



Team Extreme: Lamorinda Girls' Lacrosse

By Gavin Schlissel

Lacrosse is a veritable phenomenon which has shaken the core of the Lamorinda area. Currently fielding 13 teams of players in grades 2-8, the Lamorinda Lacrosse club has become a pillar of springtime athletics.

One Lamorinda Lacrosse team rises above the rest: the Lamorinda girls 7th-8th grade A team: The Lamorinda Extreme. And the team is just that.

The Extreme have brought the club to the forefront of Easy Bay lacrosse.

Lacrosse is organized first on the district level, and then on the regional level. Currently, the Extreme is ranked first on both. With an undefeated regular season record of 12-0, the Extreme make quick work of any would be rivals.

They have steamrolled powerhouse teams such as the San Ramon Scorpions, and the Pleasanton Cyclone.

In a recent 11-4 decision against the Grizzlies of Ross Valley in Marin County, Lamorinda girls showed their prowess and domination. Under the leadership of senior players like Alexandra Seclow, starting mid-fielder from Orinda Intermediate, and Madeline Schlissel, starting 1st home of Joaquin Moraga, the Extreme were able to uphold their perfect record and officially send the Ross Valley team home packing.

The game began with a 4-0 run by the Extreme to put Lamorinda in control of the tempo. At the conclusion of the

first half of play, Lamorinda led by a score of 7-1, Sumner Van Brunt the lone scorer for Ross Valley.

In the opening minutes of the second half, the Grizzlies appeared ready to claim control of the tempo and the game. With two unanswered goals by Grizzlies Kathrine Findlay and Noelle Ruane, the Extreme were forced to dial back up the intensity and reclaim their victory.

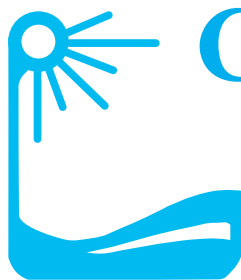
The game ended with three consecutive goals by Lamorinda to make the final score 11-4.

But the box score fails to tell the story of the game. Lamorinda, though they clearly matched or exceeded the skills of the Ross Valley team, won with strength of bench against the Grizzlies, who fielded no substitutes.

Forced to play every minute, Ross Valley was unable to fend off the onslaught of Extremists.

"It wasn't like a victory where one team just wins," explains Schlissel, "I was one of those victories you have to work for. We won the game because we won the ground balls. We really out-hustled them." Schlissel finished the Ross Valley game with two goals and two assists.

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