

Big weekend of playoff lacrosse in Ladner

Three local teams in action including Intermediate and Junior 'A' doubleheader Sunday

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July 14, 2016 02:32 PM



Delta Islanders open the B.C. Junior "A" Lacrosse League playoffs on Sunday at 5 p.m. in Ladner. Photograph By Gord Goble

It will be an action-packed weekend of playoff lacrosse at the Ladner Leisure Centre

A busy stretch begins Saturday at 5 p.m. when the Ladner Pioneers open up the West Coast Senior Lacrosse Association playoffs against the Victoria Wolves. The best-of-three series continues Sunday in the provincial capital and will return to Ladner next Tuesday if necessary.

The Pioneers (9-4-0-1) settled for third place after dropping an 8-7 decision to the Langley Warriors on Tuesday in what was a showdown for first place. The loss left Ladner tied for second with Nanaimo but the Timbermen earned a first round bye thanks to sweeping the regular season series.

The expansion Wolves (6-7-1) ended up in sixth place and split a pair of early meeting with Ladner.

The Delta Islanders are in search of their first berth in the Provincial Intermediate "A" Championships in recent memory but need to get past the Victoria Shamrocks first.

The teams open the best-of-three qualifying series on Saturday in Victoria, then return to Ladner for game two Sunday at 1:30 p.m. The Shamrocks (13-5) finished fourth and the Islanders (12-6) were right behind them.

The winner will advance to the provincials B.C. Day Weekend in Langley.

The boxla playoff weekend will conclude Sunday at 5 p.m. when the Delta Islanders and the New West Salmonbellies open their much-anticipated best-of-seven B.C. Junior "A" Lacrosse League semi-final series.

At stake is a berth into next month's Minto Cup thanks to the tournament taking place in B.C. this year. The Islanders are looking to advance to the nationals for the first time in franchise history.

Delta went 15-6 in the regular season and edged New West 2-1 in the season series.

Game two is slated for Tuesday night at Queen's Park Arena.

