

North Okanagan Reapers 9 Kelowna Kodiaks 7

TOJLL Recap

Submitted by Ryan Nitchie, Sunday, April 13, 2025, 1:08 AM

It is obvious to those who have watched lacrosse grow in the Okanagan Valley when two coaches make their marks in terms of style on a developing Junior team. Watching the home opener of the newly re-branded North Okanagan Reapers, thanks to Trevor McEachnie and Iron Ghost Construction, one could see grit, heart and skill woven into the style of the team lead by Casey Sheriff (a former Vernon Tiger), retired veteran Armstrong Shamrocks captain Chad Pounder and current Shamrock and former NLL and WLA defensive specialist Owen Barker. The game was played on Saturday night at the Sunbelt Sports Centre in Armstrong in front of a sell-out crowd of over 400.

Backstopped by a stellar performance by starting goaltender, and game first star Ryley Lockhurst, who played angles exceptionally well and covered most of the outside shots throughout the night despite being peppered late in the game when the Reapers took several late-game penalties. Lockhurst was aided by sound defensive play throughout the evening that kept the Kodiaks shooters to the outside for the better part of the affair with only the odd breakdown, but even then, he made several clutch saves in close to frustrate the Kodiaks snipers again and again.

The game started in a good way with Indigenous drummers welcoming the players who were playing the Creators Game on the unceded traditional territories of the Okanagan Sylix and Splotsin te Secwepemc people.

Inspired by a huge opening night crowd, the Reapers scored early in the first period when game second star Cole Gartner cut to the crease and buried a low snipe past Kodiaks starter Ethan Dalkeith. Colton Colmorgen potted his first of the night on a beauty one timer on the power play after a precise pass from the top of crease to make it 2-0 for the home team. Game third star Kohen Pounder beat his defender one-on-one with a slick slide-step move and buried a low shot to make

it 3-0. The Kodiaks would answer back when captain Ethan King stepped through the middle and used some nifty stick fakes to beat Lockhurst. Gartner would pot his second of the night when he spun around his defender to shoot with Dalkeith making the initial save but with some English on the shot it slowly dribbled over the goal line to make the score 4-1 for the Reapers. The Kodiaks would respond with two goals of their own the first on a broken play that saw the shot clock buzzer ring which froze the defenders and a simultaneous shot reached the back of the net and after the officials discussed it was deemed a goal. The K-Town squad would score a power play goal on a precision snipe from the top shooter position. Zach Milne would get that goal back for the Reapers late in the period when he danced around the defender to the top of the crease fired a rifle low to make the score 5-3 for the home team after the first period.

The Reapers came out in the second period clearly inspired and played lock-down defense for nearly 19 minutes not allowing any goals and utilizing several defensive looks including the zone and man-to-man system. The Kodiak players were clearly intimidated by the physicality of the Reapers stalwart defensive systems and avoided traversing through the dirty areas of the floor and elected to take shots from far outside the dotted line which Lockhurst easily handled often dropping in a butterfly technique reminiscent of Patrick Roy or Vladislav Tretiak to cover the bottom end of the net to perfection. The Reapers scored two power play goals after the Kodiaks frustrations boiled over with Colmorgen notching his second of the night with a beautiful one-timer laser on a cross floor pass that dented the hemp for a 6-3 lead. That goal was followed shortly after when Koenn Mahar-Robins potted his first of two on the night with the man advantage on a perfect cross crease pass and one-timer of his own to take a 7-3 lead. The Kodiaks would finally solve the wall-like defense when Carson Donnelly fired a low sub shot that found the 5 hole behind Lockhurst to make the score 7-4 after two periods of play.

