



2014



**Achievement Awards
& Hall of Fame Banquet**

Saturday, June 28, 2014



2014 Mikasa Achievement Awards & Hall of Fame Banquet

Westin Hotel, Edmonton

Saturday, June 28, 2014

Reception: 6:30 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Awards: 8:00 p.m.



Awards Recipients

Mikasa Achievement Awards

Volunteer	Mary Beth Meeuwisse
Official	Everette Dionne

Coaches

16U Female	Rod Hebert
16U Male	Greg Elgert
18U Female	Sandra Lamb
18U Male	Kerry MacDonald

Athletes

16U Female	Hilary Howe
16U Male	Shane Verkland
18U Female	Ciara Hanly
18U Male	Tanner Greves

Hall of Fame Awards

Builder	Jan Patterson (2013)
Coach	Greg Ryan
Athlete	John Paulsen
Team	FOG Masters Women



Mikasa Achievement Awards

Volunteer

Mary Beth Meeuwisse – Canuck Dinos Volleyball Club

Mary Beth Meeuwisse has been an invaluable volunteer member of the Alberta volleyball community for nearly 10 years. Mary Beth quite simply is the coaches' and parents' go to person. Without a formal title per se, "MB" has done it all. She has coordinated food, travel, hotels, transportation and out of town events for players, coaches and parents. She has organized team activities for special tournaments, including 2 Alberta Winter Games teams and 4 trips to the USA Junior Nationals. Mary Beth also has served on the Board of Directors for the Elite West club for 2 years. She has been the Team Manager for an incredible 16 teams in 4 clubs, representing every team that three of her children played on.

She is the most enthusiastic score keeper and she has taught many how to score. She is one of the few that knows the intricacies of the draw; thus, she is the first to let the word out as to if, where and when the team plays while greeting, smiling and hugging past players, opponents, coaches, refs and almost the entire volleyball community. She embodies sportsmanship, and as such, she is as a true representative of 'competitive class'.

Although all of the above is worth noting, it is the personal nature of Mary Beth's contribution to volleyball that is truly exceptional. The Meeuwisse family generously hosts a variety of volleyball events annually in their home. As they have a beach volleyball court, many teams have practiced in their backyard. Mary Beth happily hosts welcome and wrap up parties alike. Furthermore, if a coach requires court time and the snow has melted, the Meeuwisse court is available. U of C, Canuck and many beach volleyball teams frequent their home and many players get so comfortable there, they don't return home until the following morning.



It has also been the site of training and billeting for our Provincial and Canada Games beach athletes, who enjoy her open-house philosophy.

As Mary Beth's youngest of four children graduates from the Canuck Volleyball Club this season, she will forever remain a faithful volleyball volunteer. Topped only by her outstanding organization and event planning skills, is the respect she receives from the volleyball community, allowing her to contribute greatly to the post secondary level. She has been the social coordinator for the parents of the Dinos Men's varsity team for 4 years and, this past year, she coordinated the parent volunteers and hospitality room at the Canadian Intercollegiate Sport (CIS) Volleyball Nationals in Calgary. She is a key member of the organizing committee of the Annual Nathan Bennor Memorial Golf Tournament. What goes unmentioned is that the silent auction table is full of items that would not be there without Mary Beth's outstanding generosity and exceptional character.

Mary Beth epitomizes volunteerism in the field of volleyball. It started with a love for her children and, as they developed a passion for the game, so did she. While her children have left a significant imprint on volleyball in Alberta, they join me in celebrating all she has done for them and their sport. She is truly a worthy recipient of the Mikasa Achievement Award for Volunteerism.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

Official

Everette Dionne

Originally from Ontario, Everette Dionne got his start in volleyball as an athlete. After club volleyball, he moved on to play at Georgian College. It was during this time at post-secondary that Everette found his way to officiating. In 2009, upon completion of his degree, Everette made the move west to Alberta.

Currently situated in Calgary, Everette is quickly establishing himself as a senior official that exemplifies hard work and dedication, not only towards improving his own abilities as a referee, but also working to establish and develop a strong base of officials. This dedication has been reflective of his success as he obtained his level 3 certification in 2013 and is being steered towards the level 4 development program.

On the court, Everette is a steadfast and consistent referee, handling all matches with a calm demeanor. He dedicates himself to all levels of competition, constantly giving up evenings and weekends to be in the gym. This commitment saw Everette working everything from high school and club competitions, ACAC and CIS exhibition and league matches. In addition, Everette received nominations to officiate at 16U and 18U Club Nationals and as a Referee Assistant for CIS Nationals and World League.

When not officiating, Everette is constantly giving back to the sport by educating other members of the refereeing community. From practical assessments to theoretical discussions and training, Everette is diligently working to grow and improve the refereeing community as a whole.

