

Roger Williams University
Men's Lacrosse Office

Dear Robbie,

I am so glad to hear of our connection to Jack Turnbull through your fantastic stick.

Lacrosse has been a huge part of my life for 35 years now. I played at John Jay-Cross River High School in South Salem, NY and then at Nazareth College. I am currently the head coach at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island and have been for thirteen years. As great as lacrosse has been for me and meant to me—being the father of five children is even more meaningful.

By far, lacrosse has shaped who I am and what I have become. I still have tremendous friends and memories to this day from my time playing lacrosse; from high school thru college and even now; playing in an over-40 men's league.

I was fortunate to be a part of a championship team at Nazareth. I can't say why I was selected to receive the Turnbull Award but I like to think that I played a balanced game, ending my career with almost the same amount of goals and assists certainly helped. I always felt I played well within a team environment and could help dictate the play and tempo of our offense without being an overly athletic or flashy player.

A few thoughts that I may offer—be fundamentally sound! Throw, pass and catch the ball correctly and pick up ground balls. Having solid fundamentals allowed me to be a strong player. Also, worry about the team and the individual awards will come. Usually no one is honored with awards unless the team is successful. Individual awards are terrific, however winning as a team is always remembered more than the individual accomplishments. I would also say that everything in life happens for a reason. The harder you work the luckier you will seem to be.

I'm not sure that I fully appreciated the magnitude of receiving the Lt. Col. J. I. "Jack" Turnbull Award, but I can assure you that twenty years later I fully realize how fortunate I am to have received such an honor while playing a truly magnificent game. Having learned more about the life of Jack Turnbull has only magnified my pride in receiving this Award. In his short life, he sacrificed and accomplished more than most humans ever will and as I continue to get older, my pride and honor will only grow greater. I am proud to have my name associated with you and Jack Turnbull!

I wish you all the best in your playing and academic careers, Robbie. I am sure that you will conduct your life in a manner that would make Col. Turnbull proud. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you!

I would recommend that you read the book *Tuesdays With Morrie* by Mitch Albom.

Sincerely,

Marty Kelly

Head Lacrosse Coach
Roger Williams University
Lt. Col. John I. "Jack" Turnbull Award 1992
Nazareth College 1992

Dear Robbie,

Congratulations on receiving the special lacrosse stick from CAPT Lewis! I received the Turnbull Award at Cortland State University in 2008. Being the recipient of the Turnbull Award was a great honor for me but it was all based on having a great team and unselfish play on offense.

Lacrosse has been a very special part of my life. Lacrosse is a great game for a competitive young athlete with unlimited opportunity to move onto college. It can not only open doors to a desired school, but also teaches values that are used in the work world. Work ethic developed in lacrosse translates directly into success in the business world. I would encourage you to enjoy every minute of playing competitive lacrosse and grow and develop every day as an athlete and person. Putting in the extra work off the field is what will allow a young athlete to become the best player they can be.

My lacrosse experience at Cortland State University was great. We developed a work ethic and brotherhood that translated to success on the field and friendship off. We won the national championship vs. Salisbury in an incredible OT game, which was the best experience of my life. The next two years playing in the national championship were memorable as well even though we lost both years. The lessons learned from a loss are carried onto the rest of your life and can be used in a positive way to always strive for success and to be the best at what you do.

I think I was selected for the Turnbull Award for my leadership and work ethic. I have always been a team player that would rather draw a double and hit a cutter on the back door for a lay-up than getting a shot myself and scoring. This leads to a more unselfish overall offense and a fluid team concept.

I have coached numerous youth teams and lacrosse camps and still enjoy teaching young players the game, how to be a

team player, and what they need to do on and off the field to be successful.

Coach Beville's philosophy was always hard work and doing the extra off the field to get an edge on the competition. Lifting weights, running stadiums, and playing wall ball is the quickest way to get an edge on other teams.

I did not having the speed and strength coming out of high school to compete at the level I wanted. Consistent weight training, running stadiums, and healthy eating led to a level of fitness that let me achieve all the goals that I set in my college career from three-time All-American, to Attackman of the Year, and, mostly, national champion.

It is an honor to be connected to you through Jack Turnbull. Best of luck!

