



Alberta Volleyball

2012



***Achievement Awards
& Hall of Fame Banquet***

Saturday, June 23, 2012



2012 Mikasa Achievement Awards & Hall of Fame Banquet

Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton

Saturday, June 23, 2012

Reception: 6:30 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Awards: 8:00 p.m.



Award Recipients

Mikasa Achievement Awards

Volunteer Laura Vaillant

Official Pam Rintoul

Coaches

15U/16U Female Team Reid Brodie

15U/16U Male Team Jace Barros

17U/18U Female Team Jamie Bach

17U/18U Male Team Mark Maris

Athletes

16U Female Beth Vinnell

16U Male Derek Meeuwisse

18U Female Alexa Gray

18U Male Brett Walsh

Hall of Fame Awards

Builder Bob Gabruck

Coach David Johnson

Official Harold Mori

Athlete Christy Hansen (nee Torgerson)

Mikasa Achievement Awards

Volunteer

Laura Vaillant – Cochrane Jaguars Volleyball Club

Laura Vaillant has been with the Jaguars Volleyball Club for the past eight years. In that time, she has dedicated herself to the club's growth and success as a coach, manager, treasurer, and as the Jaguar Executive Chairperson.

Growing up in Suffield, Alberta, Laura was a member of the first South East Alberta Volleyball Club team. She continued to play club volleyball on a co-ed adult team throughout her Commerce degree at the University of Calgary. It wasn't long after graduating that Laura took the opportunity to start coaching the Cochrane High School Sr. Boys' team. Her love of coaching grew quickly, and Laura joined the Jaguars Volleyball Club as the 14U Girls' head coach.

During her time with the Jaguars club, Laura has held a variety of roles and been an instrumental player in the Club's success. In the past eight seasons, Laura has been a head coach for six teams and the Club Chairperson for three years. However, outside of her coaching and participation on the Club Executive, Laura has been the media liaison, jersey/apparel organizer, equipment manager, team coordinator, hotel coordinator, facility scheduling coordinator, manager, treasure, and sponsorship/fundraising representative. This past season, she organized and coordinated volunteers for "Bingo" fundraisers for the entire club.

Fellow parents in the club program have commended Laura for her help in finding playing and coaching opportunities for the club athletes, guiding new managers and treasurers through the system, and being quick to resolve any issues with team dynamics or parent expectations.

In addition to her involvement with the Jaguars Club, Laura has coached with the Alberta Summer Games. She is a Level 2 coach for both volleyball and softball, as well as a carded volleyball referee. What most remarkable is that Laura has accomplished all of this while raising three children and working outside the home.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

Official

Pam Rintoul

For the past 20 years, Pam Rintoul has been a dedicated member of Alberta Volleyball and the Officials Association. Passionate about her work, she is always seeking opportunities to challenge herself and grow as an official and has been successful in becoming one of the premier referees in Alberta.

Pam started her officiating career at a young age and quickly advanced through the ranks. She received her Level 1 certification in 1992 and her level 2 certification in 1995. Her experience excelled her through all levels of amateur volleyball, including Jr/Sr High School, Age Class, ACAC and most recently, exhibition CIS matches.

In 2010, Pam successfully completed all of her level 3 requirements and is now recognized as a Volleyball Canada official. With her Regional certification complete, Pam continues to lead by example having been assigned to several elite events, including the Arctic Winter Games, AVA Provincial Championships, Canadian Open and the Western Elite Championships.

Administratively, Pam has been the Zone Officials Chair of the Peace Region for the past 4 seasons and, in that time, has proven to be an excellent ambassador for the sport of volleyball. She has spent countless hours refereeing, assigning, and mentoring new officials. In addition, through active and continuous recruiting, Pam has contributed significantly to building a group of consistent and dedicated officials. Especially notable is the development of female officials.

After every tournament, Pam has encouraged each referee to provide feedback that would stimulate discussion within the officiating community. She continuously gathers this feedback and information to help mentor new referees and provide constructive learning tools for her peers. She is dedicated to furthering the skills and strengths of up and coming officials, as well as ensuring that her own development continues.

