

2005 Alberta Volleyball Hall of Fame Awards

Category: Official

Inductee: Larry Lerbekmo

Larry graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Physical Education degree in 1967 and received his teaching certificate the following year. He got involved in sports at a young age and continued his participation as a coach in several different sports at the school and club level. It was in 1970 when Larry began his illustrious refereeing career, which has expanded over four decades.

Larry received his National badge in 1975 in preparation for the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, where he worked along side the world's best officials. After his Olympic experience, Larry officiated in several World Championships and Olympic qualification tournaments, and received his International Certification in 1981. He also worked the 1989 World Cup in Japan, which is regarded as one of the best International Tournaments in the World. Larry's services have also been required by the prestigious World League and he has refereed several CCAA, CIS and age class National Championships during his tenure.

He has taught many officials the fine points of the game through his mentorship and positive attitude. Larry has a great rapport with coaches and players when he is on the stand, earning their respect with his personable demeanor and professionalism. He is the Past Chairperson of the National Promotions Committee, Past Chairperson and current member of the International Promotions Committee, and a former member of the NORCECA Referee's Commission; very significant positions where he was able to positively impact the sport of volleyball both domestically and Internationally. He has been a role model for many of Canada's senior officials and through the years helped them improve their skills and become stronger referees.

Larry's contributions to volleyball also extend into the coaching ranks. He created and led very successful programs at Bonnie Doon High School and Harry Ainlay High School; combining to earn 14 City Championships and 6 Provincial Championships. His efforts have not gone unnoticed as he was presented with the City of Edmonton Citations Award (2001) and the Volleyball Canada Lifetime Achievement Award (2003). He is recognized as a true leader in the volleyball community, developing countless participants to excel as players, officials and coaches.