All the best,

Ryan Heath

Turnbull Award 2008
Cortland State University 2008

Dear Robbie,

I write to you on behalf of Bob Scott in regard to your special stick. Let me begin by saying that I have considered Coach Scott a mentor for all these years. He and my coach, Henry Ciccarone,—both great men and great coaches—have meant a great deal to me and countless other young men. I feel very fortunate to have had great relationships with both of these legends.

I grew up in a town called Massapequa on the South Shore of Long Island. I live in Breckenridge, Colorado now and have for many years. I played at Massapequa High School and then at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and ultimately for the USA Team in 1982. I was fortunate to win a county championship at Massapequa, then a national championship at Johns Hopkins and, yes, a world championship with Team USA! I can tell you that I enjoyed the journey at every step—never really focusing on the championships themselves, but the work and preparation that went into trying to do my best.

I received the Turnbull Award in 1977 and 1978. I think at the time I was very gratified to receive it and now—when I think back—it is a very nice memory of playing with and against some truly great players and teams.

If I could give you some advice on how to succeed—it might be to bring good energy to the field and locker room. I tried very hard to do that every day. Also—be aggressive, have fun with the game, work hard, play hard and remember that it is a game. I think if you keep a good attitude and work hard, good things will happen for you.

My coaches (Pat Oleksiak at MHS and “Chic” at JHU) stressed the fundamentals—and to push the ball all the time. We scrimmaged in every practice and genuinely had fun competing.

Lacrosse has provided me with great relationships with my teammates and coaches, as well as the people I have met due to my playing the game, and allowed me travel opportunities

around the world. I have been lucky enough to play lacrosse in Australia, San Francisco, Dallas, Florida, North Carolina, New York, etc.

Coach Scott asked me to include a recommendation for a book—and I heartily commend *The Prince* by Niccolò Machiavelli to you!

I hope that you enjoy playing the game as much as I have and that it will continue to be a central part of your life—like it has for me. Keep working hard and best of luck with your stick.

Yours in Lacrosse,

Michael O’Neill

Johns Hopkins University 1978

Turnbull Award 1977, 1978

Team USA 1982

National Lacrosse Hall of Fame, Class of 1993

[RHS Note: I did not get to coach Mike, but served as Athletic Director during his time at Hopkins.]

Dear Robbie,

I understand that we are connected through your association with a special lacrosse stick once held by Jack Turnbull. My connection to Jack is that I was fortunate to receive the Award named after him three times while I was playing at Salisbury University. Great to “meet” you!

Lacrosse was one of the greatest things to come into my life. Before 8th grade, I didn't even know what the sport was. But I found out at Carthage High School (where I still coach) it was a game that combined “goal scoring” from so many other sports with the contact of football. It was perfect for me. Lacrosse has allowed me to go compete at the college level, be a part of two national championship teams, get several individual accolades, travel all over the country doing clinics and camps, and helped me become who I am today.

Receiving the award was a great honor. Receiving it the second and then third time was even more special. I believe I received the award because I played on great teams and was fortunate enough to lead them in points. Jack's is a truly inspirational story. He was a complete student and unbelievable athlete and a great leader and American who was dedicated to his country.

If I could pass along a little advice, I would say that it doesn't matter what your shape or size is. If you work harder than the other guy, you have a chance. If you take a chance you never know where you might end up. Anything is possible if you believe it is.

Make sure you play every minute as if it is your last. You never know when your playing days may come to an end. Make sure you tell the people you love most that you love them EVERY chance you can. When they are gone you will probably wish you could tell them every day.

I can't thank my coaches enough. My high school coach, Kirk Ventiquattro, taught us to work hard to learn the game. He really made you want to work to be the best. My college

coach, Jim Berkman, refined my skills and pushed me to dominate. He made me realize that if you worked on your skills and put yourself in a position to be great you were cheating yourself if you didn't play great. He made me be the best every day.

I have several memories, but the moments I remember best are (1) my first day of fall practice in college my freshman year. I got the ball knocked away from me and beaten up every time I touched the ball. It motivated me to get better FAST! (2) First day of practice in 8th grade. NO IDEA what was going on or what to expect. (3) 1994 National Championship–Salisbury's first. (4) 1995 road trips with the team. We were a complete team and we all got along great. We played—and won—as a TEAM.

When I was a freshman in college I was 5'8 and 215 pounds. I was not very fast either. People always looked at me like I couldn't do "it." I was too small and slow to get any job done on the field. I had to prove myself every step of the way.