Outside of her commitment to officiating, Pam participates on a women's volleyball team and keeps busy with her husband and son. She is a valuable friend and mentor, treating everyone fairly and with respect. Pam has been an incredible resource for the Peace Region, and is a deserving recipient of the 2012 "Official of the Year" award.

Mikasa Achievement Awards

15U/16U Female Team Coach of the Year

Reid Brodie – CW Dinos Red

This past 2012 club season, Reid was the head coach of the Canada West - Dinos 16U women's team. After devoting countless hours of time and exhausting every resource, Reid and her trusted coaching staff, led the Dinos to a gold medal at Provincials and silver medal at the National Championships.

Reid focused on providing elite training and instruction to ensure the progressive development of the athletes on her team. More notably, Reid took on this role while pregnant with her first child and continued her commitment after the birth of her daughter halfway through the season. It was clear that her level of dedication to the athletes and the Dinos program overcame every obstacle encountered throughout the season.

Reid's focus lies in the long-term development of her athletes, and is geared towards training and inspiring young athletes to be successful. Reid works tirelessly alongside her assistant coach and guest coaches in order to achieve this goal and to offer an elite opportunity for volleyball enthusiasts.

Reid is a strong role model for the young women of her program and instills in them powerful leadership qualities. She teaches her girls valuable life lessons and what it takes to be a true leader in every aspect of their life. "Without coaches like Reid, the Dinos program would certainly not be able to offer the high performance direction and atmosphere that our athletes crave," said her assistant coach, Chad Leier. "Reid's dedication to excellence allowed her athletes to grow as a team, gain valuable life experience, become stronger athletes, win AVA Provincials, and come oh-so-close to winning that elusive National Championship."

Reid felt the support of the volleyball community each time she was at an AVA event. Parents, coaches, athletes, and officials were amazed by her devotion to, not only her team, but to the sport. Most of them could not believe how she pushed herself to remain as much a part of the girl's club experience while closing in on her own due date.

In the end, however, the simple truth is that Reid loves the game of volleyball and her athletes. That is the source of the effort everyone sees and the reason Reid Brodie is the 2012 "16U Female Team Coach of the Year".



Mikasa Achievement Awards

15U/16U Male Team Coach of the Year


Jace Barros – FOG Black

There is no question that Jace Barros is a skilled and knowledgeable coach. However, it is his unyielding commitment and dedication to his team that make him an excellent mentor and friend to his athletes, and aspiring up and coming coach in the volleyball community.

Jace began his volleyball career on the Sr. Boys team at St. FX; a team he has also coached for the past four years. He played a large part in building a strong volleyball program there, marked by the team's City Championship for Edmonton Metro League in 2009. In 2010, Jace brought his passion for the sport to the FOG Volleyball Club, where he led a group of relatively inexperienced 14U boys to a gold medal at the Alberta Volleyball Provincial Championship. In the two years to follow, Jace has guided his athletes to grow tremendously in skill and character, culminating in a 16U Division 1, Tier 2 Gold Medal at the Canadian Open Championships in Toronto.

The success of each team Jace coaches is largely attributable to the strong relationship he builds with his athletes. Jace has mastered a unique ability to mentor his players while remaining friendly and approachable. More noteworthy, is the genuine interest Jace shows in his team, both as athletes and individuals. It is not uncommon for Jace to take the time to watch his FOG club players at their high school games, even while coaching his own team at St. FX. He has already built a commendable reputation, and this past season had a large number of athletes try out for his team. As a result, Jace recruited enough coaches to have three 16U FOG teams, in order to give every player a chance to compete.

Jace has been known to set a positive example for behavior on and off the court; he teaches his athletes responsibility, treats players, referees, parents, and other coaches with respect, and always approaches a situation professionally. He encourages participation in other sports and approaches scheduling conflicts appropriately and fairly. He never loses his temper, and is equally dedicated to each player's development. These qualities have allowed Jace to create a team atmosphere that is conducive to building self-confidence and strong camaraderie between players. He works hard to earn the respect of his players and, as a result, each athlete works hard to earn his. Athletes from Jace's team have described him as "an older brother". He is someone to admire and look up to, and is certainly a deserving recipient of the 2012 "Coach of the Year" award.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

17U/18U Female Team Coach of the Year


Jamie Bach – Lethbridge Flare

Jamie Bach has been coaching the Lethbridge Flare volleyball team for the past four seasons. In that time, he has taken a group of girls and turned them into an AVA Provincial Championship team. This has required relentless determination and an undeniable commitment to his athletes.