Outside of officiating, Everette has a passion for both sport and the outdoors. His summer days are regularly spent fishing the lakes and rivers throughout Western Canada. When not on the water, he can be found attempting to conquer the local links. Once the snow falls



and the golf clubs/fishing rods are stowed, he quickly changes mind set in preparation for a season of recreational volleyball and hockey.

In trying to sum up Everette, the Calgary Officials offered the following:

“We are thrilled that Everette has been chosen as referee of the year. Nobody in Calgary, and perhaps Alberta, is as dedicated to the world of officiating as Everette. He works (tirelessly) most weekends and a few nights a week during the high school, post- secondary and club seasons. His diligence is coupled with exemplary officiating ability. It has been a pleasure to watch Everette mature as an official and friend.”

For his continuing endeavors and commitment to the sport, the Volleyball Alberta Officials are pleased to recognize Everette Dionne as the recipient of the 2013 – 14 Mikasa Achievement Award for Official of the Year.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

16U Female Coach of the Year

Rod Hebert – St. Paul Rage Volleyball Club

Rod is a truly committed member of the Volleyball Alberta community, volunteering his time to not one, but two club volleyball teams this season. Rod was the head coach for the St. Paul Rage 15U girl's team as well as co-coaching the 14U Rage boy's team. This is an extremely admirable and often unrecognized commitment of time and energy. Rod is the epitome of a volunteer, committing his efforts to two different teams, providing both with a positive and developmental environment.

Rod helped lead his 15U girls to two silver medals as well as a 4th and 5th place finish in this years Volleyball Alberta's Premier tournaments. The team's ability to consistently finish in the top 5 is a great reflection of Rod's coaching ability. Rod has the ability to maintain a positive, fun atmosphere during his practices that allow the girl's to feel motivated to better themselves and their teammates. It goes without saying that young athletes of this age group are often difficult to keep focused but the environment Rod creates for his athletes provides them with an enjoyable and constructive development experience. He is always organized and purposeful while maintaining a fun and relaxed environment, ideal for young athlete development.

Aside from the technical skills Rod teaches his athletes, there is an emphasis on sportsmanship. Rod sets the tone for his team, teaching them to respect their teammates, opponents and officials. He instills a great number of attributes in his players that reflects everything this community seeks for in a club coach. Rod believes in having athletes work hard to reach their individual potential while maintaining strong morals and ethics in regards to their behavior both on and off the court.

Rod maintains a great relationship with the athletes as well as the parents, which have made this season's success so meaningful to both him, the athletes, and their parents. Rod works hard to create a positive experience for all of those involved in the club program and is one of the many reasons Rod was able to find such great success this season. Volleyball Alberta thanks him for his dedication to young athlete development and is honored to present him with the 2014 Volleyball Alberta 15U Female Coach of the Year.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

16U Male Coach of the Year

Greg Elgert – FOG Volleyball Club

Greg is a highly knowledgeable, passionate volleyball coach who is able to offer his players experience from his own journey through Volleyball Alberta. Greg was a former member of Team Alberta, the Canada Games Team as well as a University of Alberta Golden Bear. Greg is able to share the knowledge he gained from his personal experience in order to better the players of his 16U FOG club.

His first year coaching with FOG, Greg has brought to the club a high level of enthusiasm that motivates his players to want to be at practice and work hard each day. He consistently emphasized game play, which allowed the boys to maintain a high level of energy while learning the fundamentals of the game. Greg went above and beyond for his players, organizing weekend camps that included games against other FOG teams, allowing the boys to gain experience playing older age groups. These opportunities allowed his team to be exposed to a quicker version of the game, undoubtedly aiding their performance in the 16U category.

Greg and his team had a very successful season, finishing second in each of the Volleyball Alberta Premiers, as well as the Volleyball Alberta Provincial Championship. Although a great result, winning was never Greg's emphasis. He is committed to providing his team with long-term development, focusing on the process as opposed to the result. Greg is a coach committed to skill development and fundamentals that will allow the boys to understand and perform the game at a higher level.

Greg's coaching philosophy was successful on a team as well as individual basis. Alongside the team's upstanding performance throughout the club season, eight of Greg's players were invited to the 2014 16U Team Alberta tryout. This is truly a testament to Greg's exceptional coaching level and one of the many reasons why he is a deserving recipient of the 2014 Volleyball Alberta 16U Male Coach of the Year.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

18U Female Coach of the Year

Sandra Lamb – Canuck Cougars Volleyball Club

Sandra is a dedicated coach and volunteer in the Volleyball Alberta community. She is deeply passionate about impacting young, female athletes in Alberta and providing them with the resources necessary to succeed. Sandra is in her 15th year as coach of the Mount Royal University Women's Varsity program and spent a number of years coaching with the Dino's Volleyball Club, winning four National titles (2008, 2010, 2011, 2012). In 2012 Sandra left the Dino Club and began the endeavor of building her own Cougar Club. The amount of time and dedication Sandra has shown to this club is truly admirable. After completing a seven-month CIS season with her varsity program, Sandra didn't hesitate before committing to coach her 17U/18U Cougar team.

