

5/3/17

Austin Reda

What HVLAX means to me

HVLAX was introduced to me by my father when I was in first grade, and the club has had a real and lasting impact on my life.

I have always loved lacrosse; the speed and intensity of the game have always appealed to me. However, HVLAX has meant more to me than the game itself.

I have played lacrosse with many of my teammates since I was six years old, and have formed friendships that will last forever. Playing together in PAL is where it all started, and now many of us are fortunate enough to play together for the HHS Varsity team.

My Dad was my coach for each of the seven years I played for HVLAV. He taught my teammates and I how to play lacrosse, but what I really remember is that he wanted everyone he coached to have fun and to love coming to practices and games. He and my other coaches gave game balls not to the kid who scored the most goals, but to the kid who hustled, or had a great clear, or got his first ground ball. We were really excited when we won a game ball, and by the end of the season, every player had at least one.

HVLAX is important, because it gives all boys and girls in Huntington the opportunity to play and learn the game at a young age. Our HVLAX teams didn't always have a winning record, but we grew as players and cheered each other on, and playing on these teams, I discovered my passion for lacrosse.

With graduation right around the corner, I realize how much I will miss playing in the Blue Devil uniform, and more importantly, how much I will miss playing with my long-time friends.

HVLAX is a family that I am grateful to be a part of.