



**ALTONA LACROSSE CLUB
INFORMATION FOR OVERSEAS
RECRUITS**



Campbell Mackinnon

Altona





OUR CLUB

*“Always be yourself.....unless you can be a Viking,
then always be a Viking.”*

Altona Lacrosse Club, founded in 1964, fields two senior teams. Our top team competes in State League, a tough, high standard competition featuring both local talent and current or former NCAA players.



Photo courtesy of Lukearth



Altona has one of the youngest playing lists in State League, and its junior players are regularly recognised for their performance among peers in their age group at the National level.



We are looking for players, with NCAA experience or equivalent standard, who can help our players reach their potential. Whilst your skills and leadership are important, you also need to be a player who has integrity, commands respect and loves the game. Our overseas players are people our juniors can look up to and try to emulate. Our overseas players need to be more than just good lacrosse players; they need to be good people.



Photo courtesy of Lukearth

In Victoria, the field lacrosse season runs from April to September. Overseas players who are available for the whole season will be most favourably considered, but we understand that might not be possible with some players having NCAA Championship finals commitments. If you are the right player for us, we will do whatever we can to get you to our club.

OUR FACILITIES



Altona is the only club that has access to its grounds all year round. We have four grounds, two of which have lights.

Altona is recognised as Australia's centre for box lacrosse, boasting the country's only court designed specifically for the sport. The Altona Lacrosse Club also hosts many national and international indoor lacrosse competitions.



Alan Lewer Box Court

Our fields and clubrooms are in demand all year round and are often used for selection and training by Australian and Victorian Lacrosse teams. Altona Lacrosse Club is also a regular host for lacrosse finals in Victoria.



YOUTUBE.COM
2025 Commonwealth Cup - Australia U20 v Canada U20

OUR LOCATION



Altona Beach

Altona lacrosse club is situated in a bayside suburb in Victoria, Australia

Aside from being a bayside suburb, Altona is the closest lacrosse club to the best surf beaches in Victoria, such as Bells Beach, Jan Juc and Torquay. All these beaches are just over one hour away by car.



Bells Beach

Club members have taken some of our overseas guests surfing at these iconic beaches whilst in Australia.



Many of our international players have been taken to watch an Aussie Rules game at the MCG or Marvel Stadium.

WHAT THE ALTONA LACROSSE CLUB CAN OFFER YOU?

Altona Lacrosse offers significant financial support to assist with travel expenses for players joining our club. The level of assistance provided depends on factors such as the player's skill level, availability to arrive early, and duration of stay. If you are a strong fit for the Club, we are committed to finding a suitable arrangement.

The club also provides overseas recruits with a full playing kit (socks, shorts, top), a training pinnie and Altona Lacrosse hoodie to keep as reminders of your time with us.

From the moment we meet you at the airport, you are treated like one of the family. You are looked after by a host family or senior player and provided with free room and board. When you are with your host family or at the Club, you are unlikely to have to pay for anything. Host families also typically show their guests some of the sites in Victoria and take them on outings to get a feel for the Australian culture.

On Thursday and Saturday nights, there is always someone at the Club ready to buy you a drink and have a chat. There are also enough single men and women at the Club to introduce you to Melbourne's nightlife. You will quickly make friends, not only at the Club but also with players from other clubs and other NCAA players playing in the local competition.

There is also 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 the overseas players, will introduce you to some of the great experiences our wonderful country has to offer.

The Club will organise and fund clinics for you to conduct at primary and secondary schools on its behalf. Additionally, there may be opportunities to work with the Australian Lacrosse Association and Lacrosse Victoria to assist with their school clinics aimed at introducing lacrosse to students. There is also money available for umpiring. Overseas players at Altona are typically given access to a vehicle, including use for travel to training, matches, and clinics.

For extra money, the Club will help you in finding a part time job. We have contacts with companies who regularly employ temporary workers and the Club has tradesmen who may also be able to assist in work. There is often the opportunity of bar work with the American accent being popular with patrons.

What we expect from you.

Our main priorities are to grow the game, improve as a team and introduce and recruit juniors to our great game. You will play an important part in achieving our goals.

Our experience has shown us that no matter what position you play, if you have been in the NCAA system, or are of an equivalent standard, you will be a great asset to our team, our juniors and our Club.

