Heat	Team 4D	
10:10	Redshirts	Ryleigh's Oyster	
11:20	Houston Heat	True CO Committed	
12:30	True CO White	Summit Elite	
1:40	Colorado Command	Team Tennessee	

# Sunday June 27 Edwards /

Juliuay, Julie 21, Euwalus 4			
Time	Visitor	Home	
9:00	Utah Liberty	Summit Elite	
10:10	Summit Select	Stars Navy	
11:20	True Denver Black	Wasatch LC	
12:30	Hero's Green	Ryleigh's Oysters	
1:40	No-Excuse	Puget Sound Select	



# Monday, June 28, Edwards 1 (Turf)

Time	Visitor	Home
9:00	GA Outlaws Gray	Puget Sound Select
10:10	True CO Committed	Team 4D
11:20	True Denver Black	Colorado Command
12:30	Houston Heat	GA Outlaws Purple

# Monday, June 28, Edwards 2

Time	Visitor	Home		
9:00	5280 Girls Lax	No-Excuse		
10:10	Redshirts	Hero's Green		
11:20	5280 Girls Lax	GA Outlaws Gray		
12:30	5280 Girls Lax	Puget Sound Select		

# Monday June 28 Edwards 3

Monday, June 26, Edwards 3			
Time	Visitor	Home	
9:00	Colorado Command	Wasatch LC	
10:10	Summit Select	West Slope	
11:20	True Denver Green	Stars Navy	
12:30	Utah Liberty	True CO White	

# Monday June 28 Edwards /

wiona	www.uay, Julie Zo, Euwarus 4					
Time	Visitor	Home				
9:00	True Denver Black	Team Tennessee				
10:10	Stars Light Blue	Summit Elite				
11:20	Team Tennessee	Wasatch LC				
12:30	Ryleigh's Oyster	Team HLA				

# **Movement from Pool Play to Brackets**

Pool A -1st- 4th places are seeded 1-4 in Gold Pool B -1st and 2nd Gold, 3rd and 4th Silver

Pool C -1st Gold, 2nd - 4th Silver

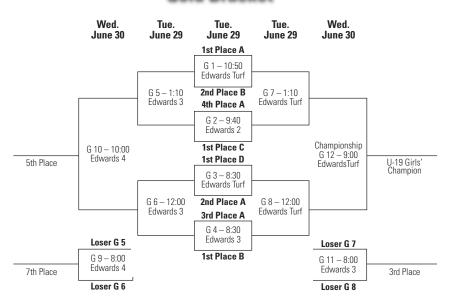
Pool D -1st Gold, 2nd and 3rd Silver, 4th Bronze

Pool E -1st Silver, 2nd – 4th Bronze

Pool F -1st - 4th Bronze

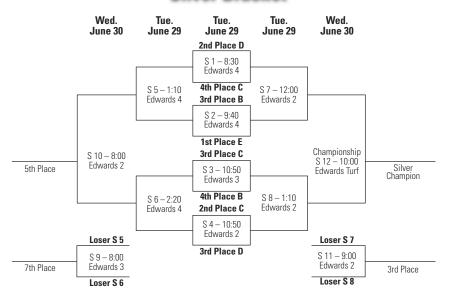
U19 Girls brackets continued on page 46

# U19 Girls Gold Bracket

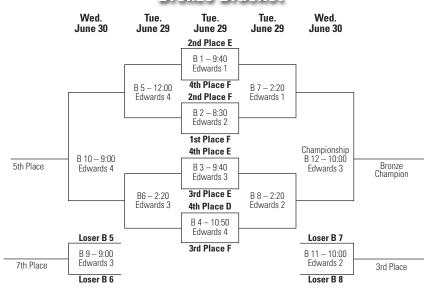




# U19 Girls Silver Bracket



# U19 Girls Bronze Bracket



# **2021 Masters Preview**

By Nicole Soran McClintock

he 30 and over division is always a small but mighty group of teams. The Silver Oysters Laxgear, who have been throwing their hats in the Masters ring for 14 years now, will be looking to repeat their championship success from 2019. All five teams promise stiff competition with a host of long-time veterans and the annual crop of "young guys" fresh off their stints in the Elite division. Find a spot among the spouses, dogs, and children of these players camped along the sidelines and settle in to watch these teams battle it out.

# **Yardsale**

YARDSALE will make its first appearance at the Vail Masters this year and is captained by Pete Laurie (UC Davis, 2000), Rob Reading (Purdue, 2008), Taylor Brooks (Le Moyne, 2012), and Sebastian Baker (Le Moyne, 2013). The squad is made up

come Garona,

of players from Texas, Utah, Colorado, California, and other states.

# **Team DLL**

Team DLL is sponsored by the Denver Lacrosse League. Founded by three-year captain and Colorado State University Lacrosse Hall of Fame Inductee, Garth Heth, the DLL will be providing tournaments and a league on a level that Colorado lacrosse has yet to experience. Come be a part of a higher altitude of post-collegiate men's competitive and recreational lacrosse! This year's team is a herd of Ram talent. Luke Miller and Ryan MacDonald will provide speed at the midfield similar to that of a four-legged animal. The team is anchored by Andy Flax in cage, who will be surrounded by a stampeding defense including Patrick Sullivan and Hunter Jones. Heth will be locking horns on the X for team DLL. Prepare to get Ram-Slammed.

# **Silver Oysters Laxgear**

The Silver Oysters Laxgear will be entering our 14th year in the Masters division. After winning a hard fought championship in 2019, and a bizarre 2020 without a Shootout, we are grateful to take the field together once again in Vail. A special thanks to our longtime sponsor LAXGEAR, a local Colorado lacrosse bag manufacturer who makes the most durable bags in the business, for continuing to support us.

# Tony's Tavern

Tony's Tavern is excited to return this summer with a mix of new players and veterans to the Vail Shootout. The team comprises players from Connecticut, Colorado, North Carolina, California and Texas. On offense the team returns Mike Fox (Ohio State) at Midfield and Bobby Jee (Texas A&M) at attack and will add Ted Lee (Syracuse), Zach Frohne (Greensboro College) and Ernie Valenzuela on midfield along with Andrew

Carey (Greensboro College) on the attack crew. There will be a new faceoff specialist team of Mike Phillips and Colby Hawkins to dictate the ball control game from the x. The team will see a new defensive line up anchored by Lou Diaferio (Shippensburg) in goal with support from long poles AJ Smith (Team France), Ryan Taylor, Matt Rhine, and Matt Ward. The team is looking to build on their experience and wins from 2019 to

build on their success on and off the field.