Sandra and her staff are committed to providing a positive, development oriented atmosphere for her players. Coaching the younger age groups, Sandra emphasizes a progressive model that demonstrates a commitment to development as opposed to result. The ultimate goal of this approach is to create a foundation for long-term development of exceptional athletes. This being said, Sandra and her 17U/18U team had a very successful season, finishing in the top three at each Volleyball Alberta Premier, including a bronze medal finish at Provincials. Although not a textbook team of power and strength, Sandra taught her girls that mental toughness and dedication to your sport would get you where you need to be.

The commitment Sandra exemplifies in the volleyball community is unwavering. She is passionate about the development of young athletes and strives to give back as much as possible. She provides a unique club experience, with hands-on involvement of her varsity athletes as well as staff, providing her young athletes with exposure to CIS, Canada West athletes and coaches each time they enter the gym. This is a large commitment for both her, as a full time CIS coach, as well as her varsity players, and it speaks volumes to the level of dedication she expects from each of her athletes, whether varsity or club. Sandra is committed to working together to achieve the goals of every player and is a leader in women's volleyball. She is truly a deserving recipient of the 2014 Volleyball Alberta 18U Female Coach of the Year.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

18U Male Coach of the Year

Kerry MacDonald - Canuck Dinos Volleyball Club

Kerry has been a long time member and avid contributor to both Volleyball Alberta as well as Volleyball Canada, dedicating a number of years to sport development in our communities. He is a committed and passionate learner, constantly striving to better himself in order to better his players. Kerry is a highly motivated individual who portrays exceptional work ethic and leadership, undoubtedly attributes passed on to his players.

Kerry had a very successful season, leading his 18U Canuck Dino team to two Volleyball Alberta Premier titles, a Provincial Championship, and a well-deserved National Championship. The precedent was set from day one when after the first practice of the 2014 club season; Kerry stated that there were only 50 practices left until Nationals. The team's goal became immediately clear and they stopped at nothing to achieve it.

When speaking to Kerry's players, it is evident that he is much more than a coach. He is a mentor for this group of young athletes, assisting many of them in goals they have for their futures, whether it involves volleyball or not. They speak of the unwavering confidence Kerry shows to them each time they enter the gym. It is clear that Kerry has taught this group of young men much more than the game of volleyball. He has taught them respect, accountability, dedication and the importance of teamwork; attributes that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. He is a true portrayal of the impact of sport in youth.

Although impressive, Kerry's accomplishments don't end on the volleyball court. He is an upstanding role model for his players graduating from the University of Calgary with a 3.3 GPA in his Bachelors of Kinesiology as well as boasting a 3.9 GPA in his Masters of Education. Kerry is currently working on his PhD and continues to set an example for his young athletes. Many young athletes lose sight of what it means to be a student athlete, but this is certainly not the case in the Canuck Dino gym. Kerry leads by example, actively demonstrating to his players the importance of education and holding yourself to high standards on the court as well as off.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

16U Female Athlete of the Year

Hilary Howe – Dinos Volleyball Club

Hilary Howe is a unique athlete, undeniably talented and implausibly humble. Hilary is one of the top all-around 16U athletes in the province and carries herself with poise often unseen at such a young age. Hilary approaches each day in the gym with an unassuming and sincere attitude that allows her to learn from the people around her while pushing herself to achieve her individual and team goals. Hilary brings to the team a sense of positivity that enables her to demand more from her teammates both on and off the court. She takes time to prepare for every match and has the capability to perform with relaxed-intensity, a skill far beyond her age. Hilary has an ability to execute under pressure that often leaves her teammates, coaches, opponents and even spectators inspired. The maturity of Hilary's mental game is just one of the many attributes she demonstrates that will make her one of Alberta's top performing athletes in years to come.

Off the court, Hilary is an excellent leader and facilitator for her teammates. She was voted a co-captain of the 16U Junior Dinos team and goes above and beyond to accommodate the needs of her teammates and coaches. Hilary is constantly analyzing the dynamics of her team and works hard to strengthen these relationships in order to successfully accomplish the goals they have set together. Creating a strong team dynamic is a task mandatory for success and often overlooked. Hilary goes out of her way to assure this is a priority for each of her teammates and is one of the many reasons the 16U Junior Dinos were able to accomplish such an outstanding season.

