



**2016  
Manitoba  
Rugby  
Hall of  
Fame**

**Induction  
Dinner**



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Hall of Fame  
Induction Dinner!

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**Manitoba Rugby**





# Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame



To: **Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame 2016 Inductees**

From: **Jim Russell**  
**Chairman; Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee**

On behalf of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee, congratulations to all 2016 inductees and your entry, following tonight's ceremony, as Honoured Members of the hall.

2016 marks the 7<sup>th</sup> year since the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame was founded to honour those individuals and groups that have made a significant and valuable contribution to our sport. That contribution continues to add to the long and proud history of Rugby in Manitoba that dates back to the late 1870's.

Induction as an Honoured Member is no easy matter. Nominations received from the rugby community are reviewed, researched and screened by an Induction Sub-Committee, their selected recommendations for induction ratified by the Board of Directors of Rugby Manitoba, and then approved by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee.

As inducted Honoured Members you have been distinguished by your peers for outstanding achievement that serves to inspire all involved in our sport. To you go our sincerest thanks and appreciation for your selfless dedication and historic contribution to the game and sport of Rugby in the province of Manitoba.

Yours truly;

Jim Russell,  
Chairman  
Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee

## 2016

# Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame

## Honourable Members

### PIONEER

- Ian Williams 2010
- Albert Shepherdson 2010
- Jim Platt 2011
- Robert Pringle 2014
- John Whyte 2015

### BUILDER

- Dwight Evans 2010
- MGRP Founders Committee 2010
- John Reilly 2010
- Gilles Roy 2010
- Bob Elder 2011
- Art Logan 2011
- Gary MacDonald 2011
- Ken Pearn 2011
- Glenys MacKenzie 2012
- Don Pincock 2012
- Peter Press 2013
- Jim Feasby 2014
- Rick Romsa 2015

### OFFICIAL

- Ken Adams 2010
- Dave Barnes 2011
- Mike Brown 2012
- Gary Nicholson 2012
- Ray Skett 2012
- Wilf Erichsen 2013
- T. Colin Gibbs 2013
- Guy McKim 2014
- Paul Harland 2015

### PLAYER / TEAM

- Larry DeBooy 2010
- Corinne Enns 2010
- Winnipeg Rugby Football Club  
(Winnipeg Blue Bombers) 2010
- Val Gompf 2011
- Neville Rhoda 2011
- SNAFU Rugby Tournament 2011
- 1994 Manitoba U17  
Boys Provincial Team 2012
- Riley Barkman 2013
- Saracens RFC Men's  
Premiership Championship  
Team 1979-86 2013
- Brain Erichsen 2014
- Brent Tomchuk 2014
- 1996 Manitoba U19  
Jr Women's Provincial Team,  
National Champions 2014
- Brenda Treleaven 2015
- 1997 Manitoba Sr. Men's  
Tier II National  
Championship Team 2015

# Introduction

## 2016 Inductees

### Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame

Friday, October 14, 2016

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame celebrates the history of the sport of Rugby in Manitoba, recognizing those that have significantly contributed to the game and its development.

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Induction Sub Committee – Rugby Community representatives Ray Hoemsen (Chair), Val Gompf, Wilf Erichsen, Gary Nicholson, Larry Cherrett, and Community/Media Representative Ashley Prest of the Winnipeg Free Press, recommended 7 Inductees that were ratified by Rugby Manitoba and approved by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee for 2016.

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame 2016 Inductees are truly worthy representatives as Honoured Members of the Hall and we are proud to be recognizing their accomplishments and contributions to the game of Rugby in Manitoba.

#### PIONEER

- **John Walton**  
- Wanderers Rugby Football Club

#### PLAYER/TEAM

- **Jeff Harrison**  
- Saracens Rugby Football Club
- **Angela Ploegman**  
- Wanderers Rugby Football Club
- **1972 – 1975 Saracens Rugby Football Club  
1st Division Men's Team**

#### BUILDER

- **Rob St. Germain**  
- Winnipeg Wasps Rugby Football Club
- **Wasp Women's Athletic Association**
- **St. Paul's High School Rugby Program**



# Hall of Fame

From the Desk of Tim Powers  
Chairman  
Rugby Canada



September 1, 2016

Dear Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame inductees,

Your province has always held a special place in my heart for rugby. The first ever national championship I played in was in Winnipeg in 1986. Two years later I came back to the Manitoba capital to play with Canada's Under 21 team. So it is a great personal pleasure to offer congratulations from Rugby Canada to everyone who is entering the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

What a tremendous year it has been for our sport! The highlight being our incredible Canadian women capturing the first ever Olympic bronze medal awarded for female rugby. Our team was the only one from the Americas to win a medal in either the women's or men's competition. Not unlike your recipients this incredible group has taken it upon themselves to grow our sport and inspire the next generation of players.