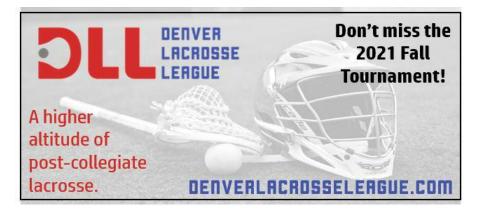
The team would like to thank our sponsor Tony's Tavern. Tony's Tavern is located in Houston, TX. Find out more about the team at www.tonystavernlax.com.

# 10th Mountain Whiskey

Back for their fourth year, the 10th Mountain Whiskey Lacrosse club is throwing their hats back in the ring. 10th Mountain Whiskey Lacrosse Club players are no strangers to the Vail Shootout, with several members making



their fifth, sixth, and seventh appearances. They're bringing the heat with a seriously loaded attack unit led by Ben Hoganson (Salisbury '11) and Alex Fountain (UMBC '04). The midfield features Mark Stapor (The Mount '11), James Regan (LimeStone '11), and Nick Peterson (NDNU '11) as its offensive stars and Pete DeFinis (Drexel '02) and Dave Skaug (Minnesota '13) taking draws. The defense is no slouch either with Cory Robbins (Hartwick '09), Dave Britt (Miami of Ohio '09), and Jon "Spicy McHaggis" Harris (Auburn '05). The team is captained by part-



# Masters Preview - continued from page 49

time laxers and full-time whiskey drinkers Pete DeFinis and Jason Kriesher. The team would like to thank their sponsors, 10th Mountain Whiskey, Denver Barbell Club, and TechForwardIT, LLC. ■



# Masters Schedule

# All Masters games at Vail Mountain School

All games are 10 minute quarters. Stop time. Division Champion determined by number of wins. In case of a tie in wins, the tie breaker will be:

- 1) Head to head
- 2) Fewest goals against 3 day total
- 3) Braveheart

# Thursday, July 1

9:00	Team DLL	Silver Oysters Laxgear
10:30	10th Mountain Whiskey	Silver Oysters Laxgear
12:00	10th Mountain Whiskey	Tony's Tavern

Yardsale

1:30 Team DLL

# Friday, July 2

9:30 Tony's Tavern Yardsale 11:00 10th Mountain Whiskey Team DLL

12:30 Yardsale Silver Oyster Laxgear

# Saturday, July 3

8:30 Tony's Tavern Team DLL

10:00 Tony's Tavern Silver Oyster Laxgear

11:30 10th Mountain Whiskey Yardsale





# PROUD SPONSORS of the VAIL LACROSSE SHOOTOUT Since 1996!



# 2021 Supermasters Preview

he Men's Supermasters division kicks off on the first day of the Shootout. A lot of familiar faces and teams will be returning to make their mark in the Vail valley. Longtime participants the Elder Statesmen are back to defend their title from 2019, but after a close finish in the championship game that year, the Magic Wands will be hungrier than ever to take home the #1

title. None of these teams should be discounted, however. Every team across the division boasts a wealth of talent, ensuring many great match-ups throughout.

### **Princeton BCLF**

Princeton BCLF plays for the Bobby Campbell Lacrosse Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to growing the game of lacrosse in central New Jersey in honor of the late Bobby Campbell; coach, mentor and teammate to many of our players. The team is excited to add an influx of new players from the Denver area and will be led on offense by midfielders James Laverty and Tommy Murray. The defense will be led by standout goalie Judson Henderson.

# Magic Wands

The Magic Wands/World Lacrosse Foundation is back with an upgraded team after losing the Championship game by one goal in 2019. The Wands have put together a solid team with youth and legends as they look to regain the title in 2021 and shrug off the COVID vibes. John Keller and Tim Spaulding are back on the attack this year with a few newcomers. We have a retooled midfield



with some young guns and experience with PJ Rosecrans, Jake Van Nostrand, Ross Moscatelli, and Geoff Lasda. On the face-off X, we have Colorado legend Garth Heth joining the Wands. Eric Sanders and Keith Little anchor the midfield defense at LSM, and on close defense, Jim Blasi, Tony Losito, and newcomers Justin Jones and Ryan Robichaud. In goal, we have Jake Burns. We want to thank Pro Athletics for the uniforms and WestFax Brewing in Lakewood, Colo., for their support and beer.

# **LaxGear/Silver Oysters**

We are so thankful after a year hiatus to be back with family and friends in Vail for our 2nd appearance in the Supermasters division. The Silver Oysters will be sponsored again by Laxgear and always be playing for our friend Mike Goerne, who is no longer with us. We will be donating money to the local Aspen lacrosse program in Mike's honor for anyone that would like to be a part of it. His passion for life and dedication to the sport of lacrosse is something we should all aspire to. It is a privilege to play the sport we love...thanks Mike for the reminder.

### **Elder Statesmen**

The Elder Statesmen are primed to return to the pristine Rocky Mountains, the team's adopted second home after Upstate New York, and as opposed to drinking from the shores of Lake Geneva and cans of Genesee Cream Ale, they will sip Shaefer Beer out of the Eagle River with a mission of spreading their unique brand of Central New York "old school" lacrosse to the Western side of the Mississippi River with the goal of defending their 2019 Vail Lacrosse Tournament championship. This year the team is playing to honor too many family members who are fighting and beating the bully known as Cancer. LFG10 for team captain Sean Fox and for team family member Gavin Schaffer, a true warrior as he celebrates kicking cancer's ass and smashing the bully in its nose. Neither look for easy and neither will the Statesman on and off the turf.

The squad is made up of former Hobart Statesmen (hence the name) and other Upstate NY born lads hailing from tiny Hamlets as Cortland (many members attended the prestigious Cortland State Campus nursery school together). The team is a collaboration of the eclectic superstars and personalities.