For the past four volleyball seasons, Jamie has continued to coach the same group of athletes. What is unusual and remarkable is, after selecting the first group of girls four years ago, Jamie has not cut a single girl from the team. New members have tried out and some have joined, but only if an athlete from the previous team chose to leave. That being said, it is evident that Jamie has the skills and patience to mentor each athlete into stronger, confident players who are capable of achieving excellence.

Parents from Jamie's team have commented on his ability to allow each athlete to contribute significantly to the team, leading to positive team dynamics and team strength. This past season, his athletes developed tremendously both in individual skill and as a collective unit as shown by their progress throughout the Premier tournaments. Seeded 11th at the beginning of the season, Jamie's team clawed their way to 5th at Premier one, 3rd at Premier two, 2nd at Premier three and, finally, captured gold at the Provincial Championship. Jamie's ability to develop his athletes and instill confidence in them allowed this group of girls to turn a dream into a gold medal reality.

It is not surprising that Jamie quickly earned the respect of his players. He never lost his temper or belittled athletes after a poor performance. Instead, he encouraged his girls to stay determined and fight for every point in each game they played. Jamie has received no monetary remuneration for his commitment over the years, and continues to give his time and energy because of his love for the game and, most of all, love for his team. Jamie Bach is a very deserving winner of this year's "Mikasa 18U Coach of the Year" award.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

17U/18U Male Team Coach of the Year

Mark Maris – NAVC Green Bears

Mark Maris has been coaching the NAVC Bears for the past five seasons and in that time, has won five consecutive Provincial Titles and two National Championships. Outside of his coaching skills and knowledge of the game, Mark's commitment to the team is second to none and his dedication can only be described as inspiring.

Mark has a talent for transferring his knowledge to the boys he coaches. His practices and training sessions are consistently well thought out, high energy, and highly focused and competitive. Mark brings in guest coaches to complement his coaching style and improve his athletes' skills from a fresh perspective. He has also arranged exhibition games against college and university level players to continuously challenge his athletes. Mark offers a level of excellence in coaching, both in physical skills and mental preparedness. Coach Maris is assertive, but holds a calm presence and level head in practices and on the bench. Instead of losing his temper, Mark uses opportunities to teach strategically and encourage his athletes to achieve their potential.

More importantly, Mark has instilled hard work and dedication into his athletes and has taught them the skills necessary to work well as a team. He expects nothing less than good sportsmanship and respect for opposing teams, and has been both a role model and mentor, treating other competitors, coaches, and officials in a professional manner. He has consistently achieved a high level of success with his teams while emphasizing the importance of team play. At many of the tournaments over the past season, Mark utilized each athlete in a significant way. This was not only a strategic play to counteract the opponents strengths or weaknesses, but also a decision to keep his athletes alert, competitive, and cohesive as an entire unit. As a result, his boys have developed humility and leadership, and every single athlete to play for him in the past five years has returned to try out for his team the next season.

It is apparent by the two hour drive Mark travels from Edson to Edmonton each practice that he has an unyielding dedication to his team. Mark knows how to develop champions, and parents and players alike have credited him as one of the top coaches in club volleyball. Mark Maris is this year's "Mikasa 18U Coach of the Year".



Mikasa Achievement Awards

16U Female Athlete of the Year

Beth Vinnell – CW Dinos Red

Beth Vinnell is a remarkable athlete, dedicated to her sport, her teammates, and to a successful career in volleyball. This past season, Beth was the co-captain and an integral member of the 16U CW Dinos team that captured an AVA Provincial Championship, as well as a Division 1, Tier 1 Silver Medal at the National Championships in Toronto. Standing 6'2", it is no surprise that Beth was a positive addition to the Dinos team, but her outstanding work ethic and team spirit have been the driving factors in Beth's success.

Beth currently attends Sir Winston Churchill High School, where she is a member of the Sr. Women's Volleyball team. She has already been recognized as an all-around athlete, holding City Championships in volleyball, basketball, cross country running, and flag football. However, Beth has not limited herself to excellence in sport, and has contributed to her school and community through fine arts, volunteerism, and strong academics.

