

Altona Vikings
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President, Altona Lacrosse Club
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia



Hi

My name is Mark Lewer, and I am President of the Altona Lacrosse Club.

Altona is one of the youngest lacrosse clubs in Victoria. We have three senior sides, including one in State League, the strongest lacrosse competition in Australia. We also have a senior Women's side and boy's and girl's sides from Under 10 through to Under 18.

State League is a tough, high standard competition with many NCAA players joining the best Australian players. Altona is one of the youngest teams in State League.

We are looking for players, with NCAA Division 1 experience or equivalent standard, who can help Altona reach its potential. While your skills and leadership are important, we value your strength of character even more. We need players who have integrity, command respect, and love the game. We need players our juniors can look up to and try to emulate.

The field lacrosse season runs from April to September. We would prefer players who are available for the whole season but understand that might not be possible with some players having NCAA commitments. If you are the right player for us, we will make it work for you.

What the Altona Lacrosse Club can offer

At Altona, overseas players are one of the family. Players are taken in by a host family, or a senior player, and offered free room and board. When at the club, the players are provided with free meals after training on Thursday nights and on many other nights different players and families will invite you round for regular meals to assist the host family.

There is also always someone at the club on a Thursday and Saturday night ready to buy you a beer and have a chat. There are also enough single men and women at the club to show you around Melbourne's nightlife.

Overseas players are often provided with a vehicle to enable them to get to lacrosse training, games and clinics and there is plenty of time during breaks in the season to do the tourist things you want to do. Often members of the club of around the same age as you, will introduce you to some of the great experiences our wonderful country has to offer like surfing or going to the footy.

We cannot guarantee jobs, but there is an excellent chance we will find one for you. We have contacts with companies who are always looking for temporary workers and the club has tradesmen who may also be able to assist in work. The club will pay you to undertake clinics at primary and secondary schools on behalf of our club. There is also often the opportunity of work from Australian Lacrosse Association and Lacrosse Victoria in assisting them with clinics they organise to introduce lacrosse to school children.

What we expect from you

What we expect from you is to coach or assistant coach one of our junior sides, to attend all club training sessions (Tuesday and Thursday nights) and be a leader on the field as well as a positive role model around the club. We also expect you to undertake school clinics for the club which is our main avenue for recruiting new players. For the clinics, the club will pay you.

We have the capacity to take a maximum of three overseas players, the position you play does not really matter but, if possible, we would like to have one of these positions filled by a goalie. However, no matter what position you play, if you are NCAA standard you will be a great asset. In previous years for example, we have recruited defenders when we thought we were strong in that area and those players have just been fabulous.

We are happy to take players from the same program or from different programs and whilst we want players of NCAA Division 1 standard, we recognise that you do not need to be playing NCAA Division 1 to be that standard. Also do not underestimate the importance of being a good role model and person.

What you will need to do

If you wish to play and work in Australia, you must have had two Covid-19 vaccinations as a minimum.

The most likely visa you will require is a "First Work and Holiday visa" with this visa you can do short-term work in Australia and travel to and from Australia as many times as you want within a 12-month period. To be eligible for this visa, you must have a passport from an eligible country (like the United States or United Kingdom!) be between 18 and 30 years old (inclusive), apply from outside Australia and not have previously entered Australia on a subclass 462 or 417 visa (if you have you will need a different visa like "Second Work and Holiday Visa"). Further details are available at <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/work-holiday-417>

If you are still interested, then please send a copy of your playing history to secretary@altonalacrosse.com.au. If you have any questions, then please contact me on my email or phone number.

Also please look up our webpage <https://www.altonalacrosse.com.au/> where you can read testimonials from previous players from University of Virginia and Towson University, or join us on our public Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/altonalacrosse/>

Hope to hear from you soon

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