It will be led on and off the field by Academy Award winning (12 Years A Slave) producer and goaltender extraordinaire Anthony Katagas. Fear the Beard. He most recently starred as the starting goaltender for Greece in the World Championships of 2018.

The team will be shepherded by NLL and MLL star and coach and current Head Coach of Team Scotland, Brian Silcott (Naz), MLL and NLL all-star Brian Langtry (Hofstra), USA Team player, NLL and MLL star and New York Jet Doug Shanahan (Hofstra), and US Ranger and NLL madman Josh Rachman (FSU). Additional members hailing from various lax upstate New York outposts including San Diego St. (Tom Hannum, Jim Kappler), Cornell (Todd Francis), Gettysburg (Brooke Ferrell), Cortland High School (Mike Martin and Peter Schaffer), Cortland

St (Rich Becker), Michigan State (Doug Jolly), Chesapeake Bay Hawk Luther Flemming, and also some local Colorado favorites from DU (Travis Taylor, Glenn Bergman and Brian Berger). This year's team is no different and with a singular focus of camaraderie, enjoyment, merriment, and rekindling decade old friendships, dating back some to kindergarten with the team's Motto from Coach Urick voluminous quote book: "Everyday's a holiday, every meal's a banquet!" The team thanks the graciousness and generosity of its sponsors Cortland Based Graph-Tex, Nike, Schaefer Beer, Tenth Mountain Division Whiskey, and Authentic Athletix.



# **Supermasters Preview**—continued from page 53

# **Columbus Ballhawgs**

The Ballhawgs will be making their second appearance at the summit and can't wait to reconnect with old friends after a long year off. We would like to thank the Vail Lacrosse Shootout staff for all their hard



work over the last two years to make this event a success. We would also like to give a big shout out to the Hawgettes, for all the support before and after games. This year's squad will have some familiar faces and a handful of fresh legs (which we learned the

importance of in year one).

With a roster representing seven different states and a wide range of former Division I, II, III, and club players, we look forward to celebrating before and after the games with everyone. We would like to thank our friends at Powell Lacrosse for the uniforms and once again, the Hawgettes for all the support!

# Navy Old Goats and Black Lab Sports

No information available at press time. ■



# Supermasters Schedule

Conference A	Conference B
Elder Statesmen	Princeton BCLF
Magic Wands / WLF	Navy Old Goats
Silver Oysters	Black Lab Sports
Columbus Ballhawgs	

Pool Play consists of two twenty minute running halves. Sudden death overtime. Ties in pool play go to fewest goals against.

# Saturday, June 26— Pool Play — 20 minute running halves

Game	Visitor	Home	Field	Time
1	Columbus Ballhawgs	Elder Statesmen	Ford 1 East	12:30
2	Silver Oysters	Magic Wands/WLF	Ford 2 West	12:30
3	Princeton BCLF	Navy Old Goats	Athletic	12:30
4	Black Lab Sports	Navy Old Goats	Athletic	1:15
5	Princeton BCLF	Black Lab Sports	Athletic	2:00

# Sunday, June 27 — 12 minute stop quarters

Game	Visitor	Home	Field	Time
6	Winner Game 1	B-2	Ford 1 East	12:30
7	Winner Game 2	B-1	Ford 2 West	12:30
8	Loser Game 1	B-3	Athletic	11:00
9	Loser Game 2	B-3	Athletic	12:15
10	Loser Game 1	Loser Game 2	Athletic	1:30

# Monday, June 28 — 12 minute stop quarters

Game	Visitor	Home	Field	Time
11	Winner 6	Winner 7	Ford 1 East	12:30
		Championsh	ip	
12	Loser 6	Loser 7	Ford 2 West	12:30
		3rd Place		
13	TBD	TBD	Athletic	12:30
14	TBD	TBD	Athletic	1:30
15	TBD	TBD	Athletic	2:30



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# 2021 Grandmasters Preview

hen you are playing in the tournament in your late 40's most of us can't wait to hit 50 and be eligible to step up, or fall down into the Grandmasters division. Judging by the renewed rivalry in the 2019 final between the Elder Statesman and Los Viejos de Tejas, the competitive juices still flow like the drool from a dinosaur finding his prey in the mountains at 8000 feet. This division will host one of the largest Grand fields in tourney history and our amazing training staff has adjusted our athletic tape stock to match that number.

We expect a very competitive bracket in this division with everyone taking a gap year to heal their aching hamstrings. Expect strong showing with 2019's championship members Los Viejos, Statesmen as well as the revitalized 3rd place EMW squad. The Air Force GrayBirds coached by the tournament legend, Cat Stevens, has flown in many

new members and the Ephmen have some new blood to renew their quest to summit the bracket. Princeton and Team 8 are looking strong and honoring former teammates with their play and sportsmanship. At this writing, the Navy Old Goats are in a submarine and not divulging their crew but we expect a strong team surfacing at 8000 feet. Newcomer Polar X features a blend of tourney vets and can be a surprise team to the division. The Generals, CU Graybeards and the Yellow Dog are holding their write-ups close to the vest but I would not count anyone out in this division. OH IT IS SO GRAND TO BE BACK IN VAIL.

### **EMW**

Playing in the Grand Masters division for their second year is EMW. The EMW name comes from the EMW Foundation (emwf.org) founded in 2004 in San Diego. EMW was founded by Matt Holman. The

EMW Foundation is dedicated to hosting and promoting lacrosse events with charitable organizations as the beneficiary of the lacrosse activities. The EMW Foundation is best known for their "Jam by the Sea" tournament in San Diego each spring. The EMW squad has players who hail from all across the US and Canada, but most of whom now reside in the West.

# Team 8

In 1988 Michael Bruce was paralyzed in a car accident on his way to take the SAT exam. At that time wearing #8 for Bridgewater-Raritan East, Michael was a lacrosse star in New Jersey preparing to accept one of many top tier D-I lacrosse scholarship offers.

Team 8 is a collection of Michael's friends, and friends of



friends, who have come together to honor his memory and raise money for the Michael Bruce Scholarship through the game he loved. We just hope he's not upset with how old and slow we've become.