This past club season, Beth worked tirelessly to continue her improvement both on and off the court. She could often be found doing extra repetitions and work-outs on her own time, and consistently sought feedback from her coaching staff and teammates. She has certainly proven herself to be committed to her own development, but also to the development of each player on the team. Her size, strength, versatility and hard work empowered her to become a fierce opponent. Her passion, empathy, and positive attitude allowed her to be a strong leader and trusted teammate.

Throughout the season, Beth quickly developed into a dominant force on the volleyball court. Not surprisingly, Beth was selected as a National Championship Tournament All Star at the Canadian Open in Toronto. She hopes that her hard work will help her make an impact on a strong post-secondary volleyball team, and eventually lead her to play on the Canadian National team. Her dedication and commitment to the sport have made Beth a deserving recipient of the 2012 "16U Athlete of the Year" award.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

16U Male Athlete of the Year


Derek Meeuwisse – Canuck Stuff

Derek Meeuwisse is a perfect example of the type of athlete every coach dreams of having on their team. Dedicated, driven, and passionate, Derek has proven himself as a true leader on the volleyball court – leading his 16U Canuck Stuff team to an AVA Provincial silver medal and Canadian Open Division 1, Tier 1 bronze medal this past season.

Derek's success on the court started at FEO Jr. High School, where he was awarded Athlete of the Year in grade 7 and 9, and volleyball MVP in grade 8 and 9. At 14U, Derek earned a Provincial silver medal with Canuck Stuff and took his skills to the beach where he and his partner won the provincial title. In 2010, Derek led his Alberta Winter Games indoor team to a bronze medal and another provincial Beach Championship and 4th place finish at Beach Nationals. As a 15U player, Derek's Clutch team went undefeated until the National finals, where he was recognized as a tournament All-Star.

This past season has been no exception. After taking silver at Provincials, Derek was recognized for a second time as a tournament All-Star. However, it is Derek's undeniable work ethic that has impressed coaches and won the respect of fellow teammates. Kent Greves, coach for the 16U Canuck Stuff team commented that, "Derek is a true leader who is hungry to learn, enjoys training, and loves to be challenged". Derek's positive attitude keep him smiling as he volunteers to go twice in the hardest drills at practice, and his leadership both on and off the court make him the backbone of his many successful teams.

Most admirably, Derek has remained supportive and loyal to his teammates through all of his success. He consistently puts the goals of the team ahead of his own and celebrates the success of his teammates as genuinely as if they were his. As a setter, Derek has stood out, not for his size or offensive prowess, but as a fierce competitor and exceptional athlete. He is a true ambassador of the sport he loves, and a very deserving recipient for the 2012 "Athlete of the Year" award.



Mikasa Achievement Awards

18U Female Athlete of the Year

Alexa Gray – CW Dinos Red

An athlete as gifted as Alexa is rare to find. Those that have seen her play take immediate notice of her outstanding abilities and physical attributes. A multi-sport athlete, she played rugby and basketball along side her extensive volleyball activities.

The most straightforward adjective one could use to describe Alexa simply is a winner. She's been a member of the Dino's team that has won three straight National Championships at the 16U, 17U and 18U levels including two Provincial Championships in 2009 and 2011. Alexa was named an All-Star at the 2012 Provincial Championship and Most Valuable Player at the 2012 National Championship in Toronto. In addition to her team's success in the club season, Alexa also led her Centennial Coyotes High School team to a 4A Provincial Championship last fall.

In 2010, she was a member of the 16U Dino's team that represented Canada at the Norceca Youth Continental Championship. At the end of the tournament she was selected the "Best Spiker", a very impressive achievement for a club athlete participating in an international event.

The one attribute that is often overlooked with Alexa is the amount of work she's put in to continue to develop her skills. She's had to adjust to a new position and has made great strides with improving her arm-swing, tactical and leadership skills. Her coaches have definitely noticed that the hard work has really paid off, as she was able to elevate her game to another level when it mattered the most, at Nationals. She gave her teammates the confidence to believe in themselves and go after their dreams, while being a dominant player on the court.

