

History of TVLC

1. Started by Earle Kirkley and Jim Fredrick 8-9 years ago. Earle was playing catch with his sons and daughter at a local park. The next thing you know, kids are coming out and asking if they can play. That's how it all started. The first two years, the entire team was comprised of players between the ages of 9 and 18. Even with a wide age range we barely had enough players to field one team. It was sand lot lacrosse at its best.
2. Earle is a Navy graduate and he played for Navy.
3. Earle submitted and received a full US Lacrosse equipment grant that we are still using today.
4. The colors for TVLC are Blue and Gold. Navy colors. We retain these colors as a sign of respect to Earle who was the founder of TVLC. These colors are also neutral colors in the valley. They don't represent any of the high schools in the valley. TVLC has been a neutral feeder program for all of the schools in the valley and several schools outside of the valley.
5. Our mascot is a Big Horn Sheep. Sort of the west coast version of the Navy Goat. Again it represents Earle. It also represents Coach Tom who graduated from Colorado State . Their mascot is the big horn sheep.
6. Lacrosse is the oldest aboriginal sport in North America . It predates Columbus . Respect for the game and tradition runs deep and is held dear to all who have played the game. Mostly because it is much more than just a game to those who have played.
7. Tom and I started running TVLC about seven years ago. In keeping with the mission statement of TVLC we have used TVLC to promote the game of lacrosse. We have done so in much the same way that Dennis Yeatman in Rancho Bernardo and OCLax in Orange County have done. We have also been aided by both of these programs.
8. In 2007 I went through the legal process to make TVLC a non profit organization. The non profit status was done for several reasons.
 - a. It allowed us to hand out flyers at the middle schools. TVUSD does not allow "for profit" organizations to hand out materials at any of their schools.
 - b. It has also given us another avenue to build the high school program prior to CIF acceptance.
 - c. It allows us to rent fields from TVUSD and the city.
 - d. Through the Bylaws that I set up it offers rules and a schedule for growth as the organization grows.
 - e. The bylaws also offer the "titled board members" a measure of control.
 1. Only "titled board members" are allowed to vote on new board members and any amendments to the bylaws. I set the bylaws up this way so I could put a stop to any hostile take overs. Whether it be from outside factions who wish to undermine our organization from within, or board members who place their personal agenda and desires above what is good for lacrosse and TVLC. Titled board members until January 2011 are Tom Reid, Scott Cunningham, and Karl Rohlin.
9. Tom and I:
 - a. We have given freely to this organization since we started seven some years ago. We have never received any monitary compensation for anything related to TVLC. This is something that we do to give back to the game. A labor of love if you will. OCLAX, Dennis Yeatman, and many other lacrosse startup programs, started the same way. Later, as the programs grew in size and the responsibilities of the board members grew proportionately, the board members were compensated. We are growing, and it looks like we will grow much larger in the near future.
 - b. Our concern for the future:

10. We have seen several programs go through the growing process that we are experiencing. We know programs that have grown and flourished, and we know programs that have failed. The success or failure of these programs is almost always linked directly to the leadership and the cohesiveness of the board. The board is team just like the team that we put on the field.
 - a. Some examples of failure:
 1. Granite Hills. Jeff started the Middle school program, then he started the high school program. The middle school program did well when he was running it, and his high school program was a power house in lacrosse for the first four years. Now his high school program is failing because the middle school feeder program has fallen apart. Jeff is now looking at going back to the middle school program to get it going again.
 2. Fallbrook High School . A self centered Napoleon JV coach does a hostile take over of a flourishing Varsity program. He then systematically ruins the program over the course of three years. A coach who values fulfillment of self over team, players, and the game.
 - b. Examples of successful programs:
 1. RB, Poway , Torrey Pines. Solid middle school feeder programs. Successful high school programs.
 - c. We have nominations for new board members coming up in January. Tom and I have worked very hard to promote and build lacrosse in the Temecula Valley . We want to step down knowing that TVLC is in good hands. That the board members are a cohesive unit that works well together. That the decisions made and the emphasis of the board are done with lacrosse and what is good for lacrosse first and foremost.
11. Qualifications wish list for new President:
 - a. It would be nice if this person was a lacrosse person. Not mandatory, but nice.
 - b. Time to give to the organization.
 - c. Has younger kids that are involved so he/she will be around longer.
 - d. Has given his /her time to the organization and has proven to be an asset.