Tempers flared at the end of the second period which saw the Reapers assessed a minor and double minor penalty so they started

the third period two men short. The Reapers special teams played exceptionally well by getting sticks in the shooting lanes and gobbling up loose balls. Gartner would rag two possession shot clocks off the timer and the home squad weathered the storm to stymie the Kodiaks power play. Buoyed by their strong defensive play the Reapers would notch another power play goal of their own when Pounder sniped his second of the night from the righty shooter position. Maher-Robins scored his second of the evening when he pranced unabated to the front of the net to make the score 9-4. The Kodiaks would rally late in the third period notching three straight goals one on the power play but the comeback effort wasn't enough and the North Okanagan squad earned their first win of the young TOJLL season with a 9-7 final.

Assistant Coach, Chad Pounder was pleased with the over-all play of his team: "Its still early in the season and we have some things we need to work on for sure but we played with intensity. We are still a young team and are learning to play together and will build as the season progresses." said Pounder.

The Reapers will play host to the 2024 TOJLL champion Kamloops Venom at home Wednesday April 16th at 7:00pm at the Sunbelt Sports Centre in Armstrong.

Boxla Bits:

North Okanagan Reapers

Kal Bonneau 2a

Zack Cassagrande 3a

Zack Milne 1g 3a

Kohen Pounder 2g

Koenn Maher-Robins 2g

Cole Gartner 2g

Colten Colmorgen 2g 1a

Bradley Scabar 1a

Total PIM 43

Kelowna Kodiaks

Ethan Dalkeith 1a

Arocin Gelsvik 2g

Ethan King 1g 2a

Landen Janz 2a

Nathan Jarmillo 1g

Ryder Gelsvik 1g 1a

Jaymes Dykes 1a

Carson Donnelly 1g

Max Zumbo 1g

PIM 22

Iron Ghost Construction 3 Game Stars

1st Star Ryley Lockhurst

2nd Star Cole Gartner

3rd Star Kohen Pounder

Attendance: 435

50/50 \$167.50



Shots	1	2	3	T	Goals			
	1	2	3	T	1	2	3	T
Away	13	11	13	37	Away - Kelowna Kodiaks			
Home	15	12	12	39	Home - North Okanagan Reapers			

Home - North Okanagan Reapers

Roster			Goals						
#	Name	Pos	Per	Time	G	A1	A2	Strength	
00	Ryley Lockhurst	G	1	1	19:07	67		ES	
3	Nathan Davis-Lent	R	2	1	13:44	10	92	PP	
7	Brad Scabar	R	3	1	10:43	8		ES	
8	Kohen Pounder	R	4	1	06:47	67	10	7	ES
10	Colten Colmorgen	R	5	1	00:43	92	13	ES	
12	Koenn Mahar-Robins	R	6	2	14:15	10	13	92	PP
13	Zack Casagrande	R	7	2	07:46	12	17	10	PP
14	Jace Wasyliw	R	8	3	15:31	8	13	92	PP
15	Dustin Jones	R	9	3	15:11	12		ES	
			Penalties						
#	Name	Pos	Per	Time	#	Infraction	Min		
16	Hayden Kirwin	R	1	1	16:17	3	Illegal Cross-check (Minor)	02:00	
17	Kal Bonneau	R	2	1	05:17	19	Holding (Minor)	02:00	
19	Nate Williamson	R	3	1	03:33	16	Holding (Minor)	02:00	
22	Noah Pearson	R	4	1	02:32	3	Slashing (Minor)	02:00	
24	JJ Milne	R	5	1	01:10	67	Holding (Minor)	02:00	
29	Bryce Cormier	R	6	2	19:03	92	Holding (Minor)	02:00	
35	Alex Mason	G	7	2	12:53	67	Holding (Minor)	02:00	
67	Cole Gartner	R	8	2	00:19	10	Unsportsmanlike Conduct (Minor)	02:00	
68	Waylon Stowards	R	9	2	00:19	68	Checking from Behind (Double Minor)	04:00	
81	Asher Kuiken	R	10	3	04:37	22	Checking from Behind (Major)	05:00	
92	Zack Milne	R	11	3	04:37	22	Game Misconduct (Game Misconduct)	10:00	
GM	Lori Pounder (General Manager)								
HC	Casey Sheriff (Head Coach)								
AC	Blaine Stowards (Assistant Coach)								
AC	Caden Peters (Assi.Coach & Equip.)								
AC	Chad Pounder (Assistant Coach)								
AC	Owen Barker (Assistant Coach)								

