
lacrosse OT: National League Lacrosse

Posted by Jackie Tellier - 2008/05/12 23:09

Just watched some of the final. Now we know what cities can do with their empty NHL arenas. I was amazed at how like hockey it was.... How much bigger is an outdoor field? Also, is the lacrosse phenomenon just a North American thing or has it spread to other countries? It's huge here in East Grand Rapids. Last year, A British soccer guy opened a soccer/lacrosse store called Studs Up a few blocks from my house. He said business is booming <http://www.studsup.com/> . They just had Mike Powell in last Saturday to sign autographs....I think Grand Rapids should dump their crappy arena football league team and get a NLL franchise!

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Posted by Ron - 2008/05/12 23:09

How much bigger is an outdoor field? Also, is the lacrosse phenomenon just a North American thing or has it spread to other countries? It's huge here in East Grand Rapids. Last year, A British soccer guy opened a soccer/lacrosse store called Studs Up a few blocks from my house. He said business is booming <http://www.studsup.com/> . They just had Mike Powell in last Saturday to sign autographs....I think Grand Rapids should dump their crappy arena football league team and get a NLL franchise! You play the outdoor game on a football-sized field. The goal is 6x6 and stationed about 20 yards from the endline. You play with 10 on a side. It's a MUCH more interesting game, although I'm biased because I played it. I strongly encourage you to check out the NCAA semis and finals, which are played in late May, IIRC, and broadcast on ESPN. To my knowledge, it's not played anywhere outside the U.S. and Canada.

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Posted by James Farrar - 2008/05/12 23:09

How much bigger is an outdoor field? Also, is the lacrosse phenomenon just a North American thing or has it spread to other countries? It's huge here in East Grand Rapids. Last year, A British soccer guy opened a soccer/lacrosse store called Studs Up a few blocks from my house. He said business is booming <http://www.studsup.com/> . They just had Mike Powell in last Saturday to sign autographs....I think Grand Rapids should dump their crappy arena football league team and get a NLL franchise! You play the outdoor game on a football-sized field. The goal is 6x6 and stationed about 20 yards from the endline. You play with 10 on a side. It's a MUCH more interesting game, although I'm biased because I played it. I strongly encourage you to check out the NCAA semis and finals, which are played in late May, IIRC, and broadcast on ESPN. To my knowledge, it's not played anywhere outside the U.S. and Canada. It's played in England to a certain extent; the sport here is dominated by a little enclave in the north-west. <http://www.englishlacrosse.co.uk/>

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Posted by Paul C - 2008/05/12 23:09

Just watched some of the final. Now we know what cities can do with their empty NHL arenas. I was amazed at how like hockey it was.... How much bigger is an outdoor field? Also, is the lacrosse phenomenon just a North American thing or has it spread to other countries? The women's World Cup takes place in Annapolis, Maryland this June/July
Pool A: United States, Australia, England, Canada, Wales
Pool B: Scotland, Japan, Germany, Czech Republic, New Zealand

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Posted by ---dani--- - 2008/05/12 23:09

Just watched some of the final. Now we know what cities can do with their empty NHL arenas. I was amazed at how like hockey it was.... It died pretty quickly here in Ottawa. I think the team lasted 2 or 3 years at the most. d

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Posted by simon - 2008/05/12 23:09

To my knowledge, it's not played anywhere outside the U.S. and Canada. Lacrosse is played very widely in British girl's private schools - England have a better record than Canada in recent world cups. It's regarded mainly as a posh women's sport here.

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Posted by Richard Henry - 2008/05/12 23:09

It's a MUCH more interesting game, although I'm biased because I played it. I strongly encourage you to check out the NCAA semis and finals, which are played in late May, IIRC, and broadcast on ESPN. To my knowledge, it's not played anywhere outside the U.S. and Canada. See <http://www.intlaxfed.org/> Quoting: The ILF is comprised of 14 full member Nations and 6 affiliate member Nations. The 14 full member Nations include: Australia; Canada; Czech Republic; England; Germany; Ireland; Iroquois Nationals; Japan; Korea; New Zealand; Scotland; Sweden; United States; and, Wales. The affiliate member Nations include: Argentina; Denmark; Hong Kong; Finland; Italy; and, Tonga.