Looking back, lacrosse has meant so much to me. To receive an Award named after someone who was such a complete student, athlete and American is quite an honor indeed. I hope you'll enjoy your relationship with Jack Turnbull and the game as much as I have.

A book I would recommend is *Bleachers* by John Grisham.
Good luck with the stick and your playing career.

All the Best,

Jason Coffman

Carthage High School 1992
Salisbury University 1995
Turnbull Award 1993, 1994, 1995

Dear Robbie,

Congratulations on being selected by Captain Lewis to receive the magical lacrosse stick. That is quite an accomplishment and you should be very proud. I was humbled when Coach Scott requested that I reach out to you regarding the Turnbull Award and my experiences with the game that has given me so much. Using my experiences, I will do my best to give you some advice that you might be able to use one day.

My name is Steele Stanwick, and I was fortunate enough to receive the Turnbull Award in the spring of 2012 at the University of Virginia. I grew up in Baltimore, Maryland and come from a large family (I am 1 of 8), where we all played lacrosse through college. Lacrosse has always been an important part of my life and family. Undoubtedly, one of the primary reasons I am so grateful for the sport of lacrosse is because it always brought my family closer together, and is a passion we can always share; and for that I am very thankful.

After attending Loyola Blakefield High School, I was fortunate enough to attend the University of Virginia. Fast-forward 4 years, I was receiving the Turnbull Award my senior year and I could not have been more humbled and honored. Just to be mentioned in the same breath as Jack Turnbull is one of the greatest compliments I've ever received. One of the reasons receiving the Jack Turnbull Award is so gratifying is because I have so much respect for the game, the award, and for Jack Turnbull himself. While that depth of respect may be rare in many sports, it is common in the lacrosse world.

Robbie, if I could give you any advice it would be to respect the game of lacrosse in all aspects, enjoy the game, and work/practice so hard so that win, lose, or draw you can look in the mirror and be happy with yourself.

Respect the people that have played before you and respect the ones that will play after you. The relationships and opportunities that I have made playing lacrosse are amazing. Lacrosse is such a special sport in so many ways. It will give

you so much if you treat it the right away. This is, in part, due to the fact that the lacrosse community is such a close-knit group where there is so much respect for everyone; it is what separates lacrosse from the rest.

In short, I was able to use a game that I loved playing to achieve my dreams. I was fortunate enough to win a National Championship and the Twearaaton Award, attend my dream school, and more importantly, build relationships that will last forever. All of this I believe stemmed from the fact that I respected the game first.

My college coach, Dom Starsia, would always remind his players to "enjoy the journey." And I encourage you to do the same thing. Enjoy every part of your lacrosse experience. Enjoy the tough practices, runs, lifts, bus rides, team movies, road trips...That's the good stuff.

All of these opportunities would not have been possible if I was not blessed with the ability to play lacrosse. I attribute a lot of my success to the fact that I was blessed with certain talents, but also to the fact that I work very hard and spend a tremendous amount of time practicing. Malcom Gladwell wrote a book called *Outliers*. In the book he talks about how if you want to be successful at anything in life, you have to dedicate about 10,000 hours to practice. I promise that with 10,000 hours of practice with your magical lacrosse stick, you will be writing one of these letters one day.

Very truly yours,

Steele Stanwick

University of Virginia
Lt. Col. John I. "Jack" Turnbull Award 2012

Dear Robbie,

I have been in recent contact with Coach Scott in regard to you being in possession of the special lacrosse stick once used by the famous Turnbull brothers. My late father, Don Hahn, received the Turnbull Award in 1951 as a player at Princeton University.

My father was once described by John Steadman of *The Sunday American and the News-Post* as “the greatest lacrosser to turn a stick in his palms since the late, lamented Jack Turnbull.” Apparently their similarities did not stop with success on the lacrosse field. Steadman also wrote that both were “quiet, reserved, and gentlemanly.”

A child named Jack Turnbull (the nephew of the Award’s namesake) presented the Turnbull Award to Don in 1951. While details of that day may be lost to history, my father did recall telling the young fellow, “I did not know the man for whom you are named, but I understand that he is considered the greatest lacrosse player ever.”

