



# Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame

*Mailing address*

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

## **Three soccer icons, two from softball to be inducted into Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame**

Nine individuals will be inducted into the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame in February including three from the sport of soccer (although one also has a strong tie to golf), two from softball and one each from taekwondo, hockey, lacrosse and track and field. The induction banquet will be held at the Firefighters Banquet Hall at Metrotown on Thursday, Feb. 23, 2017.

### **ATHLETES**

#### **Bruce Gant (soccer)**

After an extremely successful stint with the Simon Fraser University men's soccer squad (1978 first team NAIA all-American), Bruce Gant spent five seasons in the old North American Soccer League. The Portland Timbers selected Gant, who grew up in Burnaby and continues to make it his home in the city, in the first round of the 1979 NASL draft. He stayed with the Timbers for four seasons until 1982 when it folded. He played one game for the Montreal Manic in 1983.

#### **Patti McGuire (softball)**

Patti McGuire swung a hot bat while playing the hot corner. While living in Burnaby, the Softball BC Hall of Fame member was on a team that won five Canadian championships. Prior to that she was on the Canadian team that won a silver medal at the 1978 world tournament in El Salvador as well as the one that came eighth in the 1974 Worlds in Stratford, Conn. Overall the teams she played on captured 11 Canadian titles and she was a national all-star five times. McGuire had a career batting average of .325 in league play while being a defensive stalwart at third base.

#### **Joseph Scigliano (soccer)**

Joseph Scigliano started playing soccer with Cliff Avenue United when he was four years old. By the time he hit his late teens he spent two months trying out for the Stoke City Soccer Club of the English First Division's reserve team. Scigliano went on to play for Canada's under-20 team when it won the CONCACAF zone championship in 1996, but a torn ACL in his knee prevented the forward from playing in the world U20 tourney. He also played for the Vancouver 86ers in 1995.

#### **Dan Stroup (lacrosse)**

A Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame inductee, Dan Stroup, played 13 NLL seasons winning three Champions Cup titles (1999, 2000 and 2002) with the Toronto Rock and a fourth with the Colorado Mammoth (2006). He played for the WLA's Coquitlam Adanacs in three Mann Cup finals winning in 2001. Stroup sniped 320 goals and racked up 556 points in 224 WLA games. Stroup played all of his minor and junior lacrosse in Burnaby and also played seven seasons for the Burnaby Sr. Lakers.

## **BUILDERS**

### **Song Chul Kim (taekwondo)**

Everybody that's somebody in the taekwondo community around the world knows Song Chul Kim. He has officiated competitions in every corner of the globe including the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London and the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro. Kim is also vice chair of the World Taekwondo Federation's referee committee and was a big influence in helping Burnaby secure the recently held 2016 world junior championships.

### **Duff Slavin (softball)**

Duff Slavin, who moved to Burnaby with his wife Linda in 1968 and passed away in 1992, was instrumental in building softball on a local, provincial and national level. The Softball BC Hall of Fame member was an administrator with Softball Canada from 1978 and 1987 overseeing numerous national championships across the country. He was on Softball BC's board of directors from 1970 to 1983 and was one of the first organizers of coaching clinics across British Columbia. Slavin was part of the group that transformed Vancouver's South Memorial Park into one of the sport's best facilities in Canada.

### **George Wong (hockey)**

George Wong was a big contributor in the early years of the Burnaby Minor Hockey Association first becoming involved in 1965. He went on to become president of the organization in 1971 and was named an honorary life member of the BMHA for his 30 years of volunteer work as a coach, manager and executive member. In 1984, Wong became president of the B.C. Amateur Hockey Association and also served with the Pacific Coast Amateur Hockey Association. He passed away in 2008 at the age of 80.

## **BUILDER/COACH**

### **John Buchanan (soccer, golf)**

John Buchanan arrived at Simon Fraser University on Burnaby Mountain in 1966 and hasn't left. Along with being the facilities manager 50 years ago, Buchanan also founded the schools soccer program which gained varsity status in 1975. Under his leadership, SFU won seven consecutive regional NAIA championships, a national championship and the overall NAIA/NCAA championship in 1976. He was an assistant coach for the Vancouver Whitecaps in 1974 and '75, and was an assistant for Canada at the 1976 Montreal Olympics. Buchanan also started the school's golf program taking it to 11 West Coast Regionals. The team came in second in the 1999 NAIA Nationals and fourth in the 2015 NCAA Div. II championship. He has been inducted as a charter member of the SFU Athletic Hall of Fame and the Canadian Soccer Hall of Fame.

## **COACH**

### **Derek Evely (track and field)**

After a successful athletic career of his own in which he finished sixth in the decathlon at the 1983 world junior championships, the Burnaby Central grad turned to coaching. He started by helping legendary Central coach Ken Taylor before moving on to many national appointments from 1997 to 2008 and overseeing a United Kingdom national performance centre (2009-2012). His athletes have set 13 national records. Eight have earned 33 national team positions and 10 won 71 national medals including seven who captured 39 titles. Four of his athletes – Sultana Frizell, Sophie Hitchen (U.K.), Dylan Armstrong and Shane Niemi – have won 13 international medals.

**Contact:** Grant Granger, chair Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame, 604-803-9571

**Tickets:** Available by emailing tickets09@shaw.ca. They will also be available for purchase by contacting Rosemary Magus at 604-436-1672.