This summer Alexa will be joining the Brigham Young University Cougars volleyball program where she will join her older sister, who plays for their varsity rugby team. Congratulations to Alexa on an outstanding club season and on being named the "Mikasa 18U Player of the Year".



Mikasa Achievement Awards

18U Male Athlete of the Year


Brett Walsh – Canuck Stuff

Brett Walsh has played volleyball for Canuck Stuff for the past seven years and has been recognized as an All-Star for practically every season. His success as an athlete is well captured by the “Love of the Game” award he received this past season with Canuck. Dedicated and hard-working, Brett has made an impression on many coaches and teammates as an outstanding athlete and leader.

There is no question that Brett is an exceptional competitor. During his 15U and 16U years, Brett played in his own age group as well as on the 18U Canuck team. At 16U, Brett was awarded the “Mikasa 16U Athlete of the Year” and more recently received the Don Saxton Scholarship for academics, athletics, and service to volleyball. He was selected for the Provincial Team program in 2011 and 2012 and was named a tournament all-star last summer after leading the team to a silver medal at the National Team Challenge Cup. This past season, Brett led his Canuck team to an AVA Provincial Championship and bronze medal at the Canadian Open in Toronto, where he was again named to the all-star team.

More importantly, however, Brett’s commitment to the sport has allowed him to excel as an individual and an athlete. Brett’s coaches have described him as a tremendous leader, who goes out of his way to mentor younger athletes and foster positive relationships with his teammates. He is always willing to listen or lend a hand, and values each relationship he builds with players and coaches. Jon Goldie, head coach for Team Alberta said “Brett was, without a doubt, one of the hardest workers and best competitors throughout training and matches”. Brett is described as one of the athletes most willing to make changes and one of the best leaders, despite being younger than most of his teammates in club and Team Alberta.

Graduating this year from EP Scarlett High School, Brett has accepted a position on the University of Alberta Golden Bear’s roster next season. His passion for the game, his drive to improve and positive team attitude will undoubtedly lead him to a great deal of success as he moves to the next level of competition. It is these qualities that make Brett an outstanding choice for the 2012 “Mikasa 18U Athlete of the Year” award.



Hall of Fame Awards

Builder

Bob Gabruck

Robert Gabruck, better known as “Mr. G”, was a K-9 physical education teacher at Killam Public School. Bob coached a variety of school sports; volleyball, badminton, basketball, golf, and track & field. However, his involvement was never at the expense of his family and friends. In 1988, Bob founded the Killam Spartan Volleyball club. What started as an opportunity for his daughters and his friend's daughters to play organized volleyball evolved into a 25-year commitment to one of rural Alberta's greatest volleyball clubs. It was more than just a girl's volleyball team: Mr. G created a thriving volleyball community.

2012 marks the 25th anniversary of the Killam Spartan Volleyball Club. The program started at the request of some local parents to support the growing interest in volleyball. Over the years the program and reputation grew dramatically, expanding to add a Bantam age division in 1994. Originally recruiting from Killam and surrounding areas, the Spartans soon attracted athletes from Camrose, Bawlf, Viking and Coronation. Today there are more than 200 athletes that have worn the Spartans jersey with pride.

After establishing a solid volleyball community, the Spartans have had several athletes continue on to pursue a higher caliber of volleyball. Many athletes have gone on to compete at 18U club, post-secondary in Canada and the United States, and numerous former athletes follow Mr.G's brilliant example in the pursuit of coaching.

The Spartans have had a rich history of success. On a Provincial scale the Spartans have medaled 16 times.

Provincial Gold Medals: 7 (Midget: 1994, 2006, 2007; Bantam: 1995, 1997, 2002, 2004)

Provincial Silver Medals: 6 (Midget: 1999, 2000; Bantam: 1996, 1999, 2000, 2003)

Provincial Bronze Medals: 3 (Midget: 1997, 2011; Bantam: 1994)

On the National Scene, Spartans have medaled 4 times.

National Gold Medals: 2 (2004 and 2010 Division 2)

National Silver Medals: 2 (2007 Division 4 and 2011 Division 3)

The Spartan program was built with hard work, discipline and dedication – qualities that defined Mr. G. Leading by example, Bob held high expectations for his athletes, but was always willing to do everything in his power to support their growth and development. This is exemplified by his continued dedication as a coach, manager, team therapist, administrator, mentor, or any other task that ever needed attention.

