

Steve Ewen: North Shore Indians' Bold bid for lacrosse playoff spot

BY STEVE EWEN, THE PROVINCE JUNE 23, 2016

With Dennis Johnston
from Advantage Home Ice
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Curtis Dickson of the Calgary Roughnecks puts a shot on Saskatchewan Rush goalie Aaron Bold with defender Adrian Sorichetti in Calgary, Alta., on Saturday, Jan. 2, 2016. Bold Indians.

Photograph by: Lyle Aspinall, The Province

The North Shore Indians are putting together a lineup loaded with names familiar to boxla fans as they try to get back into the Senior B lacrosse provincial playoff hunt.

Goalie Aaron Bold, who led the Saskatchewan Rush to their second straight National Lacrosse League crown over the winter season, is the latest to join the fray with North Shore.

Rick Mang, general manager and coach of the Indians, says that Bold will be between the pipes for his West Coast Senior Lacrosse Association club on Friday, when they play host to the Langley Warriors at West Vancouver Arena (8 p.m.) and on Sunday when the Indians visit the Coquitlam Adanacs at the Poirier Sport and Leisure Complex (5 p.m.).

The Indians (2-7-0-0) are six points behind the Adanacs (5-5-0-0) for the sixth and final playoff spot, albeit with a game in hand. The teams play a 14-game regular season, so there's a good chance that North Shore will have to run the table in their final five games to make the post-season.

Langley (8-1-0-1) currently leads the league standings.

North Shore started the season with seven straight losses.

Before Bold, 31, the Indians added the likes of Athan Iannucci, 34, a former 71-goal scorer in the NLL, who had tallied at least 25 times a season the previous five summers with the Langley Thunder

of the Senior A Western Lacrosse Association.

North Shore has also brought in transition specialist Tyler Garrison, 24, and Kyle Sorensen, 30, who are best known locally for their time with the NLL's Vancouver Stealth. Garrison and Sorensen have only played a game apiece for the Indians so far, but Mang says they'll continue to take part over the rest of the season.

North Shore added forwards Jeff Zywicki, 35, and Alex Gajic, 28, who both had success in the WLA with the New Westminster Salmonbellies in the past.

"We have added some wily veterans," said Mang.

Summer teams are permitted to pay players. A handful do just that.

Senior B teams have loaded up with Senior A talent in the past to take a run at the President's Cup national title. This year, the President's tournament will be contested Aug. 29 to Sept. 4 in Leduc, Alta.

Bold played in the WLA last summer, with the Victoria Shamrocks and helped them capture the Mann Cup, the Senior A national crown. He was named MVP of this year's NLL finals.

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