

Lacrosse Make up Work

A tribe called Haudensaunee, or Iroquois, started the game of lacrosse a long time before Europeans ever even saw it played. The Iroquois didn't just play lacrosse for a team sport as we do today. The most important reason for them to



play lacrosse was spiritual. It is said that lacrosse was played to amuse and please the creator, as well as keep the tribal communities and nations together. It promotes health and strength among the players. Many Indians saw it to be a sacred retelling of the creation story. The tribes also played for fun, as well as to resolve conflicts and practice for war. The game was known as "They Bump Hips" or "Little Brother if War".

Although today's game of lacrosse is considered a rough sport it's pretty safe compared to the original game! It was common for players to come away with broken bones and others with severe injuries. Some games looked more like large fights breaking out: sort of like a hockey game today. The differences between modern lacrosse don't stop at the rules and playing style. The equipment was different too. The sticks used were made of wood, often hickory, hand cut and bent then strung with rawhide to make a pocket. Each stick was about three feet long and weighed a couple of pounds. Imagine having to carry that around on the field. Lacrosse balls were made either of stuffed skins or solid wood. And you thought that rubber ball hurt when it hits you! Through studying the history of lacrosse, we can see that there are three different forms of native game- Southeastern, Iroquoian and Great Lakes. In the Southeastern tribes, a two stick game is still played with a two and a half foot stick held in each hand and a small deerskin ball.

1. Which Indian tribe gave us the game of lacrosse?

2. What was the most important reason why they played lacrosse?

3. Write another name lacrosse was called?

4. What type of material was used to make a lacrosse ball?

5. The answer to this question is **not** in the article. Name one difference between boy's lacrosse game and girl's lacrosse game.
