



# Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame

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## **Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame to induct three athletes, two builders, two coaches and team**

A world champion curler, an NHL enforcer, and a track and field Olympian will be inducted into the athletes category by the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame. The hall will induct the trio along with two builders, two coaches and one team at its 17th annual induction banquet to be held at the Burnaby Metrotown Firefighters Hall on Thursday, Feb. 22, 2018.

### **ATHLETE**

#### **Ruky Abdulai**

Ruky Abdulai grew up in Ghana but wanted to live in Canada. The teenager had become a track star but wanted to live somewhere peaceful. She had offers from big schools in the United States, but when she got an email from SFU coach Brit Townsend she was determined to go to Simon Fraser University, become a Canadian citizen and compete for her new homeland at the Olympics. She accomplished all three, setting 17 NAIA records, getting her citizenship and competing in the heptathlon at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

#### **Bryan Miki**

Bryan Miki grew up in Burnaby schooled in the art of curling by his father Fuji. Bryan played second for skip Greg McAulay when they reached the 1998 Brier Canadian men's curling championship in Winnipeg. They finished tied for fourth with a 7-4 round-robin record before losing a tiebreaker to Saskatchewan. Two years later, however, they returned to the Brier in Saskatoon. This time they finished first in the round robin (9-2) and defeated legendary skip Russ Howard of New Brunswick in the final 9-5, with Miki curling 98 per cent. A few weeks later in Glasgow, Scotland, they again won the round robin (8-1) and downed Sweden's Peja Lindholm 9-4 in the final to become world champion.

## **Wayne Van Dorp**

A Burnaby boy who joined the Burnaby Minor Hockey Association at a young age, Wayne Van Dorp went on to an extensive professional career that included 125 regular season and 27 playoff games with four NHL teams. Van Dorp was rarely selected to play rep hockey, but his six-foot-four, 225-pound frame was enticing to junior scouts. Eventually he made the jump from Midget B to the B.C. Junior A Hockey League's Bellingham Blazers to the Seattle Breakers of the Western Hockey League. After a stint in Europe and the minor leagues, he was signed by the Buffalo Sabres, who traded him to the Edmonton Oilers in March 1987 after he racked up 192 penalty minutes in 47 games playing for Buffalo's farm team, the Rochester Americans. Those Oilers, of course, went on to win their third Stanley Cup giving Van Dorp a coveted ring. The enforcer scored 12 goals and 12 assists from his left wing position in his 125 NHL games to go along with his 565 penalty minutes.

## **BUILDER**

### **Val Roche**

The Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame inductee was considered the father of lacrosse in North Burnaby finding sponsors, coaches and managers after the Second World War and into the 1960s. But Val Roche's contributions weren't limited to that sport. He is also a life member of the B.C. junior and juvenile soccer association, and was instrumental in founding the Silver, Bronze and Emerald Glove junior boxing tournaments.

### **John Stockdale**

Another North Burnaby boy, John Stockdale grew up playing soccer and swimming but made his mark as an athlete playing for SFU's water polo club team. In addition to becoming one of the sport's best coaches with 11 national titles, he became BC Water Polo's executive director in 1986-87, co-authored technical manuals, was a course conductor and coordinator, and developed a high performance camp for women athletes in 2010 that he still runs with more than 40 athletes getting NCAA scholarships.

## **COACH**

### **Shelley Howieson**

When Simon Fraser University decided to form a women's soccer program in 1988 the school pegged Shelley Howieson as its head coach. She didn't leave until 2013 after creating a collegiate powerhouse. Her Clan soccer squads won NAIA national titles in 1996 and 2000, had three consecutive trips to the national finals (1996-98) and went to the NAIA championship tournaments 10 times in a 13-year span (1997-2010). Howieson was named NAIA coach of the year twice, as well as coach of the year by Sport BC and BC Soccer. In 2010, she was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame.

## **Adrian Lavigne**

When not wielding a wrench at Lavigne's Engine Rebuilders on Kingsway, the late Adrian Lavigne was the brains behind a women's softball powerhouse known at various times as Green & Louie, Doc's Blues and Alpha Sports. They won a staggering 19 provincial and 11 national titles. It was also a top team in the Northwest League which included teams from the United States Pacific Northwest. It played in many international tournaments and represented Canada at two world championships finishing seventh in 1974 in Stanford, Conn., and second at El Salvador in 1978.

## **TEAM**

### **1987 Cliff Avenue United F.C. under-16**

This squad of North Burnaby boys coached by Scott Ormiston overcame a 1-0 halftime deficit to win the Canadian U16 championship when Maurizio Catania scored a minute into the second overtime period to defeat a team from Scarborough, Ont., 2-1 in St. John's, Nfld.

*For contact information on any of the inductees: Grant Granger, past chair, rgranger@shaw.ca; 604-803-0571.*

*Tickets will be available in January. Email: tickets09@shaw.ca. Phone: 604-436-1672.*