

Jones helps Pioneers defeat Capitals in home opener

WLA veteran and former Islander has three points in his Ladner debut

[Mark Booth](#) / Delta Optimist

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Nathan Clare had five points, including a pair of goals as the Ladner Pioneers defeated Royal City 12-8 in their WCSLA home opener. The game was a rematch of last year's league championship series, also won by Ladner.

Photograph By MARK BOOTH

The Ladner Pioneers' newest weapon helped them improve to 2-0-0 out of the gate in the West Coast Senior Lacrosse Association.

Jason Jones had a goal and two assists in Ladner's 12-8 home floor win over the Royal City Capitals on Thursday night.

The 30-year-old North Delta native had enjoyed a productive career in the Western Lacrosse Association including a 51-point campaign in 18 games a year ago with the Burnaby Lakers. He is part of talented lacrosse family that includes younger brothers Mitch and Ryan Jones. Their father Randy was a dominant player in the WLA for nearly 15 years.

Jason's arrival adds to the growing number of Junior "A" Islanders alumni in the Ladner line-up.

Jack Berry, Patrick Szabo, Shawn Richardson and Mitch Winter are all in their rookie seasons after graduating from Delta last year. Berry had a hat trick against New West.

In a rematch of last year's championship series, the Pioneers enjoyed period leads of 4-3 and 7-4 behind the 44-save performance of Zach Wickett who was making his debut for his hometown team.

Nate Clare paced the attack with five points, including a pair of goals. Mike Berekoff also scored twice and add a couple of assists. Other goal scorers included Ryan Keith, Connor Davidson, Wyatt Pinder and Tyler Kirkby.

Ladner returns to action Tuesday in Langley against the 1-1Warriors before returning home Thursday to take on the Nanaimo Timbermen at 7 p.m.

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