Hilary assisted in leading her team to a Volleyball Alberta Premier gold and silver as well as a Provincial Championship. Coach Caity Buckell describes Hilary as a player that "moves like a gazelle and plays like a beast". She is a naturally competitive young athlete that will settle for nothing less than her best and her presence on the court is indisputable. Although Hilary's talent is undeniable, it is her "X-factor" that separates her from the rest. The work Hilary puts in with her teammates on and off the court has led them to great success and we anticipate many more great things from Hilary in the future. Volleyball Alberta is proud of this young athlete and pleased to call her our 2014 Volleyball Alberta 16U Female Athlete of the Year.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

16U Male Athlete of the Year

Shane Verkland – Canuck Volleyball Club

Athletic, talented and truly passionate about the game of volleyball, Shane has set himself apart as a premier athlete at the 16U level. Although there are many strong athletes in this group, what sets Shane apart from other great players are the intangibles that he brings to his team. Often described as a coach's dream player, he is driven, dedicated and respectful, a lethal combination for an athlete in the pursuit of greatness.

Shane helped lead his Canuck team to two successful seasons, bringing home two Volleyball Alberta Provincial Championships as well as a National silver medal in 15U and 16U. Shane also accumulated some well-deserved hardware of his own, receiving a Provincial All-Star as well as two National All-Star awards. Beyond being an exceptional player, Shane can be described as the glue that brings his team together. Consistently going above and beyond what is expected of him, Shane consistently motivates and encourages his fellow teammates. Captaining his Canuck team for the past two years, his leadership demonstrates the respect Shane's teammates and coaches have for him and what he brings to the team.

Shane's drive and passion to be the best he can doesn't stop with his club and high school team practices. Shane attends VCCE at 6:30am twice a week, coached by Kerry Macdonald. Working with Shane, Kerry comments, "Shane is a gifted athlete with an incredible passion for the game. His relentless work ethic and drive to improve with every session will lead him to great success on the court and throughout his life. It is rare to see a 16 year old with the dedication and maturity that Shane possesses."

Shane acts with the utmost respect and dignity when representing himself and his team. Those who compete against Shane would say that he is a fierce but honorable opponent. Shane's 16U coach, Kent Greves, had only positive things to say in regards to Shane and his capabilities as a young athlete. "Shane is a physically strong athlete with tremendous skill. He played middle for us this season, but could have played any position and excelled. He is quite the leader who raises the level of play in practice just by his presence."

Shane's dedication and drive is something often unseen in athletes of such a young age and it is creating early opportunities for him. Shane will be joining a number of elite athletes as a member of the 2014 Team Alberta program and Volleyball Alberta greatly anticipates what is to come for this exceptional young athlete. A true ambassador of the sport he loves, Shane is a very deserving recipient of the 2014 Volleyball Alberta 16U Male Athlete of the Year.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

18U Female Athlete of the Year

Ciara Hanly – Dinos Volleyball Club

Ciara Hanly embodies everything a coach could hope for in an athlete and a person. She is a positive leader, an amazing teammate, a hard worker and an extraordinary young woman. While she's a significant presence on the court with her towering 6'3" frame, Ciara often goes unrecognized as she quietly leads her team, consistently performing her role without seeking accolade. Ciara understands the intricacies of what it takes to succeed in sport and simply makes excellence a habit both on and off the court.

Coach Tracey Keats-Lapointe describes Ciara as "a coach's dream". Ciara bought into the Junior Dinos Club philosophy from day one and it goes without question that it has adequately prepared her for her future CIS career. She approached the intense training program with both fervor and enthusiasm, pushing her teammates along the way. Ciara set the standard for many of her teammates, entering the gym each day consistently exceeding her personal bests with each session. The intrinsic drive and motivation displayed by this young woman is remarkable, truly the sign of an elite athlete. The hard work that Ciara put in throughout the year in the weight room undoubtedly translated to the court. Her strength and speed were often unmatched by opponents and there is no doubt that Ciara will make a seamless transition into the CIS.

Surrounded by some of Alberta's top athletes, the Junior Dinos had many possible candidates for this award. What sets Ciara apart from these exceptional athletes is her ability to subtly challenge and encourage her teammates to strive for greatness in all aspects of their lives. She sets the precedent in the gym as well as in the classroom. There is no doubt that each of her remarkable teammates contributed to the success and development of this team, but it's the consistency of Ciara's performance as a player and a leader that has earned her this award.

Ciara loves her sport and is committed to doing all of the little things that will create success in her life, on and off the court. Ciara exudes confidence and positivity, and pours her heart into every task, each day. The amount of drive and discipline she displays is simply impressive. We look forward to following Ciara's promising post-secondary career as a UBC Thunderbird. Congratulations Ciara on being named the 2014 Volleyball Alberta 18U Female Athlete of the Year.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

18U Male Athlete of the Year

Tanner Greves – Canuck Dinos Volleyball Club

Tanner Greves is truly an exceptional athlete, exemplifying the attributes every coach hopes for. He is a true sportsman, showing respect to his coaching staff, the officials and his teammates. He comes to practice each day ready to work and learn. He constantly demands more from himself both technically and mentally. Tanner strives each day to understand, read and execute the game at a higher level. The resilience shown by this young man is truly admirable and is one of the many reasons he and his teammates are able to call themselves National Champions.