Goalie Saves			
#	MP	Saves	SA
00	60:00	30	37
35	00:00	0	0

Away - Kelowna Kodiaks

Goals							Roster		
#	Per	Time	G	A1	A2	Strength	#	Name	Pos
1	1	17:28	12			ES	00	Ethan Dalkeith	G
2	1	16:26	77	25	40	ES	1	Brody Bennett	G
3	1	13:29	25			ES	12	Aracin Gelsvik	R
4	2	00:44	55	28		ES	20	Caleb Whiting	R
5	3	13:15	40			ES	25	Ethan King	R
6	3	08:40	36	28	00	ES	28	Landen Janz	R
7	3	01:25	12	25	41	PP	29	Noah Bouck	R
Penalties							#	Name	Pos
#	Per	Time	#	Infraction	Min				
1	1	15:03	42	Roughing (Minor)	02:00	30	Bostyn Apps	R	
2	1	05:17	66	Illegal Cross-check (Minor)	02:00	31	Jonah Rampone	R	
3	1	01:10	38	Roughing (Minor)	02:00	33	Landen Brown	R	
4	1	01:10	28	Holding (Minor)	02:00	34	Gavin Zumbo	R	
5	2	15:35	25	Delay of Game (Minor)	02:00	36	Nathan Jaramillo	R	
6	2	09:37	66	Roughing (Minor)	02:00	38	Ethan Jimmieson	R	
7	2	09:03	28	Tripping (Minor)	02:00	40	Ryder Gelsvik	R	
8	2	03:06	77	Slashing (Minor)	02:00	41	Jaymes Dykes	R	
9	3	16:56	55	Slashing (Minor)	02:00	42	Kutas Aeichele	R	
10	3	12:20	41	Illegal Cross-check (Minor)	02:00	48	Carter Baillie	R	
11	3	06:36	36	Too Many Men (Bench Minor)	02:00	55	Carson Donnelly	R	
HC	Gregg Parent (Head Coach)					66	Kaleb Olson	R	
AC	Mike Philips (Assistant Coach)					77	Max Zumbo	R	
M	Rhonda Gelsvik (Manager)								
AC	Andy King (Assistant Coach)								

Goalie Saves			
#	MP	Saves	SA
00	60:00	30	39
1	00:00	0	0

Home - North Okanagan Reapers

			Player						
#	Name	Pos	G	A	Pts	PIM	PPG	SHG	
3	Nathan Davis-Lent	R	0	0	0	4	0	0	
7	Brad Scabar	R	0	1	1	0	0	0	
8	Kohen Pounder	R	2	0	2	0	1	0	
10	Colten Colmorgen	R	2	2	4	2	2	0	
12	Koenn Mahar-Robins	R	2	0	2	0	1	0	
13	Zack Casagrande	R	0	3	3	0	0	0	
14	Jace Wasyliw	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
15	Dustin Jones	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16	Hayden Kirwin	R	0	0	0	2	0	0	
17	Kal Bonneau	R	0	2	2	0	0	0	
19	Nate Williamson	R	0	0	0	2	0	0	
22	Noah Pearson	R	0	0	0	15	0	0	
24	JJ Milne	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
29	Bryce Cormier	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
67	Cole Gartner	R	2	0	2	4	0	0	
68	Waylon Stowards	R	0	0	0	4	0	0	
81	Asher Kuiken	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
92	Zack Milne	R	1	3	4	2	0	0	

			Goalie							
#	Name	Pos	GA	Sv	MP	PIM	G	A	Pts	
00	Ryley Lockhurst	G	7	30	60:00	0	0	0	0	
35	Alex Mason	G	0	0	00:00	0	0	0	0	