There perhaps is no greater honor in any field of endeavor than to be admitted to a Hall of Fame. An admission signifies a historic contribution that has had a meaningful impact on others. Please take a moment to recognize you made a difference and left a legacy. Thank you!

John Walton, Angela Ploegman, Jeff Harrison, the Saracens RFC Men's Premiership Championship Team 1972-1975, Robert St. Germain, Wasp Women's Athletic Association and St. Paul's High School Rugby Program we salute you all! By all reports your induction into the hall of fame is most certainly deserved.

Finally, to our rugby family in Manitoba - thank you for all you do. Our national community is strengthened by your contribution to the game.

Have a wonderful evening!

Yours truly,

Tim Powers  
Chairman, Rugby Canada

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Langford, BC CANADA V9B 4B4  
Tel / Tél: 250 418 8998  
Fax / Téléc: 250 386 3810

Canada



# Manitoba Rugby





### **Mayor's Message**

It is my pleasure to welcome everyone attending the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Inductee Dinner.

Rugby teaches teamwork and leadership, and is a sport that requires speed, agility, and endurance. I would like to offer congratulations to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame inductees this year – it takes dedication to reach the level of success you have accomplished, and I hope you will continue to strive to achieve and mentor others in the sport.

If you are visiting, I encourage you to enjoy our lively city in the centre of Canada and experience our warm hospitality. Our city is brimming with culture, arts, sports, and entertainment. Explore our vivacious communities, including Osborne Village (voted one of the best neighbourhoods in Canada), and make sure to visit our first-rate restaurants, retailers, and attractions, including the Journey to Churchill exhibit at the Assiniboine Park Zoo and the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg and my City Council colleagues, I hope you enjoy a memorable event and best wishes for success in the future.

Warmly,

Mayor Brian Bowman,  
City of Winnipeg



## A Message from the Minister

I am pleased to welcome the athletes, coaches, volunteers, staff and friends of Rugby Manitoba as you come together to honour this year's inductees into your prestigious hall of fame.

This year's nominees have distinguished themselves through their dedication to rugby, earning them the respect and admiration of their peers. This accomplished group of athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers are a credit to rugby and inspiring role models for anyone who strives for sports excellence.

Their contributions to amateur sport in our province are admired and appreciated, not only in the rugby world, but also in the larger sporting community that adds so much to the well-being of Manitobans of all ages today, and for years to come.

Congratulations to this year's honoured guests for their outstanding roles in the development of rugby throughout our province. May the pride you feel this evening continue to inspire you to new heights of achievement.

Honourable Rochelle Squires, Minister  
Manitoba Sport, Culture and Heritage





October 14, 2016



On behalf of the volunteers and staff of the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame & Museum, congratulations to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame on the occasion of their 7<sup>th</sup> Induction Ceremonies to be held this evening. The celebration and preservation of sport heritage in our province is always something we wholeheartedly support.

As the rugby community celebrates some of its finest tonight in John Walton, Angela Ploughman, Jeff Harrison, and Robert St. Germain individually and the Saracens, Wasps Women's and St. Paul's teams, you will be pleased to know that the late John Reilly is to be the inaugural rugby inductee to the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame this November 7, 2016 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg.

The world enjoyed more history at the Rio Olympics this past summer with the introduction of Rugby Sevens and we wish you the best of luck in the continued writing of your sports history here in Manitoba.

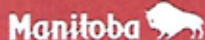
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Kraemer".

James Kraemer  
President, Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors



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# Hall of Fame

On behalf of Sport Manitoba, congratulations to all the inductees at the Seventh Annual Induction Dinner for the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

Manitoba's sport community is proud of its rugby history and those who have distinguished themselves as players, coaches, umpires, and volunteers. Being inducted into the Hall of Fame represents excellence in the sport of rugby along with hard work, dedication, and motivation.

It is my pleasure to acknowledge all the athletes, teams, and builders worthy of induction into the Rugby Hall of Fame. Their accomplishments will be persevered as part of Manitoba's great sport heritage and will inspire those to come.

Sincerely,



Laurel Read  
Interim CEO



## Maple Grove Rugby Park



September 2016

On behalf of Maple Grove Rugby Park I would like to extend my congratulations to the 2015 inductees to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

Rugby within Manitoba has a long and storied history and the Rugby Hall of Fame has been a welcome addition. Often in our great sport we encounter players who are too humble about their contributions to our game. Their selflessness is a sign of personal character and what ultimately defines much of the identity our sport. Almost without fail from the best player to least experienced player we all give credit to our teammates and do not seek personal accolades. That is why the Rugby Hall of Fame is so important.

