

Hall of Fame Award

Builder

Wes King Hunter



Wes King-Hunter is a very worthy recipient of the Volleyball Alberta Hall of Fame Builder award. Few individuals across Canada have contributed of themselves for the development of volleyball as Wes King-Hunter.

Wes created a philosophy of providing programs that stressed fun and skill development, while also providing a competitive experience for kids of all ages. Under the leadership of Wes King-Hunter, the South East Alberta Volleyball Club's (SEAVC) was established in 1989. Wes spent countless hours recruiting, training and mentoring coaches for SEAVC (pronounced *see-vick*). Wes drew on a vast array of individuals from all regions of the Medicine Hat community; educators, business individuals, health care professionals, farming members, former alumni, family and others were persuaded to help in establishing one of the most respected volleyball clubs in the province. Their expertise, strengths, and passion for volleyball were called upon to organized marquee volleyball events such as the ASAA 4A Provincial Championships as well as the Summer and Winter Games.

Wes is a tireless worker and organizer. It was not uncommon to see Wes coach non-stop throughout an entire calendar year. He would often be involved with 2-3 teams at the same time. He would always say, "they are such a nice group of kids, how could I say No?" His spirit of generosity, selflessness, ability to listen and instruct positively, gave each athlete a sense of purpose. Wes selflessly donated years of time running

this club, all while working as a teacher and school administrator. He has also been involved with groups and events such as the Southern Alberta Summer Games, Alberta Schools Athletic Association, Various Palliser Health initiatives, First Nations Métis Inuit Education Programs, an Interchange on Canadian Studies and the Canadian National Women's and Men's exhibition matches.

Wes King-Hunter is a relationship builder. He authentically made an effort to get to know every person he supported and coached. Mr. King-Hunter is an exceptional listener and consistently modeled how shared values and desired outcomes should guide appropriate actions and interventions.

Wes started coaching in Medicine Hat in 1988 with the grade 9 girls volleyball team and then took over the Girls senior programs in 1989-2010. In 1989 Wes and Scott Robinson started SEAVC with 1 boys team and 2 girls teams. In 2004, the club grew to 3 boys teams and 9 girls teams. By 2017, SEAVC had 11 girls teams (13U-16U), with the 17-18U girls and boys programs having already transitioned to the MHC Rattlers Academy program to manage player development, facility usage and club size. For the past number of years, SEAVC has offered FUNdamental & Developmental Program during club season for 60-80 athletes, ages 7-16. The SEAVC program was, and still is, designed to incorporate "FUN" into the development of individual and team orientated volleyball skills offering competitive team opportunities as well as individual Developmental Programs & FUNdamentals.

For over 20 years Wes has been instrumental in organizing trips to the NCAA women's coaching symposiums and Final Four competitions. It started out with 4 individuals going (Wes, Rudi Tschritter, Sharon Stuber and Tim Krassman) and grew to over 20 participants from all across the province. Wes always had his trusted friend Rudi by his side. There was no end to the pranks and laughs when Rudi and Wes were along.