Bob would often have to recruit, train and mentor coaches when the Spartans ran multiple teams. He was very supportive and would often take care of all the administrative duties so coaches could focus on their athletes. Bob fostered great

relationships and encouraged each coach to pursue excellence while being great leaders and role models.

Every girl who played in the Spartan club received an elite experience. Bob demanded commitment, but always made a point of scheduling club activities so his athletes could play other sports. He spent countless hours coordinating the best opportunities for his athletes, everything from tournaments throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan to volleyball camps and clinics.

Bob was a committed, life long learner, which is certainly a quality of all successful coaches. Along with the founding of the Spartan Volleyball club, Bob also ran the Killam Volleyball camp. The camp was known for recruiting post-secondary coaches and athletes to share their knowledge and experience with local athletes. Without Bob's persistent and endless involvement, a rural community would never have gained such excellent exposure to elite volleyball.

On May 10, 2012, Bob Gabruck lost his battle with cancer at the age of 55. He will be lovingly missed by wife Liz; and children Cayla, Devon and Brandon. His legacy will not be forgotten and it will carry on with the continued success of the Killam Volleyball Club.



Hall of Fame Awards

Coach

David Johnson

Dave Johnson's love of volleyball was fostered at a young age when he watched the Sexsmith High School Boys Volleyball team compete in his grade 4 year. Since that time, his passion and commitment for volleyball has continued to grow, and the number of accomplishments he has achieved during his career reflects these characteristics as well as his vast knowledge of the game.

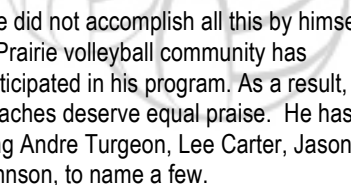
Dave started playing volleyball in Jr. High and continued on to play at Briercrest Bible College, Grande Prairie Regional College and Trinity Western University. While at Briercrest, he also managed to coach the Women's team. Following graduation, Dave coached at the Jr. High level for one year, before assistant coaching at Grande Prairie Regional College. Dave was also involved with the first ever Wolves Club team in 1984, and stayed with the program until 2000. However, Dave truly found his coaching home with the Grande Prairie Composite High School. For the past 29 consecutive years, Dave has coached the Grand Prairie Composite Tomahawks, including 3 of those years where he coached both the girls' and boys' teams in the same season. Dave's primary focus however, has been building the Comp Tomahawks program to be one of the most competitive and successful programs in North America.

In 1992, Sports Illustrated magazine named the Composite Tomahawks as the top High School program in North America, as a result of defeating a group of USA Jr. National players at the Sandcastle International Tournament two years in a row. No less impressive, was winning 13 consecutive tournaments over a 2 year period, capping each year off with a 4A Provincial Gold medal. From 2001 to 2004, Dave's team won three consecutive 4A Provincial Gold medals. Overall, Dave has won eight 4A championships, four Provincial Club championships, one National Bronze medal and one National Silver medal.

The American Volleyball Coaches Association has also recognized Dave's accomplishments with a number of awards. Most recently, in San Antonio, Texas, Dave received an award for winning 1200 matches within a single program. This achievement places him as the number one High School men's program coach in North America.

Not surprisingly, Dave has never been one to back away from a challenge and has always looked to have his teams compete against the best competition in Canada. It has not been uncommon for him to travel thousands of miles in order to play teams that challenge his program to be the best.


Dave has also been active in officiating, receiving his National badge in 1987. He served as the Zone 8 Officials Chairman from 1987 to 2005.



However, Dave graciously acknowledges that he did not accomplish all this by himself. He is always quick to point out that the Grande Prairie volleyball community has contributed to training the athletes that have participated in his program. As a result, his program has benefited greatly. His assistant coaches deserve equal praise. He has coached with many talented individuals, including Andre Turgeon, Lee Carter, Jason Weaver, Mat Snider, Andy Beal, and Brooks Johnson, to name a few.

Dave had a way of getting the most out of the group of kids that he coached every single year. It's not surprising that over the past few decades, the Tomahawks were a team that others feared to have in their pools or meet in playoffs. There have been some talented players in those years, but the Comp was always an amazing 'team'. This was directly due to Dave's leadership, the tone he set in practice and the culture he built.