Although a quiet leader, Tanner leads by example and sets the tone for his teammates through the demonstration of resilient work ethic. He is an athlete that consistently pushes the people around him to be at their best, coaching staff included. Tanner exudes a rare balance of performance ability, dedication, positive attitude and leadership, a combination often unseen in such a young athlete. It goes without question that Tanner will find a great deal of future success on the court, in the classroom and throughout his life.

On the court, Tanner's performance in the 2014 season was nothing short of outstanding. He earned himself a spot on the 2013 US Junior Olympics All-Star Team as well as capturing the MVP title at the 2014 Volleyball Alberta Provincial Championships and the 2014 National Championships. Although these accolades should be recognized, in Tanner's eyes, his greatest achievements are those accomplished alongside his team. Tanner helped lead his team to 3 Volleyball Alberta Premier silver medals before capturing the Provincial and National Title. Tanner's dedication to his team and their collective goal is truly admirable amidst his individual accomplishments, and is just one of the many reasons why Tanner Greves is a well-deserving recipient of the 2014 18U Male Athlete of the Year. The Volleyball Alberta community is proud of this young man's accomplishments and we anxiously await the success this new chapter of Tanner's life will bring.



Hall of Fame Awards

Builder

Jan Patterson

Jan Patterson is the perfect example of someone who volunteers for an event, gets ‘bitten by the bug’, and ends up being a key part of the organizing group for years and years!

In 1972, the Alberta Volleyball Association (AVA) and the University of Alberta, jointly hosted the Canadian Volleyball Association (CVA) senior volleyball championships in Edmonton. The ‘Nationals’ as the championship was called at the time, were the annual culminating tournament in Canadian volleyball. The championships attracted 20 men’s and 20 women’s teams that year from all across Canada along with a throng of officials, coaches, and managers. CVA meetings were also part of the event.

An event like that takes numerous volunteers and when a friend invited her along to help out with administrative tasks Jan enthusiastically stepped forward and as the old saying goes, ‘the rest is history!’

Immediately following the 1972 ‘Nationals’ she got involved with the Edmonton Phoenix Volleyball Club as social convener and by the beginning of the 1980’s she had become the club’s President. She was an important part of that club which provided a model for others to form clubs and generally encouraged club development in the province.

The AVA, because of Jan’s willingness to be involved, was the real beneficiary of her organizational talents. In 1975 she became the Provincial Tournament coordinator and held various positions on the AVA Executive for 20 consecutive years—truly an amazing commitment.

Here is a rundown of her service to the AVA and volleyball in Alberta:

- 1975-76 to 1977-78 – AVA Provincial Tournament Coordinator
- 1978-79 to 1983-84 - Secretary/Registrar for the AVA
- 1984-85 to 1990-91 – Vice-President Administration for the AVA
- 1991-92 to 1994-95 – AVA representative to the CVA

In the mid-seventies the Province of Alberta commenced staging the Alberta Summer Games and Winter Games. Volleyball was in the Winter Games. There were many ramifications of this Alberta Games initiative but the major one was



the province being divided into 8 zones. Jan had to make sure there was a representative team from each of the 8 zones, and to do that, qualification tournaments had to be held in each zone – a major coordinating effort. Jan's pioneering work was sound and got things started on the right foot. Indoor volleyball is now part of the Alberta Winter Games and beach volleyball part of the Summer Games.

In 1976 the Volleyball Organizing Committee at the Montreal Olympics came calling and Jan was asked to travel to Montreal to work in the volleyball secretariat. Her administrative abilities learned with the AVA helped the Olympic volleyball competition function smoothly.

In 1983 Edmonton hosted the World University Games (Universiade) and volleyball was one of the premiere events in those Games. Again Jan was one of the leaders from the AVA to help stage the volleyball competition by taking on the position of volleyball co-chair. The Universiade '83 volleyball competition was truly a significant milestone in the development of the sport in the province.

Jan found the time to help at the grass roots level as well. In the beginning days of the Jasper Volleyball Camp in the 1970's she spent parts of six summers at the camp ensuring that the players and coaches had a good experience. In 1986 she took on the Manager's job of the Alberta provincial men's team at the Western Canada Summer games.

The AVA has been very fortunate to have Jan Patterson dedicate so many years to our sport. Because of the longevity of her commitment one could label her 'The Connector'. She got involved in the seventies when the surge in the popularity of volleyball was happening and the AVA was a completely volunteer driven organization. She stayed on until professional staff was hired by the AVA. The transition from running an organization from the kitchen table has given way to a strong association with administrative offices and full-time office staff thanks to people like Jan Patterson.



Hall of Fame Awards

Coach

Greg Ryan

In his 35-year volleyball career, Greg Ryan has achieved coaching excellence in theory and practice. His work as an educator, life-long learner and leader both on and off the court have made substantial contributions to the development of volleyball in Alberta and beyond.

