

The Rules of Lacrosse – and the Men Who Break Them
-- Electronic Press Kit --

Project Title: The Rules of Lacrosse – and the Men Who Break Them

Director: Joanne Storkan

Producers: Chris Carpenter, Tom Ryan, Brant Davis

Associate Producers: Seymour H. Knox IV, Michael-Ryan Fletchall, Connor Wilson

Project Website: www.rulesoflacrosse.com

Sizzle Reel: www.youtube.com/watch?v=uv8d9P4_-bk

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/rulesoflacrosse/

Instagram: www.instagram.com/therulesoflacrosse/

Twitter: twitter.com/rulesoflacrosse

Company: Honest Engine Films

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About the Film:

Film Category/Genre: Documentary, Sports Documentary

Film Runtime: 01:44:00

Country Film was shot in: Canada, USA, Netherlands, Czech Republic

Country Film was produced in: USA

Projected Completion Date/Year: June, 2019

Language: English

US Rating: PG

CA Rating: G

Shooting Format: Digital

Aspect/Resolution: 16:9, 1920 x 1080

Sales/Distribution: Honest Engine Films

Logline:

Everything you need to know about men’s lacrosse, field and box, but were afraid to ask—and you should be afraid!

Synopsis: (362 Words)

What do Wayne Gretzky, Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger (Maryland), and David Grohl (Foo Fighters / Nirvana) have in common? You guessed it, they all played lacrosse, the sport that’s been dubbed, “The fastest game on two feet.” In an interview with the filmmaker, Wayne Gretzky emphatically states, “I always say this to people—you think football and ice hockey are physical? The most physical sport I ever played in my life was lacrosse.”



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However, these “Rules of Lacrosse” were not ripped from the pages of the official rule books for men’s lacrosse, but rather by observation over the past years by a screenwriter-turned-producer, who was writing a lacrosse-themed movie script that required a lot of research on the sport, much more than anticipated. After amassing files of the subject of lacrosse, an opportunity arose to produce a film about the sport! Thus the birth of this documentary film.

This film covers the A to Z of men’s lacrosse, from its rich, Indigenous history to the present forms of men’s lacrosse, both the box and field games. This documentary explores several themes of men’s lacrosse: forming and maintaining professional teams and their players, the college sport and numerous leagues, the wooden stick controversy, and the growing of the game internationally from its North American roots. In fact, lacrosse will become an official men’s and women’s Olympics sport, beginning in 2028!

We have included interviews from some of the greatest names in the sport as well as film footage, artist renditions, and stills from various games throughout the history of the game. In a section of the film entitled “Honor and Recognize Those Who Have Played Before You,” Wayne Gretzky names the best lacrosse player who has ever played, Garylord Powless, from the Six Nations Reserve. In fact, Powless was recently elected to the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame, which we cover in the movie, so we think that Gretzky called it right!

The film provides both a serious and humorous look at men’s lacrosse. Sometimes in these extremely competitive games, rules do get broken. We hope to show the good, the bad, and the not too ugly sides of one of the world’s fastest growing sport.

Director’s Bio: (Joanne Storkan) (90 Words):

Joanne Storkan is the founder and executive producer of Honest Engine Films. Formerly a journalism and English teacher, turned screenwriter, she founded the company in 2004, in Monterey, California. She co-directed a documentary entitled “Dirt McComber: Last of the Mohicans,” that has won numerous awards.

Some of her other production credits include: A BRAVE HEART - The Lizzie Velasquez Story, BOTS0 - The Teacher from Tbilisi, Shorts by Amy Jo Johnson, LINES and BENT, the Bill Nighy/Emily Blunt comedy directed by Jonathan Lynn, WILD TARGET, and CAMP UNITY filmed in Iraq.

Director’s Statement: (Joanne Storkan) (174 Words):

I fell into the world of lacrosse while doing research for a screenplay I was writing entitled STIX, which is a coming-of-age story similar to THE KARATE KID, only with a lacrosse back-drop. While interviewing a coach and former player, Tom Ryan, I learned



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that he had just produced a short film about his experiences in the world of lacrosse entitled STIR IT UP.