Don received a number of awards during his career in addition to the Turnbull Award. He received Princeton’s top lacrosse award, the Higginbotham Trophy, in 1950 and 1951, and was a two-time First-Team All-America selection in those same years. In 1981, Don was elected into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

My father’s enjoyment of the game and respect for its traditions were obvious in speeches he made, though he seldom spoke of his own accomplishments, such was his modesty. Upon Don’s induction into the Hall of Fame, a teammate, Frank “Skip” Eccles wrote, “It is a particular pleasure to see the honor going to someone who bore his considerable success with such modesty and who always struck me as a most admirable person in every way.”

Speaking at the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA) December dinner meeting in New York honoring the All-America Team of 1950, my father remarked,

“...We also have a great sense of responsibility—a responsibility to all of you gentlemen assembled here this evening in the common interest of lacrosse, a responsibility to the game itself. Looking back at the imposing list of those who were once honored as we are tonight and who have done so much, through example if not actual participation, to maintain the high caliber of intercollegiate lacrosse

throughout the years, we can find much inspiration for meeting this responsibility.

“And so we accept this challenge of preserving in lacrosse what we consider vital to it. Chief among these is the high standard of competition balanced by an amazing degree of good will and congeniality among the competitors....Win or lose—it has always been fun to play lacrosse—and a privilege too. We shall do our best to preserve these fundamental elements of the game.”

Some 30 years later, Don would make the following remarks on the occasion of his induction into the Hall of Fame in 1982 at Homewood Field, Baltimore:

“For myself with humility and thanks; for my family with pride; with gratitude to my schools and coaches; with a bow to the fine competitors I have played against; and in recognition of—and ultimately on behalf of—those wonderful people and players—my teammates, without whom obviously this Award would never have come to me.

“With all of these feelings, I accept this honor today from my former coaches and can only wish for those playing now or yet to come, that the beautiful game of lacrosse continues to provide the experience of clean sport and lasting friendships—among opponents as well as teammates—and *just plain fun* that it was my good fortune to know.”

These words, spoken by my father over the last half a century, still ring true today. I hope, as my father would, that you find clean sport, lasting friendships, and of course, just plain fun!

Best of luck,

Tobin Hahn

In memory of Donald Hahn

Turnbull Award 1951

All-America Team 1950, 1951

Higginbotham Trophy 1950, 1951

National Championship, Princeton 1951

National Lacrosse Hall of Fame, Class of 1981

Dear Robbie,

I am excited for you to embark on this journey. As you travel down your respective path, I am sure you will hear that lacrosse is more than just a game. It is not all about winning and losing but about teamwork, friendship, sportsmanship and becoming a leader. Lacrosse has the ability to shape your life as it did mine.

My name is David Maguire and I grew up just outside of Philadelphia in Broomall, Pennsylvania. As I reflect back on my childhood, all I can remember is wanting to play soccer and baseball. That was until I was introduced to lacrosse at twelve years old. From that day on I was hooked. All I wanted to do was play in the backyard and throw the ball against the small brick wall next to my driveway. After hours and hours of wall ball and countless broken windows (Oops...sorry Mom & Dad), my parents made a goal for me to shoot on. This is where all of the hard work started to pay off and my lacrosse skills were born.

My high school coach was Tom Hannum. He taught me to work toward my goals, play hard and never give up. His positive attitude made lacrosse fun. Coach Hannum always had my back. Win or lose it was about making yourself better every day. He was the one that cemented my love for the game and gave me the drive to play at my best always.

I played collegiate lacrosse at Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU) and was a three-time First-Team All-American just like Lieutenant Colonel Jack Turnbull. I was fortunate to be coached by John Zulberti (Jack Turnbull Award recipient 1988 & 1989). John taught us how to play the game two steps ahead and make the right play not just the next one. In 1997 my junior year I was the recipient of the Jack Turnbull Award. This was one of the most significant moments of my career. The following season in 1998, my senior year, my teammate and close friend Darren McGurn received the Jack Turnbull Award. For me, the fact that my coach and good friend were

both awarded the Jack Turnbull award was very special and meaningful. It played an important part in shaping my life and who I am today.

Lacrosse has provided so many opportunities to me over the years; I have traveled the world, met many outstanding people, and learned how to be a leader. As I reflect back on the success I had in my career one thing I will never forget is the true mark of a champion is what you do when others aren't looking. Lacrosse will open many doors for you Robbie, but it is up to you to make the best of it.