Greg was born and raised in Calgary, earning his education degree in 1979. After graduation, he signed on with the Calgary Board of Education, where he served for eight years as a social studies teacher. At the same time that Greg launched his educational career, he began work as an assistant coach for the University of Calgary women's volleyball team – a position he held from 1980 to 1984 before becoming the team's head coach in 1985. The following year, Greg became head coach of the U of C men's volleyball team. During his twenty years in this role, he earned five western Canadian coach-of-the-year awards and one national coach-of-the-year award. Greg went on to serve as a head coach for Montana State University-Northern from 2006 to 2008. Also on Greg's international resume are coaching and management positions for the World Student Games and assistant coaching positions for two FISU Games.

Over the course of his career, Greg earned a Level 5 NCCP coaching certification and a Master Coach designation from the National Coaches Institute, among other coaching credentials. He has been recognized as a Chartered Professional Coach since 1995. Greg can be described as a coach of coaches for his work as a student, teacher and leader of his profession. In 1992, he earned a Master's degree in Kinesiology from the University of Calgary in the Art and Science of Coaching. His research on coaching has appeared in provincial, national and international volleyball coaching publications and has been presented at many coaching clinics and symposiums. Greg is currently working toward his PhD in Physical Education, researching the field of coaching



motivation. He also serves as Director of Athletics and Campus Recreation for the University of Alberta-Augustana.

Off the court, Greg has devoted many hours to community leadership both inside and outside the realm of sport. He currently sits on the board of directors for Sport Alberta and recently served as a member of the NACMA Small Schools Initiatives Committee. From 1991 to 1993 he served as Player Development Chairman for Volleyball Alberta, then the Alberta Volleyball Association.

A colleague of Greg's described him as "a long-time icon in the world of Alberta volleyball." As a coach, he has led his players to many championships and medals, and has been instrumental helping athletes move on to professional careers in North America and Europe. As a leader in the field of coaching, he has made significant contributions to the development of volleyball in the province of Alberta. For these and other achievements, Volleyball Alberta is pleased to induct Greg into its 2014 Hall of Fame.



Hall of Fame Awards

Athlete

John Paulsen

Over the course of his career, John Paulson has furthered the development of Alberta volleyball as a coach, player and coordinator. But on this occasion, he is recognized for his tremendous contribution as an athlete. Born and raised in Manitoba, John moved to in Alberta in 1979, which he has represented on the court for the past 35 years.

As a young athlete, John donned uniforms for multiple sporting pursuits, but thanks to influence of an exceptional high school coach, found his niche in volleyball. From city, to provincial, to national competitions, John helped lead his high school, club, and university teams to numerous championship titles, including three straight CIAU gold medals.

While in university, John made Canada's national volleyball team. He remained with the team for eight consecutive seasons between 1971 and 1978. During this time, he represented Canada in the Olympic Games, world cup, and NORCECA Zone Championships, among other international competitions.

At the end of his last season as a national team player, John influenced a decision to invite Canadian cities to bid on hosting the team. He then evaluated the bid submitted by Calgary and, as a result of his findings, the team voted to make the Alberta boomtown its home base, where it remained from 1979 to 1996. John's influence in moving the team to Alberta bolstered the development of volleyball in this province through the construction of high-quality facilities and advances in athlete development, as many national team players remained in Alberta to coach the next generation of elite volleyball players.

When John retired from the national team as a player, he did not retire from competition. As he moved to Calgary and adopted a new role as national team coordinator, he also joined the Calgary



Volleyball Club. During his first year with the club in 1979, John was named MVP in the Canadian Open Championship. From 1982 to 1994, he played with the club's Older but Wiser team, which was inducted into the Alberta Volleyball Hall of Fame in 2004. John has since moved on to represent Canada at various international competitions, including four Huntsman World Senior Games, two Global Cups, and 12 U.S. National Open Championships. In 2010 and 2011, John was named to the All-American First All-Star Team. His contributions as a Canadian volleyball player have been recognized through induction to the Volleyball Canada and Volleyball Manitoba halls of fame. As an Alberta athlete, John continues to compete, recently winning a bronze-medal in the U.S. National Volleyball Championships 55-plus category.

Brian Watson, former interuniversity-rival turned friend and colleague of John's, said consistency in effort and performance characterizes John's athletic career. This year marks his 46th consecutive season as a competitive volleyball player. Not one to coast on the glory of past achievements, John approaches each new season looking for ways to improve his game. A true team player, he is known for what Watson described as an "old-school" sense of loyalty. "He's very down to earth and if you ever need help he'll be there," Watson said. "He's true blue."



Hall of Fame Awards

Team

FOG Masters Women

The FOG Masters Women's volleyball team is only 12 years young, but you'd never guess by looking at its medal count. The team has packed so many national and international achievements into its short history that tonight it is making history through induction into the Volleyball Alberta Hall of Fame.