# Air Force GrayBirds

This year will be the 23rd year a GrayBirds squad has competed in the "Honored Citizen" levels of the Shootout. This year, we plan to put up a better fight than we have in recent years when wins were few and far between (yeah, last year we were undefeated, but also did not achieve any victories). And

we believe we have the squad to do so. Our roster features 27 players including 14 former Falcons—the highest such turnout since 2008. Likewise, this squad will be the least "experienced" squad we've fielded in years since nearly half of us are '90s era college grads. Since time has shown a direct correlation between increasing player experience and the increasing challenges presented by Vail's 8200' elevation, this situation bodes well for the 2021 GrayBirds. Led by aggressive defenders Floyd Dunstan, Brad Powell, John Czachor, and goalie, Kevin Kaffl; skillful attackers Brian Zembraski, Jim McNeil, and Paul Quigley; and hustling midfielders John Conmy, Brian O'Rourk, Mark Hopkins, and Paul Ryan we will compete to the max on the field. Win or lose, however, it's a joy to still be playing this wonderful game in such a beautiful setting and, especially after the challenges presented by the Pandemic over the past year, we thank the tournament organizers and the town of Vail for allowing us to do so. Off we go...

# **Princeton BCLF**

Princeton BCLF plays for the Bobby Camp-



bell Lacrosse Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to growing the game of lacrosse in central New Jersey in honor of the late Bobby Campbell; coach, mentor and teammate to many of our players. The team will be sparked on offense by the play of Chris Gabrielsen, who was brought out of his way too early retirement, Dean Curtis at attack, Andy Klumpp at midfield and on the defensive side by the perennially strong play of goalie Jeff Olson.

### Team Polar X

Team Polar X is a new entry for this year's Grand Masters bracket. Most of the players have a history at the Vail Shootout on various squads and divisions over the years. The team is composed of 10 Polar Bear DU Pioneer Teammates from the early 90's and earlier, as well as a handful of team Jagermeister players that played many years in the Masters bracket back in the day. We also have a strong mix of NY laxmen from the Hudson Valley and a trio of Vanderbilt Players from the 1990's. The team looks to be a regular Grand Masters squad moving forward, as our team Jagermeister teammates age into

continued on page 58

the GrandMasters-Polar Bear age group. Team Polar X wants to thank our Sponsor Polar X (Pro-Relief Hemp Extracted CBD Infused Gel) for their generous sponsorship.

# Los Viejos de Tejas

With lacrosse roots dating way back to their Texas club playing days, Los Viejos return in hopes for reversing their 2019 Championship game loss. Many of the Texas boys are joined by their "honorary Texas" brothers from back east. The Viejos have reloaded with offensive firepower (hopefully) from new additions Doug Gullick and Bogey Laverty at midfield and Evan Gekas at attack joined by the return of Dave King and the always steady Patrick O'Connor. Vail veterans Rocco Guglielmo and John Marano will man the face off X as usual. Defense will by committee lead by Pete Schwasnick and Dave Miller with the goalie tandem of Joe

Bottner and Kyle Andrews as the last line of defense. All that's left to do now is roll the ball out there and play. It's been a long absence from the field, too long. Thanks to the organizers for keeping the faith, hosting the Tourney again and letting us enjoy yet another year in the mountains.

# **Ephmen**

The Williams College Ephmen once again assemble from all across the United States... and maybe even Singapore! They will be traveling from places as near as Boulder, CO, and as far as the Hawaiian shores, the Maine coastline, STRONG ISLAND, and the Floridian Peninsula to play the Creators Game. Timid souls fear playing lax at the tender age of 50+ at an altitude of 8,000 feet. Purple Cows, however, thrive in these conditions. The Purple "Run and Gun: ALL FUN" brand of lacrosse is guaranteed to excite lacrosse

fans in the Vail Valley. Sprinkled amongst the EPHMEN for some extra spice are a few former players from Johns Hopkins, Denison, Colgate, UNH, and UMBC.

The EPHMEN will again be employing a not-so-secret weapon ... BOOST OXY-GEN. We performed better and recovered better with the boost from BOOST OXY-GEN. Rob Neuner (fellow Ephmen), Co-Founder & CEO will be sponsoring us again this year, and we will be using it all up! It's just too effective!

Over the years the EPH-MEN made their summer Vail pilgrimage for the Masters and now in the Grand-masters tourneys. The lynchpin of past trips was that we traveled with our

beloved coach Renzie Lamb and his wife Terry. Sadly, we lost Renzie Lamb to a brain aneurysm at the age of 81 in November 2018. Coach Lamb is a legend of the game and we always play in his memory. He impacted the game of lacrosse and the lives of all of the EPHMEN, from the many All-Americans to the practice players. We are blessed that Coach Terry Lamb will be with us again this year. Buckle up for safety!

# Navy Grand Goats, Generals, Elder Statesmen, CU Graybeards, Yellow Dog.

No information available at press time.



# Grandmasters Schedule

<b>Conference A</b> Elder Statesmen Princeton BCLF Generals	<b>Conference B</b> Los Viejos de Tejas Navy Old Goats Airforce Graybirds	Conference C Ephmen EMW CU Graybeards	Conference D Team 8 Yellow Dog Polar X	Pool Play consists of two twenty minute running halves. Sudden death overtime. Ties in pool play go to fewest goals against.
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Saturday, June 26 — Pool Play — 20 minute running halves

Pool	Game #	Visitor	Home	Field	Time
Α	1	Princeton BCLF	Elder Statesmen	Ford 1 East	10:15
Α	2	Generals	Princeton BCLF	Ford 1 East	11:00
Α	3	Generals	Elder Statesmen	Ford 1 East	11:45
В	4	Los Viejos de Tejas	Navy Old Goats	Ford 2 West	10:15
В	5	Airforce GrayBirds	Navy Old Goats	Ford 2 West	11:00
В	6	Airforce GrayBirds	Los Viejos de Tejas	Ford 2 West	11:45
С	7	Ephmen	EMW	Vail Mtn School	10:15
С	8	CU Graybeards	EMW	Vail Mtn School	11:00
С	9	Ephmen	CU Graybeards	Vail Mtn School	11:45
D	10	Team 8	Yellow Dog	Vail Athletic	10:15
D	11	Polar X	Yellow Dog	Vail Athletic	11:00
D	12	Polar X	Team 8	Vail Athletic	11:45