Away - Kelowna Kodiaks

			Player						
#	Name	Pos	G	A	Pts	PIM	PPG	SHG	
12	Aracin Gelsvik	R	2	0	2	0	1	0	
20	Caleb Whiting	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
25	Ethan King	R	1	2	3	2	0	0	
28	Landen Janz	R	0	2	2	4	0	0	
29	Noah Bouck	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
30	Bostyn Apps	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
31	Jonah Rampone	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
33	Landen Brown	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
34	Gavin Zumbo	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
36	Nathan Jaramillo	R	1	0	1	0	0	0	
38	Ethan Jimmieson	R	0	0	0	2	0	0	
40	Ryder Gelsvik	R	1	1	2	0	0	0	
41	Jaymes Dykes	R	0	1	1	2	0	0	
42	Kutas Aeichele	R	0	0	0	2	0	0	
48	Carter Baillie	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	
55	Carson Donnelly	R	1	0	1	2	0	0	
66	Kaleb Olson	R	0	0	0	4	0	0	
77	Max Zumbo	R	1	0	1	2	0	0	

			Goalie							
#	Name	Pos	GA	Sv	MP	PIM	G	A	Pts	
00	Ethan Dalkeith	G	9	30	60:00	0	0	1	0	
1	Brody Bennett	G	0	0	00:00	0	0	0	0	

North Okanagan Reapers open home lacrosse season downing Kelowna Kodiaks

The Reapers won 9-7 to start the season 1-1

by Bowen Assman – Morning Star, April 14, 2025



A fiery matchup between North Okanagan and Kelowna in lacrosse led to a tight 9-7 victory for North Okanagan. Contributed

Newly rebranded, the North Okanagan Iron Ghost Construction Reapers junior lacrosse team brought the ghoul and grit in their home opener, beating the Kelowna Kodiaks, 9-7.

The Reapers (formerly Vernon Tigers) fended off the Kodiaks on Saturday in front of a sold-out crowd of 435 at the Sunbelt Arena in Armstrong.

Prior to face off, Indigenous drummers welcomed the players on the unceded traditional territories of the Okanagan Sylix and Splantsin te Secwepemc people.

North Okanagan scored first, with Cole Gartner's low snipe beating Kodiaks goalie Ethan Dalkeith.

Two more Reapers goals put the hosts up 3-0, before a back-and-forth goal-scoring blitz led to a slender 5-3 lead for North Okanagan to end the first period.

In the second, the Reapers would add to their lead, to go up 7-4 after two. However, in the third, tempers flared as back-to-back penalties gave the Kodiaks an early two-man advantage.

Goaltender Ryley Lockhurst would play exceptionally, helping to kill off the penalty and keep the Reapers ahead.

Two more goals from North Okanagan put the game away late, despite a furious rally in the end from Kelowna. North Okanagan would win, 9-7.

"Its still early in the season and we have some things we need to work on for sure but we played with intensity," said assistant coach Chad Pounder. "We are still a young team and are learning to play together and will build as the season progresses."

Gartner, Colten Colmorgen, Koenn Maher-Robins and Kohen Pounder all scored twice in the victory, while the Kodiaks received a three-point showing from Ethan King (one goal and two assists).

The win was the Reapers first of the year, as they sit 1-1 so far in the Thompson Okanagan Junior Lacrosse League season (TOJLL). The Kodiaks dropped to 0-2.

Also competing in the TOJLL are the Kamloops Venom (2-0), Cranbrook Blackwolves, and South Okanagan Flames (1-1) from Penticton.

The Reapers play host to the 2024 TOJLL champion Kamloops Venom on Wednesday, April 16 at 7 p.m in Armstrong.

The Kodiaks face the Reapers again Saturday, April 19 at the Kelowna Memorial Arena at 7 p.m.

More information can be found at tojll.lacrosseshift.com.

<https://www.vernonmorningstar.com/sports/north-okanagan-reapers-open-home-lacrosse-season-downing-kelowna-kodiaks-7943313>