Founded in 2003, the team gives veteran athletes the opportunity to continue their volleyball careers by competing against the best masters players in Canada and the world. As of 2014, the FOG Masters Women have earned 16 gold, 10 silver and six bronze medals. At the national level, the team placed first in the Canadian National Women's 35+ title all five years the competition was held. South of the border, the FOG Women have been a force to be feared at the U.S. National Women's Championships, winning nine gold medals, eight silver medals and six bronze medals between 2005 and 2014 in various age categories. In 2008, the team won the Alberta Volleyball Association Women's Open Championship – the same year it won Silver at the Huntsman World Senior Games.

In other international achievements, the FOG women have two World Championship and two Global Cup championship wins under their belt. According to club organizer George Tokarsky, placing first against "very tough German and Russian teams" at this level is among their greatest accomplishments. The FOG women have medalled three times at the World Masters Games, placing first in the 50+ category in Torino (2013) and claiming two medals on home soil in Edmonton (2005), where they won gold in the 50+ category and silver in the 40+ category. Beyond these successes, it is worthy of mention that many of the team's members also play together for Canada's National Masters 50+ team, which won the Gold medal in the 2009 Global Cup against Russia and the Silver in 2011 against Brazil.



In addition to increasing competitive opportunities for veteran players, the FOG Masters Women's team was created to give its Alberta members the chance to rekindle old friendships with women they had played with early in their volleyball careers. Thanks to their winning combination of camaraderie, talent, and the dedication and desire to excel, Alberta has an elite women's club that consistently takes championship titles at the highest level of masters' volleyball.

Players:

Lucie Belanger, Christine Bradstock, Catherine Carter, Hatsue Chow, Suzette Cooke, Valerita Derocco, Joyce Gamborg, Bonnie Hailstone, Monica Hitchcock, Kelly Jacobs, Candace Kane, Suzanne Lauridsen, Karen Lukacs, Tina Lu, Reta Moenike, Denise Myhre, Margaret Negenman, Alyson Ryan, Carol Shore-Maclean, Karin Maessen, Susan Moncks, Kathy Paulsen, Michelle Prince, Susan Cox-Russell, Sherry Saxton, Judy Szepesi, Christine Thorson, Audrey Vandervelden, Brenda Westwood, Linda Mitchell-Young

Coaches:

Hugh Bartlett, Brad Kilb, John Neilson, Greg Ryan, George Tokarsky



Award Recipients

2013 Mikasa Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year – Carter McIntyre
16UF Athlete of the Year – Tessa Hill
18UM Athlete of the Year – Levi Wolthuis
18UF Athlete of the Year – Mariah Walsh
16UM Coach of the Year – Allan Coulter
16UF Coach of the Year – Raynell Lavertu
18UM Coach of the Year – Jace Barros
18UF Coach of the Year – Lindsay Jones
Official of the Year – Karl Hiebert
Volunteer of the Year – Janet Kawchuk

2012 Mikasa Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year - Derek Meeuwisse
16UF Athlete of the Year - Beth Vinnell
18UM Athlete of the Year - Brett Walsh
18UF Athlete of the Year - Alexa Gray
16UM Coach of the Year - Jace Barros
16UF Coach of the Year - Reid Brodie
18UM Coach of the Year - Mark Maris
18UF Coach of the Year - Jamie Bach
Official of the Year - Pam Rintoul
Volunteer of the Year - Laura Vaillant

2011 Mikasa Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year - Ryan Nickifor
16UF Athlete of the Year - Courtney Yoo
18UM Athlete of the Year - Blake Hinchey
18UF Athlete of the Year - Alissa Coulter
16UM Coach of the Year - Candace Greves
16UF Coach of the Year - Dusty Freimark
18UM Coach of the Year-Howard Gelderman
18UF Coach of the Year - Rob Ellis
Official of the Year - Mike Malowany
Volunteer of the Year - Brenda Jones

2010 Tachikara Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year - Brett Walsh
16UF Athlete of the Year - Kacey Otto
18UM Athlete of the Year - Zach Brown
18UF Athlete of the Year - Carly Hamilton
16UM Coach of the Year - Mark Maris
16UF Coach of the Year - Linda Richter
18UM Coach of the Year - Tyler Myroniuk
18UF Coach of the Year - Tracy Keats
Official of the Year - Ashley Fox
Volunteer of the Year - Sai Wong

2009 Tachikara Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year - Jackson Maris
16UF Athlete of the Year - Kyjsa Brkich
18UM Athlete of the Year - Jarron Mueller
18UF Athlete of the Year - Camille Saxton
16UM Coach of the Year - David Jones
16UF Coach of the Year - LeAnn Kinvig
18UM Coach of the Year - Jeremy Deeks
18UF Coach of the Year - Reid Brodie
Official of the Year - Arch Beck
Volunteer of the Year - Heather Wishlow