Sun	Sunday, June 27 — 12 minute stop quarter						
Game #	# Visitor	Home	Field	Time			
13	A-1	D-1	Ford 1 East	11:00			
14	B-1	C-1	Ford 1 East	9:30			
15	A-2	D-2	Ford 2 West	11:00			
16	B-2	C-2	Ford 2 West	9:30			
17	A-3	D-3	Vail Mtn School	9:30			
18	B-3	C-3	Vail Mtn School	11:00			

Mon	Monday, June 28 — 12 minute stop quarters					
Game #	Visitor	Home	Field	Time		
19	Winner 13	Winner 14	Ford 1 East	11:00		
		Champio	nship			
20	Loser 13		Ford 2 West	11:00		
		3rd Pla	ice			
21	Winner 15	Winner 16	Ford 1 East	9:30		
22	Loser 15	Loser 16	Ford 2 West	9:30		
23	Winner 17	Winner 18	Vail Mtn School	9:30		
24	Loser 17	Loser 18	Vail Mtn School	11:00		

# 2021 Zenmasters Preview

By Jim Soran

row old ferociously". That was the statement on a poster in my work out facility decades ago. When I watch this division play that keeps running through my mind. For them it is not only a ferocious adventure but one of love and respect. Here you see the love and respect for the game and their opponents. We salute all of you and hope to see you all for years to come.

# Mr. Boh Lacrosse

Unlike the periodic cicadas that briefly emerge every seventeen years, Mr. Boh Lacrosse (formerly Moyers Lacrosse and Behind the Back) is a Vail fixture since the early 1990s. Undaunted by last years' migratory interruption, we are proud to make our annual sojourn to Vail. Mr. Boh has a core of players who hail (or did at one time) from the Mid-Atlantic hotbed of lacrosse playing connoisseurs of National Bohemian Beer, fortified by adherents to our values from across the country. A perceived lack of raw

talent is offset through teamwork and camaraderie, and invigorated by the pursuit of glory on Ford Field. Despite our growing seniority (some might say senility), Mr. Boh retains a passion for the competition inspired annually by this great tournament and overwhelming appreciation for all that Vail offers each year. Kudos to the Tournament organizers and the Town of Vail who make this possible! Mr. Boh Lacrosse wishes all participants to 'Lax Pleasantly'!

# **Peak-ed Masters**

Brilliantly named to reflect both our pride in our Colorado origins and our physical condition, the Peak-ed Masters are returning to Vail after last year's COVID-19 vacation to demonstrate the first and to disregard the second. The Peak-ed Masters are the latest version of a team that goes back to the 1980's at Vail. Originally called the Colorado Rockies (we had the name first, and hasten to disavow any connection with the base-



ball(?) team), then evolving into the Colorado Lacrosse Club (CLC), and now this latest manifestation, it has always had a core of Colorado players. Mostly organized by Mike Held, the team has benefited from his efforts to promote lacrosse at ever older levels, since most of its members otherwise would have had to retire years ago due to senescence. disability, or selfish self preservation.



Coached for many years by Bob Hiester, a Colorado Hall of Fame member for his successes at the high school level, we like to think we have proved beyond a doubt that being able to coach teenagers does not translate into being able to direct sexagenarians. Bob's son Brian is also on our coaching staff, since Bob himself is getting a little old for the constant aggravation and second guessing that comes with a team with so many ex coaches. (It also helps to have a younger mind when trying to keep 10, and only 10, players on the field.)

Perennial stalwarts include goalie Kim "get it ahda heah" Thiel, LSM Tom "I can't hear you" Cerra, and Mid/Def Nick "leather helmet" Carroll.

Our team motto is: "The older we get, the better we used to be."

# **Navy Old & Gnarly Goats**

As proud supporters of the 'Navy Seal Foundation', our 60+ roster is comprised of Academy graduates, Navy veterans, and friends of the Navy. Last year was to be our 30th anniversary at the Shootout and our attempt to celebrate this year was hampered again by

unknown covid rules. Next vear! As we've matured to the Zenmasters division we cherish these lacrosse. events as a time to reflect on all the years and good times that we've had and reminisce about how great we were ... way back when. While recollections aren't quite as sharp and feet not as fleet ... we're

still giving 100% ... of what's left! We'll just keep on doing this ... until we can't.

### **Nomads**

The Nomads are the newest entry to the Zenmasters 60+ division (it looks like Lacrosse, only slower!) and marks the sixth team in this growing age bracket. The roster is comprised of diehard Lacrosse players with a varied background, a mixture of former DI-III. MCLA and refurbished lacrosse guys looking to have some Summer fun in Vail. We enter the competition this summer with full expectations of living up to the memory of how well we have played in Shootouts of years past, but without the sobering recognition that when 60+, you really can't run. Did somebody say Throw and Catch? We look forward to the weekend in the beautiful Rocky Mountains.

# The Eldest Statesman

"Coming back after the layoff, I wasn't really sure what to expect." —Jennifer Capriati

The Eldest Statesmen, defending champions of the 2019 Vail Shootout, met while trading

continued on page 62

Cliff Notes and sipping beers in the 1970s on the banks of Lake Seneca in Geneva, NY. It's the home of Hobart College, and a region now considered the "cradle of lacrosse."

In those days, we played the game for its "Little Brother of War" culture. It wasn't a tough sell to get a group like ours to compete in a fast-paced sport where beating each other with sticks was encouraged. But today, in our autumn dotage, we play for the medicine the Creator's Game provides.

We play because we love it. The game keeps us together. It's carefree play in its purest form. It has given us a brotherhood through the highs and lows of life since those days on the banks of Lake Seneca. We gained new teammates, and lost dear friends to battles with cancer. In their honor, the tradition endures. Lacrosse is not just a game—it's a ritual that fulfills our spirit.



It's been 519 days since the Eldest Statesmen hoisted a trophy. We won the championship in Vail 2019, Lake Placid 2019, and Florida Lax Classic 2020, often called the Triple Crown of Old Man Lacrosse. Team COVID-19 held us to a single trophy in 2020. Like Jennifer Capriati, we're not sure what to expect after the time off... but damn glad to be back!