It is rare to have a coach that you keep in touch with into your adult years, becoming a friend and mentor well past high school graduation. Dave is someone you have in your corner throughout life.



Hall of Fame Awards

Official

Harold Mori

Harold Mori began officiating at the provincial level in 1972. Since that time he has officiated all over the world and worked continuously to educate, mentor and guide his fellow officials in the volleyball community.

In 1982, Harold received his National rating for officiating and helped start the Master Volleyball Officials camp in Jasper. At this time, he was also travelling with the University of Calgary Dino's as an official during their tour of Japan. In 1983, Harold attended the International Referees' Clinic as an observer for the F.I.S.U. Games before travelling across Canada to train 80 minor officials. In 1984, Harold was named the Canadian Volleyball Association Regional Promotions Chairman and held this position for two consecutive years. Harold travelled as the official for Team Alberta's Senior Women's All Star Team in 1985, and participated in the Heilongjiang Provincial Exchange in China.

Harold's involvement as an official, from 1981-2010, encompassed numerous accomplishments. Not only did he hold the Regional Officials Chairman position for six years, he was also a level 3 Theory Course Conductor for the National Coaching Certification Program. Harold was also able to attend several important games & championships as an official. Over the years, Harold attended four Arctic Winter Games as the head volleyball official. He officiated at two Canadian College Athletic Association championships as a head official and one National Junior Championships.

On the National and International levels, Harold officiated in 12 National Championships that included three gold medal matches, two of which he was the 1st referee. In addition to National Championships, Harold officiated three International matches with the Men's National Team.

Harold has cumulated over 25 years of commitment to the Alberta Schools Athletic Association (ASAA) Provincial Volleyball Championships as a coach or an official. Throughout this period he spent 14 summers at the Jasper Volleyball Camp as a head coach or clinician and 17 years implementing summer player camps. Over his career, Harold received both the J. Percy Page Scholarship and the Alberta Centennial Medal.



Hall of Fame Awards

Athlete

Christy Hansen (nee: Torgerson)


Since the beginning of her volleyball career in 1989, Christy Hansen has been an exceptionally driven and talented athlete. More importantly, Christy has been recognized by many as the ultimate teammate and an inspirational leader for the sport of volleyball.

Christy's career began at Sir Winston Churchill High School in Calgary, AB, where she played for the Junior and Senior volleyball teams. Quickly realizing her love of the sport, Christy also joined the Dinnie Volleyball Club and played through her Midget, Juvenile and Junior years. Not surprisingly, Christy's talent and athleticism were recognized immediately and earning her a position on the Team Alberta Midget Provincial Team for the summer of 1990. Christy continued with Team Alberta through to 1993, when she was an integral part of securing a silver medal at the Canada Games. The University of Calgary recruited Christy in 1992/93, where she began her illustrious post-secondary career.

Christy continued to excel in 1993 and was selected to Team Canada spending three seasons with the Senior National Team. She returned to the CIS for the 1995/1996 season, where Christy joined the University of Alberta Pandas. She remained with the Pandas for two seasons, before heading to Spain to play professionally for the Hotel Cantur in 1997/1998. Fortunately for the Pandas, Christy returned to play two more seasons as the starting setter, and was able to win a National Championship during her time at the University of Alberta.

As a reward for all of her hard work, Christy was named a 2nd team CIAU All Canadian and recognized as a CIAU Tournament All Star in 1998/1999. The next season, Christy was named a 1st team CIAU All Canadian and the CIAU Tournament MVP.

Christy was known for much more than her talent. In her first two years with the Pandas, Christy was the ultimate team player, accepting a supporting role where she found every opportunity to push her team to excel. In her starting role, Christy helped lead the team to two Championships by continuously exhibiting hard work, perseverance and a fierce competitive spirit. She was an excellent role model who proved her determination and commitment on many occasions; once even playing an entire match through a dislocated shoulder. Her experiences with different teams and players across Canada and across the world developed an unmatched intensity on the volleyball court, and this intensity drove Christy to become a true leader. Christy motivated her teammates with her inspirational words, dedication, and relentless pursuit of excellence.





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