2008 Tachikara Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year - Branden Schmidt
16UF Athlete of the Year - Jordhynn Guy
18UM Athlete of the Year - Jeremy Potter
18UF Athlete of the Year - Kaylene Ehret
16UM Coach of the Year - Steve Weinbeer
16UF Coach of the Year - Tracy Keats
18UM Coach of the Year - Brad Poplawski
18UF Coach of the Year - Don Saxton
Official of the Year – JP Desaulniers
Volunteer of the Year - Candice Sylvester

**2007 Tachikara Award Recipients:**

16UM Athlete of the Year - Jarron Mueller
16UF Athlete of the Year - Dione Lang
18UM Athlete of the Year - Ciaran McGovern
18UF Athlete of the Year - Jamie Thibeault
16UM Coach of the Year-Howard Gelderman
16UF Coach of the Year - Pat Pyne
18UM Coach of the Year - Ian Bennett
18UF Coach of the Year - Gisele Kreuger
Official of the Year - Neal Konowalyk
Volunteer of the Year - Don Hutton

2006 Tachikara Award Recipients:

16Um Athlete of the Year - Jarrod Offereins
16UF Athlete of the Year - Camille Saxton
18UM Athlete of the Year - Tanner Nault
18UF Athlete of the Year - Tiffany Proudfoot
16UM Coach of the Year - Dale Gullekson
16UF Coach of the Year - Alex Melnyk
18UM Coach of the Year - Gord Boccock
18UF Coach of the Year - Chris Wandler
Official of the Year - Tammy McNally
Volunteer of the Year - Terry Noble

2005 Tachikara Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year - Paul Lindemulder
16UF Athlete of the Year - Jaryn Ruether
18UM Athlete of the Year - Thomas Jarmoc
18UF Athlete of the Year - Raynell Lavertu
16UM Coach of the Year - Darryl Tetz
16UF Team Coach of the Year - Bob Gabruck
18UM Coach of the Year - Ryan Marsden
18UF Coach of the Year - Rob Lindberg
Official of the Year - Sherri Weed
Volunteer of the Year - Matt Stayner

2004 Tachikara Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year - Ben Saxton
16UF Athlete of the Year - Jackie Gagnon
18UF Athlete of the Year - Lauren Perry
16UM Coach of the Year - Art O'Dwyer
16UF Coach of the Year - Grace Scott
18UM Coach of the Year - Tyson Waters
18UF Coach of the Year - Linda Merrick
Official of the Year - Glenn Johnston
Volunteer of the Year - John Findlay

2003 Tachikara Award Recipients:

16UM Athlete of the Year - Colin Bell
16UF Athlete of the Year - Kristy Anderson
18UM Athlete of the Year - Mark Thibeault
18UF Athlete of the Year-Carolyn Macdonald
16UM Coach of the Year - Ian Kulmatycki
16UF Coach of the Year - Heather McIntosh
18UM Coach of the Year - Mike Lauzon
18UF Coach of the Year - Craig Gattinger
Official of the Year - Scott McLean
Volunteer of the Year - Kathy Van Humbeck



Hall of Fame Inductees

2013		2007	
Builder	Jan Patterson	Athlete	Errol Miller
		Team	Red Deer Queens (82-99)
		Coach	Calvin Aubin
2012		Builder	Myrna Empey
Athlete	Christy Hansen	Official	Lynda Ward
Builder	Bob Gabruck		
Coach	Dave Johnson	2006	
Official	Harold Mori	Athlete	Kathy Tough
		Team	Canuck Stuff Senior Men (1991-98)
2011		Coach	Lance Adamson
Athlete	Jenny Cartmell	Builder	John Pierre Baudin
Builder	Dave & Doreen Ross	Official	Basil Barnes
2010		2005	
Athlete	Kevin Boyles	Athlete	Terry Danyluk
Team	Mount Royala College Cougers Men (1991-99)	Team	NAVC Gold 18U Men (1995-2001)
		Coach	Cor Ouwerkerk
2009		Builder	Bob Bratton
Athlete	Kent Greves	Official	Larry Lerbekmo
Team	Red Deer Kings (1999-2007)		
Coach	Howard Rasmussen	2004	
Builder	George Tokarsky	Athlete	Barb Broen
Official	Marilyn Bratton	Athlete	Al Taylor
		Team	University of Alberta Pandas (1994-2000)
2008		Team	Older but Wiser
Athlete	Randy Gingera	Coach	Lorne Sawula
Team	FOG Senior Men	Coach	Brian Watson
Coach	Keith Hansen	Builder	Hugh Hoyles
Builder	Al James	Builder	Theresa Maxwell
		Official	Bill Ward



MIKASA[®] SPORTS CANADA

Alberta Volleyball is proud to announce Mikasa as
our new sponsor for Indoor and Beach Volleyball



MIKASASPORTS.COM