# Los Abuelos de Tejas

Continuing a 46 year tradition as being the longest running out of state team in the Aspen/Vail Shootout, Los Abuelos de Tejas return for yet another run at another Title. Representing Texas are an ever-diminishing core of players from the 1976 and 1977 Aspen Championship teams. The few. the proud.. the really old. Helping bring the average team age down considerably are additions from Los Viejos who've "matured" into

the Zen Masters Division. Attackmen Mike Bowles and Paul Mosey join veterans Tom Nolan and Mike Donnelly, spring chicken middies Ken Singer and Dan Dugan get into the mix with Barney Zipken, Matt Harder and the ageless Brent Hopkins and goalie Joe Bottner teams up with Kyle Andrews for a strong 6x6 presence. The Defense is anchored by Rob Gettinger and Keven Spaeth. Coach Dave Vollmer returns from his stint in rehab after the 2019 tourney to herd the boys (whose continued motto remains "the older I get, the better I was") yet again. All prayers for Coach Vollmer are accepted.

One Abuelo we will miss this year is Warren Stewart who left us way too early in February. Warren was a member of the 1977 champi-



onship team and played on the initial Magic Wand team in the mid 90s as well as the initial Los Viejos and Los Abuleos teams. The past couple of years he's been a fixture on the sideline cheering on his teammates who also were his lifelong friends. He loved the game and the

Tourney so and will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him. Los Abuelos will play for Warren this year (and try not to embarrass him in the process.) ■



# Zenmasters Schedule

Conference A
Eldest Statesmen
Peak-ed Masters
Navy Old & Gnarly Goats

# **Conference B** Los Abuelos de Tejas Mr. Boh Nomads

Pool Play consists of two twenty minute running halves. Sudden death overtime. Ties in pool play go to fewest goals against.

# Saturday, June 26 — Pool Play — 20 minute running halves

Pool	Game #	Visitor	Home	Field	Time
Α	1	Eldest Statesmen	Navy Old & Gnarly Goats	Ford 1 East	8:00 am
Α	2	Eldest Statesmen	Peak-ed Masters	Ford 1 East	8:45 am
Α	3	Navy Old & Gnarly Goats	Peak-ed Masters	Ford 1 East	9:30 am
В	4	Nomads	Mr. Boh	Ford 2 West	8:00 am
В	5	Nomads	Los Abuelos de Tejas	Ford 2 West	8:45 am
В	6	Mr. Boh	Los Abuelos de Tejas	Ford 2 West	9:30 am

# Sunday, June 27 — 10 minute stop quarters

Game #	Visitor	Home	Field	Time
7	A-1	B-2	Ford 1 East	8:00 am
8	B-1	A-2	Ford 2 West	8:00 am
9	A-3	B-3	Vail Mtn School	8:00 am

# Monday, June 28 — 10 minute stop quarters

Wioriday, Gario 20 — 10 minute stop quarters						
Game #	Visitor	Home	Field	Time		
10	Winner 7	Winner 8	Ford 1 East	8:00 am	Championship	
11	Loser 7	Game 9 team not played	Ford 2 West	8:00 am		
12	Remaining 2 teams		Vail Mtn School	8:00 am		



# Denver City Lax

ver a decade ago a small group of kids from a northeast Denver elementary school with no prior knowledge of lacrosse took the field at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center for the first time as Denver City Lax. Today City Lax has grown to over 300 boys and girls playing on 15 teams guided by 55 coaches.

Since inception the goal has been to provide access and opportunity to lacrosse to atrisk kids living in neighborhoods where the game was essentially unknown. That starts by eliminating the financial barriers to the sport. Denver City Lax delivers everything – all lacrosse activity including equipment, plus educational assistance and enrichment

programming – at no cost. A diverse set of gracious donors and leaders from the lacrosse, educational and business communities have made that possible.

Lacrosse is the centerpiece but the focus is on youth development. Boys and girls are first provided access to a lacrosse program, and as they progress in Denver City Lax educational guidance, life-skills development and enrichment experiences are additional programming offered.

City Lax is making a difference. Boys and girls have earned high school and NCAA All American awards, and numerous alumni have gone on to attend colleges throughout the United States, often as first in family.



Colorado's own Eric Law is the City Lax Director of Lacrosse Development helping drive the organization since 2013.

More importantly, hundreds of kids have found a welcoming home at Denver City Lax. Regardless of athletic ability, youth are provided access at no cost to a program that includes the opportunity to join a team, work hard and also grow as individuals through a variety of educational and enrichment activities. Helping youth navigate their way through daily life and school are often the most impactful stories.

Leaders in lacrosse have recently increased efforts regarding diversity in the

continued on page 66

CITY LAC .OSSE

"Creating a more inclusive space in lacrosse is something that is extremely passionate to me," says Denver City Lax board member Trevor Baptiste.

# Denver City Lax-continued from page 65



Denver City Lax's reading program introduces kids from elementary to high school to award-winning books.

sport, fueled by the social justice issues rising to the forefront in national dialogues on race. Many are wondering what the next steps are in being more inclusive, and how they can contribute. City Lax, and similar programs

around the country, provide a platform.

Denver City Lax has begun the work to: reduce the financial barriers to meaningful participation in the game; increase awareness of the sport through our program presence within new neighborhoods; implement programming that brings more diversity to the game; develop coaches, leaders and officials of color; facilitate diversity best practices; and build bridges and engage in dialogue between different communities.

Ultimately, it's all about the kids as they are the future leaders of both the game and the communities we live in. Lacrosse is a great vehicle for any boy and girl. In recent years it's often noted that the sport's growth

rate tops all sports at the youth through collegiate levels. As the sport expands, however, the challenge has been to not leave kids in under-served neighborhoods behind.

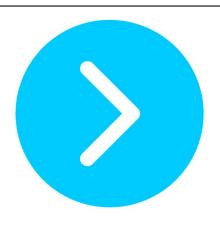
Everybody benefits through diversity, but diversity on the sidelines doesn't happen overnight. It's a generational project, and Denver City Lax has high hopes of being in for the long haul.



Please visit our site (citylaxdenver.org), or connect with us on social media (@denvercitylax), to learn more about Denver City Lax, as well as ways to support. ■

# Watch our latest video!





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# THE ULTIMATE ENERGY PARTNER

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# Where Are You?



