

ANZAC DAY LACROSSE COMPETITION 2016
IN MELBOURNE 24-25 April 2016
Between ALA & NZALU men's & women's
teams



Introduction

The Australian and New Zealand lacrosse associations (ALA & NZALU respectively) have arranged for teams from New Zealand to travel to Melbourne for a 2016 ANZAC Day Lacrosse Competition. The 2016 ANZAC Day Competition is being hosted by the MCC Lacrosse Club on behalf of the ALA.

Background

In 1914 NSW and NZ were set to play lacrosse against each other – the game that never was. This match had to be called off because of the outbreak of the Great War - and subsequently that was the end of NZ lacrosse (for men) for the next 86 years.

Hence it became the centenary lacrosse game re-scheduled and played in 2014 and provided an important moment to acknowledge an important piece of both countries culture and history.

Below is the link to the paper of the day announcing the cancellation of the scheduled game due to the outbreak of World War I.

<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast?a=d&cl=search&d=WC19140828.2.61&srpos=3&e=-07-1914--09-1914--100--1----0lacrosse-->

NB Captain William Alfred Browning was a player for the Ponsonby Club (which NZALU are re-establishing). He left with the first contingent for Samoa - there is a picture at College Rifles rooms of the College Rifles (regiment) who were also part of this contingent. Lots of great connections here and a heritage worthy of further exploration!

From the archives this was the last announcement regarding men's lacrosse apart from obituaries - attached are some extracts from the papers of 1914. Next year will be the 100 year anniversary of the start of the World War 1.

Details

The Australian teams will be ALA (Australian Lacrosse Association) commemorative teams.

There will be both men's and women's teams participating.

These ALA Teams will travel to Melbourne on the morning of Sunday 24th April 2016 . On arrival, this will be the initial and only pre-competition get together for the selected ALA teams.

The **Updated** Schedule is as follows (but is subject to change) –

- Friday night 22 April Arrive in Melbourne, it is anticipated that players will be billeted
- Saturday 23 April Training session held Saturday morning.
Probable matches against MCC LC (Men and Women)
Possibility of attending AFL football match at the MCG (tbc)
- Sunday 24 April ALA Vs NZ (M & W), during the morning
Welcome BBQ at MCC
- Monday 25 April
- 4.30 a.m. Meet for Dawn Service at the Shrine of Remembrance, St. Kilda Rd, Melbourne
 - 6.-6.30 a.m. Teams attend the Dawn Service
 - 7.15-8.45 a.m. Gunfire Breakfast/Breakfast for Teams and past lacrosse defence force members at the Albert Ground clubrooms (nominal charge for meal & drinks). Limited numbers.
 - 9.15 a.m. Short Anzac Commemorative Service at the Albert Ground clubrooms
 - 9.45 a.m. Morning tea in clubrooms following Anzac Service
 - 10.00 a.m. Pre-match Warm up (Women – Ground 1; Men – Ground 2)
 - 10.30 a.m. Matches
 - 1.00 p.m. Lunch for teams, with nominal charge for meal & drinks
 - Late Afternoon/evening Depart.

ALA team members will hence be required for these nominated days. All travel will be organised via the ALA's travel agent - Acland Travel.

The detailed budget is currently being produced and will be available and published (on the ALA website) as soon as possible. The ALA Team members will be required to self-fund their travel and accommodation (if required) at this stage by cost-share but sponsorship is being sought by the ALA. A commemorative playing uniform is being investigated for both ALA teams. Publicity for lacrosse, both in New Zealand and Australia, will be developed and issued once the teams have been finalised.

Application, Criteria & Selection Process.

All applications are to be made to Viv Parker-White, ALA Director – Administration via administration@lacrosse.com.au, using the application form via the link provided below.

The closing date for applications will be Monday 7nd March 2016. Nominations are open **NOW**.

Selection of all team members will be made by ALA Directors and finalised by 14th March 2016. All applicants will then be advised accordingly and the selected ALA Teams published on the ALA website in mid March 2016.

All applications will need to be endorsed, in writing, by the home club (either by the President, coach, committee member, etc.) for each nominating player.

Each applicant will need to state their club, playing history, age, experience, playing position(s) and current playing level. Additionally it is important that each applicant state their purpose(s) for applying, both from a lacrosse perspective and/or from any ANZAC commemorative reason.

It is noted that this ANZAC commemorative event will be early in 2016's winter season of club lacrosse competition and also that the ALA National U/18 Championship will be conducted over 21-24 April 2014 in Western Australia. However this is a unique opportunity to participate in a centenary event to commemorate an important centenary when the ANZAC troops landed in Gallipoli in 1915.

The criteria for selection will be to:

- have at least one representative from each member State Association of the ALA;
- have a team playing standard at around a 2nd level State competition (i.e. for LV at Division 1 for men);
- have the skills required to field teams with players in their nominated playing positions;
- obtain a team mixture of experienced players through to those less experienced but with development capabilities;
- ensure that the individuals are registered lacrosse members and that their character and behaviour is endorsed by their club for selection in these ALA commemorative teams.

Positions being called for are:

Women's team of 18 players – 2 goalies, etc.; and preferably 2 aged U18, 8 aged over 18 and under 30, 8 aged over 30;

Men's team of 18 players – 2 goalies, etc.; and preferably 2 aged U18, 8 aged over 18 and under 35, 8 aged over 35;

1 Coach for each of the men's & women's team.

1 Manager for each of the men's & women's team.

The selection process will be:

-made by the Directors of the ALA Board as recommended by Fran Nichols as the Event Co-ordinator;

-against the published criteria (as above);

-inclusive of nomination reason(s) stated by the applicants.

Conclusion

So - we just need Australian teams to come and play the NZ National Teams (elect).

Over to all interested lacrosseurs.....please make your nomination for the ALA 2016 Commemorative ANZAC team as soon as possible....we realise it needs to be quick but this is a great and one-off opportunity!