



WILTON LACROSSE



This Week in Wilton Lacrosse – February 28, 2017

This note will be less about what happened the past week or month in Wilton Lacrosse and more about what is to come. The various winter lacrosse activities are coming to a close for all groups in the Wilton Lacrosse community – Girls HS, Boys HS, Girls Youth and Boys Youth. The weather has been surprisingly good as far as getting outside goes – not so great if you have a skating rink in the front yard. Players can already be seen out on the fields after school which of course means we are due for another snow storm or two. Let's hope not.

Spring youth tryouts are just around the corner with Boys Youth kicking off on March 5th and Girls Youth taking the field on March 18th. Chris Skillin, the head of Girls Youth, and Mike Corry, the head of Boys Youth, have been busy since September working to deliver the best youth program we can offer. In line with new recommendations from the governing body of lacrosse in the US, US Lacrosse, Wilton Lacrosse will be offering 7v7 play for the younger age groups (1-4th grade). The intent from US Lacrosse is to focus more on skill development and keep the level of individual engagement up. This should lead to better development across many players as well as more fun along the way. You can read more here - <https://www.uslacrosse.org/athlete-development/athlete-development-model>.

The spring high school season officially starts on March 18th and both our girls and boys teams will be beginning their preparation in earnest that weekend. Girls Varsity head coach Merri Meyran and Boys Varsity head coach John Wiseman are ready to take a run at FCIAC and State titles. Supporting the efforts on the field are the WLA Girls High School Committee led by Joann Brant and WLA Boys High School Committee led by Co-Chairs Sal Dominick and Greg King. These groups have been busy over the winter planning pre-season and in-season activities.

All of the activities that the WLA plans and delivers wouldn't be possible without the selfless dedication of a huge number of folks – all volunteers. Especially at the youth level it takes a lot of preparation and planning to make it all work. The different committees that drive these events are always looking for more volunteers so please raise your hand if you would like to help.

Another thing it takes to make this all work is money. At the high school level the WLA provides funding that fills in for the under-funded sports programs. Across the whole program money raised goes to investing in projects that make the program better. Past examples have included defibrillators for the field and a new sound system at the Stadium. This year we are raising money to build 2 lacrosse walls down at the fields -one for boys and one for girls. Our main fundraiser for these efforts is going to be held at Rolling Hills on March 10th and promises to be a great event. We've got strong roster of items to bid on led by vacation homes, concert tickets and sport tickets with plenty of other items from the local community. This event has sold out each year so please consider registering today as we are already over 200 in the first 10 days of registration. Register here -

<https://leagueathletics.com/UserForm.asp?RegID=210905&n=&org=WILTONLAX.COM>.

And not to get too myopic about lacrosse in Wilton, it is worth mentioning that the college season is well underway. Nearly every college game is available to be viewed in real time and you can quickly fill up your DVR. Not conducive to getting chores done on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Wilton alumni are playing on many teams across the lacrosse spectrum. If you catch the Notre Dame women's game you will see Casey ('17) and Makenna ('20) Pearsall starting for the Irish. If you want to take in an early season game close to home, this Saturday at 2pm you can catch St. Lawrence, #6 ranked in Division III, take on Western New England at the Brunswick School in Greenwich. St. Lawrence will have Wilton grad Connor Johnson ('17), the hero of the 2013 state championship game, starting in goal and last year's leading scorer for Wilton, Harrison Koch, on attack (gratuitous plug). Jane Wood, the WLA Alumni coordinator, keeps a great list of all the Wilton alumni playing in college on our Facebook page so go there and check it out. The college season promises to be exciting and wide open so make the time in March to take in a game before the youth and high school season hit their full stride. There are many excellent local games within a short drive.

Hope to see everyone at the fundraiser in the 10th and out on the fields during the spring.

David Koch

WLA President