# (NAVIGATING THE VAIL LACROSSE SHOOTOUT)

es, you will get to know 1-70 from East Vail to Edwards. Since the Shootout is spread over eight different venues in four different towns, you will be able to take in the beautiful mountain vistas as you drive to the various sites. To assist you in your travels we have compiled the following directions and parking information. The directions are all taken from the Vail roundabout which is the main entrance to Vail at Exit 176.

# Event Parking/ Parking Structures

Event parking is extremely limited at Ford Park and at the Vail Athletic Field. However, the Town of Vail provides free parking at the Vail Village Parking Structure and the Lionshead Parking Structure. For the Vail Parking Structure take exit 176 off of I-70. The Vail Parking Structure is located ½ mile east of the Main Vail Roundabout along Frontage Road East and is only a 5 to 10-minute walk from Ford Park. The Lionshead Parking Structure is located ½ mile to

the west of the Main Vail Roundabout along the South Frontage Road. The Lionshead Parking Structure is served by the Town's free bus system, which operates between Lionshead, Vail Village and Golden Peak in 10-minute intervals. Parking is prohibited along the Frontage Road until structures have been filled to capacity, and then only until 11:00 PM. Detailed parking and bus information is available at www.vailevent-parking.com. Note that there are new restrictions about overnight parking at the parking structures. These are posted on the tournament website (www.vaillacrosse.com).

### **Ford Field**

530 Frontage Rd. E. Vail, 81657
This is the main field in Vail. It is located approximately one (1) mile east from the Main Vail
Roundabout along Frontage Road East. Take I-70 to Vail exit 176, go through the roundabout on the south side of the exit to the Frontage
Road eastbound. Ford Park is approximately ½ mile east of the stop sign at the east end of the Vail Parking Structure. Parking is very limited at the east end of Ford Park and there is a charge.

Each team will be issued 2 parking passes. We recommend you use the parking passes for a team van or your coaches. Players should park in The Vail Parking Structure mentioned above and walk to Ford Field. Parking on the Frontage Road is prohibited until the parking structures are filled to capacity.

### **Donavan Park**

1600 S. Frontage Rd. W. Vail, 81657 his is a secondary field in Vail used for the Super masters, Grandmasters & Zenmasters. From the Main Vail Roundabout, head west on the frontage road toward Lionshead. Continue past Lionshead and Cascade Village. The field is on your left. If you hit West Vail, you've gone too far.

# Athletic Field, Vail

646 Vail Valley Dr. Vail, 81657 This field is across Gore Creek to the south of Ford Field. Take I-70 to Vail exit #176, go through the roundabout on the south side of the exit to the Frontage Road eastbound. Turn right at the stop sign after the parking structure onto Vail Valley Drive; follow the road down the hill, curving left (east) for .6 miles until you reach the field on the right, across from the nature center. No individual player parking will be available at this location. Especially on the 4th of July, it will be best to park in the Vail Village Parking Structure and walk, since parts of Vail Valley Drive will be used for the parade route. There is a turn out just beyond the Athletic field which will allow you to drop off from a team van.

# **Eagle-Vail Field**

700 Eagle Rd. Vail, 81657

# **Homestake Peak School**

750 Eagle Rd. Vail, 81657

From the East (Vail, Dillon, Denver). Traveling West on Interstate 70, take the Eagle-Vail exit, #169. Turn left at the traffic light at the end of the exit ramp. You are heading West on Highway 6. Turn left at the first traffic light at Eagle Road.

You are now entering into the Eagle-Vail community. Continue east on Eagle Road – you'll bear toward the right and will see the school ahead. Walk through the school bus barn to get to the school stadium. The Eagle Vail field is across the street from the school..

# From the West (Avon, Edwards)

Traveling East on Interstate 70, take exit, #168. At the traffic circle, take the 1st exit onto William J. Post Blvd.; at the next traffic circle continue straight to stay on Post Blvd.; at the next traffic circle continue straight to stay on Post Blvd.; at the next traffic circle continue straight to stay on Post Blvd.; at the next traffic circle take the 2nd exit onto U.S. 6E; turn right onto Eagle Road. Continue on Eagle Road to the school stadium. The Eagle Vail field is across the street from the school.. No parking is allowed on the south side of Eagle Road in Eagle-Vail.

# **Edwards/Freedom Park**

300 Miller Ranch Rd. Edwards 81632
Go west of Vail on 1-70. Take the Edwards exit (#163). Turn left at the bottom of the ramp. You'll see Edwards Station and Wendy's on your left. Bear left at the roundabout. Fields are located approximately ½ mile on your right across the street from Battle Mountain HS. If parking is congested additional parking is available directly past the fields at Berry Creek Middle School. Please do not park at Colorado Mountain College.

No parking is allowed on the south side of

Eagle Road in Eagle-Vail or on Miller Ranch

Road in the Miller Ranch nieghborhood.

# **Vail Mountain School**

3000 Booth Falls Rd., E. Vail, 81657
Start out going north on Vail Valley Dr. toward Gore Creek Dr. Take the 2nd right onto E. Meadow Dr. (E. Meadow Dr. is just past Gore Creek Dr.). Turn right onto S. Frontage Rd. E. Turn left onto Booth Falls Rd. Vail Mountain School is on the right.

# R.1.P. Paul C. Shearer

By Pat Gartland

aul Shearer passed on to that peaceful lacrosse field in the sky on January 15, 2021, after a rugged battle with the COVID-19 virus. True to Paul's standards and attitude demonstrated in the photo, he left on his own terms. We celebrate his life and his contributions to lacrosse and the Vail Shootout!

Paul was born on July 22, 1936 and grew up primarily in Denver. In high school, Paul travelled to Baltimore and attended St. Paul's School. St. Paul's storied lacrosse tradition introduced the game to Paul, and his love affair with the game took strong roots. Paul went on to play lacrosse at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio during the age of wooden sticks and panel helmets. Shortly after graduation. Paul started his career as an officer in the U.S.

Coast Guard which took him on assignments throughout the world as he rose to the rank of Commander. His most lengthy assignment was as commander of the petty officer training station at Petaluma, California. While in the Bay area, Paul renewed his association with lacrosse by playing with the San Francisco Lacrosse Club and coaching varsity lacrosse at Terre Linda High School. Here, as in every place he landed, Paul commenced many lacrosse friendships.

