



Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame

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Located in the Bill Copeland Sports Centre, 3676 Kensington Avenue, Burnaby

Lacrosse sniper Heard heads Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame 2014 inductees

Burnaby lacrosse icon Russ Heard will be inducted into the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame in February along with six other individuals and a pioneering lacrosse team.

The lanky Heard was a scoring machine for the Burnaby Lakers. He was the Western Lacrosse Association scoring champion in 1992, 1997 and 1999 and a first-team league all-star five times. Heard racked up 1,201 points, including 447 goals, in the 399 games he played which is ninth all-time in the WLA. Heard also played in the National Lacrosse League for the now defunct Charlotte Cobras for one season and the Toronto Rock for three.

Heard's No. 9 was the first jersey retired by the Lakers in 2013. He coached the senior Lakers for seven seasons making the playoffs each time.

He'll be joined for induction in the athlete category by Brian Cowie (paracycling, triathlon) and Anna Schnell (rugby). Builders to be inducted are Roy Nosella (soccer) and Dan Taylor (baseball) while Kyna Fletcher (gymnastics) and Mimmo Morello (soccer, wrestling) will be going in as coaches. The pioneering 1934 Burnaby Cougars provincial champion women's lacrosse squad will be inducted into the team category.

The hall's induction banquet will take place at the Firefighters Banquet Hall at Metrotown on Thursday, Feb. 26, 2015.

ATHLETE

Brian Cowie

Cowie is a visually impaired athlete who has participated in nine para-cycling world championships as a road and track cyclist. He's won 14 national championships and snagged a silver medal in the 1998 world championships in the individual time trial. Cowie was ranked No. 1 in the world on the track in 2009 and won a bronze at the world championships that year. In addition to cycling, Cowie has competed in 15 Ironman triathlons, including three world championships. And he's done more than 100 short course Olympic distance triathlons, winning silver at two ITU championships.

Anna Schnell

Schnell was an elite player on an elite Burnaby Lake Rugby Club squad. In her six seasons (2004-2010), Schnell was a dominating force as Burnaby Lake won three provincial championships. She also led B.C. to its first Canadian championship in eight years in 2005. Schnell has played more than 30 times for Canada including the 2006 and 2010 World Cups. In fact, she was the second highest scorer in the 2010 tournament in England with 46 points losing out on the scoring title by only two points.

BUILDER

Roy Nosella

After a highly successful playing careers on the soccer pitch and baseball diamond, Nosella turned his attention to giving back to sport. The long-time Burnaby school counsellor was a BC Soccer director and vice-chair for seven years, and a director of the Vancouver Metro Soccer League for seven years. He refereed in the Metro Women's Soccer League where he developed and implemented a mentorship program. His efforts were recognized when he received the A.C. Sanford Award for more than 20 years of exceptional service to B.C. soccer. In addition, Nosella served on the Vancouver Athletic Commission for 43 years including a stint as its chair.

Dan Taylor

Taylor has been commissioner of the Lower Mainland Baseball Association ever since the adult recreational baseball league was formed in 1994. Under his leadership, the LMBA has evolved into the largest adult baseball league in Canada with 32 teams in 14 municipalities. Today the league has players ranging in age from 19 to over 70. Taylor managed the B.C. Capitals, which won the Canadian 50-plus title at the Canadian National Oldtimers Baseball Federation championships in 2008 and 2010. He was the tournament chair of the 2010 championship held in Burnaby and New Westminster which attracted 24 teams from across Canada.

COACH

Kyna Fletcher

Fletcher began coaching gymnastics 30 years ago. Her passion for the sport resulted in her being named the national stream coach of the year in 2006, which goes to the coach who has had the most success with its national level gymnasts. Fletcher received Gymnastics BC's Member of Distinction award in 2010 and the organization also presented her with a life member award in 2013. She was also the team director for Canada's gymnastic team that finished fifth at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

Emilio (Mimmo) Marrello

Marrello's boys soccer squads won six provincial titles and went to the national championships four times winning twice. His 2006 Burnaby Royals were inducted into the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame in 2009. He was named B.C. youth coach of the year in 2002. Several of Marrello's charges have made national youth teams with five of them going on to play professional soccer. His Burnaby Girls Titans squad which he coached for three years also won two provincial titles and went to two national finals where they took the silver medal. Marrello's coaching exploits aren't limited to the soccer pitch but the wrestling mat as well coaching many provincial and national champions including Tom Petryshen, who wrestled in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, and John Tenta, a world junior champion in 1985.

TEAM

1934 Burnaby Cougars

The Burnaby Cougars women's field lacrosse team was formed in 1930 despite the disapproval and disdain of many in the community including the Burnaby South principal who banned the school's students from playing on the team. The Cougars went on to defeat the Richmond Milkmaids 4-1 in the 1934 provincial championship game at the old Cambie Street grounds.

Tickets: Available in January by emailing tickets09@shaw.ca or by phone at 604-436-1672.

Contact: Grant Granger, chair 604-803-9571

www.burnabysportshalloffame.ca.