After viewing the film, which I really loved and found very interesting, I proposed that we convert his short movie into a feature-length film and incorporate more aspects of the sport that were not covered or delved into in Tom's 26-minute film. After we filmed more games and interviews, we learned that for several reasons we could not merge our new footage with his older film. Our choice was either to scrap the project entirely or create a new movie and a web series. We chose the latter, and thus was born THE RULES OF LACROSSE—AND THE MEN WHO BREAK THEM as well as the up-coming web series, STICK IT!

Contact Info:

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Full Credits

Written & Directed by Joanne Storkan

Producer: Chris Carpenter, Brant Davis, Tom Ryan

Associate Producers: Seymour H. Knox IV, Michael-Ryan Fletchall, Connor Wilson

Post Supervisor/ Editor: Francesca Dysart

Lead Animator: Andre Sitolini

Featuring (Alphabetical)

Wayne Gretzky, U.S. Congressman, Dutch Ruppertsberger, Dean French, Johnny Mouradian, Paul Gate, Gary Gate, Cody Jamison, Curt Styres, Seymour H. Knox IV, Buffalo Bandits, University of Maryland Lacrosse, The Charlotte Copperheads

Also Featuring (Alphabetical)

Bob Allan, Michelle Anderson, Don Barrie, Brett Bucktooth, Patrick Butler, Graham D'Alvia, Brant Davis, Louis Delisle, Shawn Evans, Ethan Farrel, Joe Finn, John Grant Sr., Jack Heim, Matt Hickman, Alfie Jacques, Jack Johnson, IEDOT JGOW, J.P. Johnson, Cooper Kehoe, Steve Lavaute, John Livsey, Oren Lyons, Hugh Mallon, Eric "Dirt" McComber, Teiotèntaron 'River' McComber, Steve Menninger, Mark Mitchell, Mike Kanentakeron Mitchell, Richard Mitchell, Peter Mundy, Scott Neiss, Alan Pastrana, Larry 'Wamp' Power, Neal Powless, Richard Powless, Brendan Rogers, Tom Ryan, Conner Sawyers, Bill Sbarra, Wewoka Shenandoah, Gary Sundown,



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Mike Thompson, John Tillman, Bruce Todman, Bob Yuhasz, Matt Vinc, Denise Waterman, Dave White, Spencer Wims

Assistant Editor: Martin Apelbaum, Marina Martinez, Elena Nuñez

Assistant Producers: Jesse Krohn, Elena Nuñez, Marina Martinez, Justin Riedmiller

Additional Animation: Matt Pierce

Production Assistant: Alexandra Romano, Claire Taylor

Camera Operators: Mike Barrett, Matthew Caulk, Francesca Dysart, Robert Hope, Michael Kawa, Nathan Lashomb, Travis Phillips, Arttu Sesselaar, Christian Von Tippelskirch, Ryan White

Also featuring: The Charlotte Copperheads, Michelle Anderson

Lacrosse Consultants: Steve Holroyd, Dave Stewart-Candy, Dan Bowyer

Special Thanks:

Stephan Stamps, Jim Fee, Darren Bonaparte, Dr. Will Goins, Dr. Todd H. Goldberg, Lauren J. Milliken (Big Soul Productions INC), Michael Bowhay, Monterey Peninsula Country Club, Tyler “Woogie” Sunday, Noah Ransom, Neal Powless, Jessica Brown, Larry McCrudden, ~~LEWIS JGOW~~ (aka J.P. Johnson), Wayne Kaboni, Clinton Kaboni, Emmett Printup III, Jaxen & Joryn Jacobs; Lacrosse A History of the Game by Donald M Fisher; Soul to the Goal: A Concise Biography of John Tavares by Richard L. Jacob, Ph.D.; Lacrosse Warrior: The Life of Mohawk Lacrosse Champion Gaylord Powless by Wendy A. Lewis; Heroes Alongside Us by Eric F. Rieseberg; It’s Great to Be Here by Richie Moran; Lacrosse Technique and Tradition by Bob Scott; Stir It Up by Jessica Brown

Additional Thanks: The Manitoba Lacrosse Hall of Fame

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