Upon his retirement from the Coast Guard, Paul returned to Denver where he passed on the love of lacrosse to his son, Chip, who was an all-state high school star. Paul also officiated lacrosse, contributing to the training of many of today's top Colorado officials. In addition, he coached lacrosse at many

levels. He finally landed at Regis Jesuit High School on the staff of Jim Soran (Vail Shootout founder) where I made his acquaintance. Paul and I coached together at both Regis and Mullen High School where many of his players fondly referred to him as "Sarge" for his

strict, military manner. We also volunteered together at the Shootout beginning in the early 1990's. When Jim and Flip Naumberg desired to add a U-19 Division to the tournament to showcase graduating seniors from around the country, Paul and I jumped into the gap. Paul employed Commander's skills and quickly had this division of the tournament running in good form and growing. He became famous for his gallant protectiveness and making the sure training staff had what was needed. We enjoyed the early years as the Division grew to become a national competition

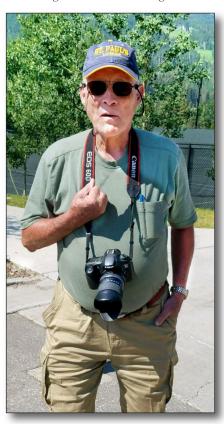
and made many great friendships with the coaches and officials we met at Vail. At the risk of leaving many out, Paul frequently mentioned Jim Wilson from New England, Brad DuPont from Delaware, the crew from the early Ohio powerhouses, and (of course) the legendary Earl Bill. Flip often pinch hit as a

coach when our "Staff" teams had to fill out a bracket. Paul welcomed the suggestion to name this division of the tourney after our friend Dr. Tom Watts upon Tom's passing. Both Paul and I have enjoyed watching many of our high school staffers become longtime

fixtures among tournament volunteers.

Several vears ago, Paul decided to spend some time pursuing his photography hobby and working in the National Parks. This necessitated absence from the tournament and Paul was always missed, He planned to return this year to help with the U-19 tourney and to celebrate its' 25th anniversary. Unfortunately, it was not to be. A wellknown fixture of the Colorado lacrosse community and the Vail Shootout was taken from us this January 15. I know that I will miss sitting with Paul during the final day and I know

that all of the Shootout Staff regulars who know Paul will experience an empty feeling this year and those that follow. His contributions to lacrosse in Colorado will be carried on by the many players and officials he had a hand in shaping. Semper Paratus. Rest in Peace Commander.



# Useful Tips for the Vail Lacrosse Shootout and Vail America Days<sup>™</sup> • June 25 – July 4

### PARKING

- Daytime parking is free in the Vail Village and Lionshead parking garages.
- There is a designated drop off just West of the Ford Lot at the Ford Park bus stop. Drop off will not be allowed in the Ford Lot.
- The Ford Park parking lot has EXTREMELY limited parking spots, so it is encouraged to park in the parking garages and take the bus or walk
- Please note that bus capacities may still be limited and masks required to ride.
   These regulations are federally mandated.
- \$10 close-in parking at the Ford Park lot\* (140 spaces), 500 South Frontage Rd.
  - \$10 close-in parking at the Vail Athletic/Soccer Field lot\* (55 spaces).
- For more information on parking please visit www.VailEventParking.com

### **BUS ROUTES**

- Masks are required by federal mandate on our Town of Vail buses.
- Lacrosse players are encouraged to drive to the Ford Park fields or the Athletic Fields turn-out to unload their gear, then return to park in either the Vail Village or Lionshead parking structure and take the extended intown shuttle bus or the Special Events bus back to the fields.
- Catch the In-Town bus to Ford Park via Vail Valley Drive to accommodate daily access to the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, Betty Ford Alpine Gardens, and the Vail Nature Center. Operating daily from 9am to 9pm, the loop route includes stops in Lionshead and Vail Village with a turnaround at Ford Park.
- The Special Events Express Bus provides circular service from June 26-July 4 from the Transit Center on the top deck of the Lionshead parking structure, to the top deck of the Vail Village parking structure in front of the Welcome Center, and then to the Ford Park bus stop before returning to Lionshead.
- For more information on bus schedules: www.vailgov.com/bus-schedules
- For Eagle County bus service: www.eaglecounty.us/transit/schedules

### **JULY 4TH**

- From 9:30am 4:00pm, Meadow Drive in Vail Village and the Lionshead pedestrian mall will be hosting the Vail Farmers' Market and Patriotic Reverse Parade, respectively.
- Bus service will be re-routed to the Frontage Road during this time.
- Pop up concerts, street entertainers, stationary floats, and Farmers' Market vendors will be throughout town from approximately 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.
- The Patriotic Concert with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra will take place at the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater at 4:00pm. Please visit www.grfaVail.com for ticketing info.

### **FIREWORKS**

- Leave the Fireworks to the professionals. It is illegal to shoot off personal fireworks in Vail.
- Enjoy a fireworks display from a new launch location. The fireworks show is now visible from all across Vail. Check out the viewing corridors map at www.vailamericadays.com.

### **SAFETY & TOWN REGULATIONS**

- If you bring your pet into town, bring a leash. Pets are not allowed at Ford Park.
- To-go alcohol can be purchased from many local restaurants but may only be consumed in designated areas. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on the streets of Vail.

# **Helpful Phone Numbers**

•	
Emergencies	911
Vail Police (non-emergency)	970 479-2200
<ul> <li>Vail Fire (non-emergency)</li> </ul>	970 479-2250
Vail Valley Medical Center	970 476-2451
Vail Bus Schedule	970 477-3456
Vail Parking	970-479-2445
ECO Regional Transportation	
<ul> <li>Resort Information &amp; Activities</li> </ul>	
Center (Vail Mountain)	970 476-9090
Vail Welcome Centers	970 476-4790
<ul> <li>Vail Chamber &amp;</li> </ul>	
Business Association	970 477-0075
Vail Valley Partnership	970 476-1000
Vail Recreation District	970 479-2279
<ul> <li>Vail America Days Information</li> </ul>	970 476-6797
Event Information	970 476-4790
<ul> <li>Lost &amp; Found (In Town)</li> </ul>	
• Lost & Found (Vail Mountain)	970 754-3059