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Posted by James Allnutt - 2008/05/12 23:09

To my knowledge, it's not played anywhere outside the U.S. and Canada. My grandfather was captain of the Australian lacrosse team back in the interwar days. It's still played a bit particularly in Victoria (where he was from). But, like that other American sport that was big here years ago (Baseball) it has largely disappeared as the other sports became professional and overall participation levels decreased. James

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Posted by Jim Goloboy - 2008/05/12 23:09

Just watched some of the final. Now we know what cities can do with their empty NHL arenas. I was amazed at how like hockey it was.... It died pretty quickly here in Ottawa. I think the team lasted 2 or 3 years at the most. It was quite popular in Boston when I was in high school (about 10 years ago, back when it was MILL or something), but there hasn't been a team there in a long time...I think it has a pretty short shelf life.

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Posted by Jim Goloboy - 2008/05/12 23:09

See <http://www.intlaxfed.org/> Quoting: The ILF is comprised of 14 full member Nations and 6 affiliate member Nations. FWIW the US has won the last six men's world championships and last four women's world championships.

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Posted by Victoria Barrett - 2008/05/12 23:09

Oh, it was also played in my boarding school (Oxfordshire), but I did field hockey instead.

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It's huge here in East Grand Rapids. Last year, A British soccer guy opened a soccer/lacrosse store called Studs Up a few blocks from my house. He said business is booming <http://www.studsup.com/>. They just had Mike Powell in last Saturday to sign autographs....I think Grand Rapids should dump their crappy arena football league team and get a NLL franchise! Cool! I will check that out. Lacrosse in SoFla is nitchevo-city, but in other areas like in the Carolinas, I think aristocratic Southern gentleman play it in Unis.

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Posted by Jim Goloboy - 2008/05/12 23:09

Cool! I will check that out. Lacrosse in SoFla is nitchevo-city, but in other areas like in the Carolinas, I think aristocratic Southern gentleman play it in Unis. I think it's played mostly by Marylanders and Long Islanders, but that wouldn't be much different than the general student population of some of those Carolina Unis :)

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Posted by scoop - 2008/05/12 23:09

quoting: think it's very big in Argentina (or am I thinking field hockey?). Lacrosse is not popular anywhere in latin america. the Lacrosse belt doesn't extend much below the baltimore area. Southern Lacrosse is very mediocre.

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Posted by MMcC - 2008/05/12 23:09

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Posted by mark - 2008/05/12 23:09

Just watched some of the final. Now we know what cities can do with their empty NHL arenas. I was amazed at how like hockey it was.... How much bigger is an outdoor field? Also, is the lacrosse phenomenon just a North American thing or has it spread to other countries? In the execrably awful Enid Blyton books I loved as a kid, lacrosse often features (at least, in those books involving school). So presumably the English have some familiarity with it. I played it once or twice in high school PE classes, but nobody seemed to know what they were doing (PE teachers included).

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Posted by Victoria Barrett - 2008/05/12 23:09

Yes, probably a Six Nations team, Iroquois Confederacy (made of the Iroquois, Mohawk, Coyohuga, Tuscarora tribes and a couple of others I can't remember). It spans both sides of the US/Canadian border, and they compete as a separate nation in international Lacrosse tournaments. That's it! I confess, I dithered between Sioux and Iroquois, since I know both those tribes blanket both borders, but ultimately something in my subconscious chose Iroquois,

since I recall their flag waving in a tournament once. This had to be it. Great banner/flag, BTW. It was VERY cool to see it flying alongside the Canadian and American flags, etc.