Your help with school clinics for the Club's recruitment program will be greatly valued. You'll work in pairs and be paid by the Club. You may also be asked to coach or assist with coaching a junior team.

We expect you will be committed 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.

What is the next step?

So, if you still interested in the following:

- ✓ Playing lacrosse at a high level;
- ✓ Living overseas for at least a few months;
- ✓ Making new friends;
- ✓ The trip of a lifetime to one of the most unique and beautiful destinations on the planet.

Then, please contact us. In the meantime, you will need a **visa** to enable you to work in Australia and a **working with childrens check** if you are to undertake school clinics in Victoria.

Getting a visa.

If you wish to play and work in Australia, 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.



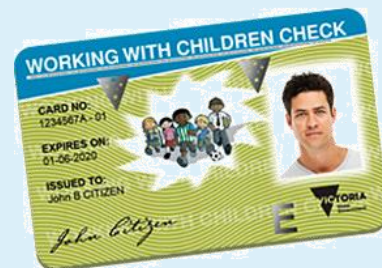
To be eligible for this visa, you must have a passport from an eligible country (like the United States, Canada or United Kingdom!) be between 18 and 30 years old (inclusive), apply from outside Australia and not have previously entered Australia on a subclass 462 or 417 visa (if you have, you will need a different visa like ‘*Second Work and Holiday Visa*’).

Further details are available at:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder/work>.

Complete a Working with Children Check.

To undertake clinics at schools, you will need a working with Children’s check. Apply for the check using the link below. This can be completed once you arrive in Australia but can take a couple of weeks to be processed.



Further details are available at:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>.

International Driver’s Licence.

You can drive on your overseas licence for up to 6 months in Victoria. If you stay longer than that, you should convert your licence to a Victorian driver’s licence.

Further details are available at:

<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/licences/new-to-victoria>

TESTIMONIALS:

Mitchell Whalen (Captain – University of Virginia)

My experience playing for Altona was one of the best times of my life. I considered the chance to travel to Melbourne for our summer to play lacrosse, and to visit Australia, to be a once in a lifetime opportunity, but I had no idea what to expect. Looking back, whatever expectations I had were blown away. I got to enjoy playing a competitive yet social brand of lacrosse with tons of amazing people not only on our own team but on other



Photo courtesy of Lukearth

teams across Melbourne as well. I met lifelong friends who are both Americans I will see back home and also Australians who I will visit and see again. I got to travel along Australia's beautiful coast doing things like playing golf with kangaroos along Great Ocean Road, and I also took a trip up north to the Gold Coast with other guys I met in Australia. But greatest of all were the people of Australia. To meet and enjoy time with people of other cultures is great enough but when their culture is to treat you so well, it's hard to beat. I had a great host family and within a week it felt not like a vacation but a home. I enjoyed my days walking to the gym and to the cafe after as much as I enjoyed going out in Melbourne with guys from the team. Overall, it was an incredible experience and my only regret is that I couldn't stay longer. I hope to be back soon.

Michael Rhoads (University of Virginia)

Making the life changing decision of traveling down to Melbourne and playing for the Altona Lacrosse Club has been by far, the best move that I've ever made. The level of play is very competitive and the Saturday games with minimal subs leave you exhausted for the next couple days. We practiced twice a week so you have a lot of free time to either travel, surf or work. After four years of playing in college, lacrosse became more of a job than a game; but the first game down in Australia brought the fun and enjoyment right back into the game.



The Club and families that keep it organized/managed couldn't have taken any better care of me. They helped me find work during the season, gave me a place to stay, and literally did not stop feeding me! I was welcomed into their homes and immediately became a part of their family. Going down and playing for Altona Lacrosse Club is so much more than just continuing your lacrosse career or traveling down to Australia to party... you'll have to make that leap and buy a plane ticket to see for yourself.

Photo courtesy of Lukearth

Adam Ceribelli (Captain – Towson University)

My experience with Altona Lacrosse Club was beyond my expectations. Everyone was so welcoming and comforting in helping us get settled in. People went out of their way constantly to make sure that we had the best experience possible. You'll make life-long friends from this experience and have more fun than you've ever had playing lacrosse.

Want to know more? Please contact

Mark Lewer

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I look forward to hearing from you!