All the best to you,

David Maguire

Ohio Wesleyan University 1998
Turnbull Award Recipient 1997
Ohio Wesleyan University Hall of Fame 2009

Centennial High School
History Department

Dear Robbie,

It is a great honor to have the opportunity to participate in your magical journey through lacrosse history. As I'm sure you have become aware, lacrosse is a game whose greatness lies not only in the excitement and beauty of its play, but even more in the nature of the people that play and support the game.

I have been fortunate to benefit from those great people. In looking back at my career, I can proudly list a number of honors that have come my way. We won a national championship with Hopkins in 1974 and a World Championship that same year. I played on two undefeated teams at Towson High School under the leadership of my father, Bill Thomas. I also was selected for some individual awards during those years. Those accomplishments, however, fade into the background, and what is remembered are the great people with whom I shared those experiences. My heroes, like Captain Lewis, my coaches, like Coach Scott, and my teammates are what I hold on to. They are the real beauty of the game.

As you go forward, work hard, strive for success, enjoy the playing, but most importantly enjoy the lifelong relationships that come with playing lacrosse.

Good Luck.

Jack Thomas

Johns Hopkins University 1974

Turnbull Award 1973, 1974

Team USA 1974

National Lacrosse Hall of Fame, Class of 1989

Dear Robbie,

What an honor it is to write a note on behalf of the Turnbull Award and the significance it carries in the game of lacrosse—past, present and forever. My name is Roy McAdam, a proud recipient of this award while playing at Hobart College in 1980. I am honored to be associated with this award that showcases the greatest scorers in the history of the game.

Back at age 13, I bought my first wooden box lacrosse stick from an Indian reservation in Canada called Cornwall. That stick brought me an immediate connection to the game and to the fundamentals of learning how to pass and catch. I used to spend hours a day hitting the ball against walls and playing catch with friends and family. It was at that point in my life that I realized lacrosse was not just a sport to me, it was a passion.

I played high school at a small school in upstate NY named General Brown under Coach Steve Fisher and Coach Jim Branski. Our team was always an underdog because our stick skills were limited compared to other teams in the Syracuse area. But our coaches taught us toughness and perseverance. At Hobart, I was no longer playing on an underdog team. Our players still possessed limited stick skills compared to other teams in the Long Island and Baltimore areas, but like my high school team, we brought a physical presence to the game that intimidated opponents. Playing at these levels taught me how to play the game of lacrosse physically and fearlessly.

Playing lacrosse at a high level and in “big” games was both exciting and fun, but the best experience was sharing those moments with my family. My passion for lacrosse was my family’s passion and my family’s passion was mine. My biggest fans were my parents, Bruce and Doris, and my brothers, Bruce Jr. and Fred. But my biggest fan of all was my sister, Beth Bauer. I love you all and thank you for your support.

Lacrosse is in many ways like life. We experience many highs and lows and we learn from those experiences. The biggest lesson I’ve learned playing lacrosse was from my late Coach Jerry Schmidt. I was given a starting attackman position my sophomore year and was having a rough go at it. My confidence was at its

lowest going up against the long defensive sticks and I even told the coach that there were better players on the bench. Coach reinforced me that I had more talent than those on the bench and even designed plays around me to build my confidence. That was a pivotal point in my lacrosse career. I went on to become MVP of the NCAA Tournament that year and, ultimately, reached the highest of the highs in team and individual awards in my career.

Great players come out of great programs. No one deserves more credit to building Hobart into a lacrosse powerhouse than the legendary “Babe” Krause. The leadership continued during my tenure from Athletic Director Bill Stiles and Chief Financial Officer William Van Arsdale. It continues to this day with the current Athletic Director, Mike Hanna, at the helm. I was very thankful and honored to have played for two legendary coaches, Jerry Schmidt and Dave Urick. They have been great teachers in lacrosse and life to me and to so many. And those many include great teammates such as Dave McNaney, Terry Corcoran, Tom Schardt, the late Rick Blick, Jim Calder and Marc Darcangelo. In the end of my career, I was the beneficiary of three national championships (1976, 1977, and 1980). I am indebted to Hobart College Lacrosse Program for that honor and for the honor of receiving the Turnbull Award my senior year. I wish you all the best!

With great joy and pride,

Roy McAdam
Hobart College 1980
Turnbull Award and Player of the Year 1980
Hobart Hall of Fame, Class of 2014