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Posted by Frankie Boy - 2008/05/12 23:09

Just watched some of the final. Now we know what cities can do with their empty NHL arenas. I was amazed at how like hockey it was.... In Maryland, it's like a national sport. *mmm* Lacrosse players. Hot. How much bigger is an outdoor field? Also, is the lacrosse phenomenon just a North American thing or has it spread to other countries? I think it's very big in Argentina (or am I thinking field hockey?). There was also a Nations Cup recently, with an indigenous North American tribe invited, since they were the progenitors. Was it the Iroquois? I forget momentarily. It's huge here in East Grand Rapids. Last year, A British soccer guy opened a soccer/lacrosse store called Studs Up a few blocks from my house. He said business is booming <http://www.studsup.com/>. They just had Mike Powell in last Saturday to sign autographs....I think Grand Rapids should dump their crappy arena football league team and get a NLL franchise! Cool! I will check that out. Lacrosse in SoFla is nitchevo-city, but in other areas like in the Carolinas, I think aristocratic Southern gentleman play it in Unis.

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Posted by Victoria Barrett - 2008/05/12 23:09

Real bad news for baseball, since the effect historically has been to cut into the numbers and quality available for HS baseball (both are spring sports)...baseball coaches have fought this tooth and nail. Can you imagine of cricket gained a foothold in the US? They'd be Jim Rome'd out. I don't see that happening as, though Americans play cricket yes, it just doesn't have the requisite blue-collar blood-and-guts to appeal to Merkin men, IMHO.

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Posted by Ron - 2008/05/12 23:09

Just starting to get a foothold out West-it looks like the CIF (high school sanctioning body) is about to make it an official high school sport in California. Hmm, the granola bar towheads of California playing Lacrosse. What a visual. We've been playing in California for about 20 years; I was a California State High School champ as a junior. It wasn't an official sport in most of the state, but rather a club sport - we didn't get much in the way of official support from the school. But there were probably 40 teams in the state when we won the title, and it was growing every year.

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...and is there NO sport Americans don't practise at all? I've never seen a nation like this. I will now flagellate myself for using a double negative.

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Posted by Victoria Barrett - 2008/05/12 23:09

We've been playing in California for about 20 years; I was a California State High School champ as a junior. It wasn't an official sport in most of the state, but rather a club sport - we didn't get much in the way of official support from the school. But there were probably 40 teams in the state when we won the title, and it was growing every year. As I said, what a visual. :) ...and is there NO sport Americans don't practise at all? I've never seen a nation like this.

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Posted by Huw Morris - 2008/05/12 23:09

...and is there NO sport Americans don't practise at all? I've never seen a nation like this. The only cricketers are immigrants. And I doubt whether there's much rugby league or snooker played either - three of the biggest sports in the UK. Huw

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Posted by mark - 2008/05/12 23:09

...and is there NO sport Americans don't practise at all? I've never seen a nation like this. The only cricketers are immigrants. And I doubt whether there's much rugby league or snooker played either - three of the biggest sports in the UK. Also, Victoria might be exaggerating the feats of Americans. While it is true that sports like rugby, amfooty, baseball, landhockey are very small, they do indeed exist in Sweden and have their leagues. My guess is that several countries are at least on par with USA when it comes to diversity in sports at some level. There's Australia, for one. It's a safe bet our baseball and gridiron leagues are much better than their cricket and footy players...

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Posted by Jesper Lauridsen - 2008/05/12 23:09

...and is there NO sport Americans don't practise at all? I've never seen a nation like this. The only cricketers are immigrants. And I doubt whether there's much rugby league or snooker played either - three of the biggest sports in the UK. Also, Victoria might be exaggerating the feats of Americans. While it is true that sports like rugby, amfooty, baseball, landhockey are very small, they do indeed exist in Sweden and have their leagues. My guess is that several countries are at least on par with USA when it comes to diversity in sports at some level. Yes, it's quite normal for western countries to play most sports on some level. E.g. in Denmark DIF has 57 member organisations, many of which organise several sports, bringing the total number of sports above 100. In addition to these, there's an unknown number of sports played outside the DIF umbrella. Often when discussing how big a sport is, the number of national federations is cited. However when even small countries have over 100 federations, that number means very little. The existence of a Danish hanggliding federation tells you very little about the popularity of that sport. There's even one for American sports. Main activities seem to be softball, baseball and gridiron.

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