This night is when we can honor those individuals who have personally affected our game for the better. This is a night when we confront their modesty and do not allow them to be humble and we thank them for their individual contribution. This is a night when teammates can say you elevated my game with your skill and dedication and I thank you for it. This is a night where our gift to you is to make you remember and take pride in your individual achievements. Rugby will always be a team sport but it is always good to remind ourselves that there are people whose contribution to our game is exceptional and needs to be celebrated.

Enjoy your one night of boasting, because the next day I will remind you of that penalty you took with no time left, or that penalty you didn't call, or the hoop socks your team wore in the 80's.

Cheers

Dan Parkes

President Maple Grove Rugby Park

# MGRP



# Hall of Fame



August 30th, 2016

Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Inductees

On behalf of Rugby Manitoba, I would like to congratulate you on being inducted into the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

Rugby is a very special sport that, in my opinion, does not get the recognition it deserves. However, when we recognize our own, they take a very special place in our local history.

Regardless of category, our sport would be poorer without your efforts and commitment.

Once again congratulations on your nomination and induction.

Regards  
Sandy Donald  
President, Rugby Manitoba



# John Walton - Pioneer

**John Walton** started playing rugby in grammar school in England in 1950 at the age of 13. He continued to play school rugby, culminating his school career as captain for which he was awarded a tankard in 1954, and followed up with one more year as part of the school old boys' team in senior rugby.

In 1956, at the age of 19, John first came to Canada to train as an Royal Air Force (RAF) pilot returning home in 1958. At the conclusion of his RAF service, John returned to Canada in 1959 locating in Winnipeg, where he married in 1960 and began to raise two sons with his wife Joan.

It was during the mid sixties that John was to revive his passion for rugby. Along with Derry Newton, John was to begin playing rugby again and together they were instrumental in reviving the local Winnipeg Wanderers Rugby Football Club. The club at that time practice on Churchill Drive and travelled throughout the province of Saskatchewan and the northern United States to play the game they loved. It was the revival of the Wanderers RFC that was to serve as the catalyst for club rugby in Winnipeg as shortly thereafter the Winnipeg Wasps Rugby Football Club was formed, followed by the Assassins and Saracens Rugby Football Clubs.



## 2016 Inductee

John continued to play rugby in Manitoba for many years, was President of the Manitoba Rugby Union in its early days during the later sixties, and was a stalwart contributor to both his club and the sport. Following his retirement as a player, John took up the art of refereeing which continued at the club and high school levels following his move to Vancouver for work in 1983 and again following his retirement from work and return to Winnipeg in 1993.

John's contributions as a Pioneer to the development of rugby in Manitoba are indeed worthy of distinction and induction to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.



## Hall of Fame



*Sincere congratulations to all  
of our Rugby Manitoba Inductees tonight.*

*A special thanks to **Jeff Harrison** and the **1972-75  
Saracen's Rugby Football Club** Division 1st Men's team  
on your many years of outstanding contributions  
to the Saracens Rugby Club.*

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**Manitoba Rugby**



# Jeff Harrison - Player

**Jeff Harrison** started his rugby career in grade 12 at St John's High School, and at the age of 17 played for the Manitoba Rugby Senior Men's team in 1976. He certainly would be one of the youngest players to be selected to play for the Manitoba Senior Men's team in the Western Canadian championships.

Better known as Beaver, Jeff continued playing senior men's club and provincial team rugby, building a career spanning some twenty years. Jeff had been an excellent hockey player and after finishing his commitment to Junior hockey devoted his time to the sport of rugby while studying to be a school teacher.

Jeff was part of the Saracen RFC team that toured New Zealand in 1980 during which he played in all six games at stand-off. Along the way he caught the attention of two clubs that attempted to persuade him to remain in New Zealand and play for their senior teams. Returning from New Zealand, Jeff was instrumental, that same year, in engineering Manitoba's upset defeat of Alberta in the Western Canadian Championships.

Jeff represented Manitoba provincial rugby in several sequential Western Canada Senior Men's Championships and on the strength of his ability and play was invited to Western Canadian All-Star camps in 1981, 1982 and 1983. During this era, however, it was a requirement of Rugby Canada that players east of the Rockies relocate and play in British Columbia if they were to have any aspirations of expanding and developing their careers with an ambition of playing for Canada. For Jeff this requirement was neither viable nor attractive as he was starting out on what would become a successful career in teaching and, like his commitment to Junior Hockey, he had developed an even stronger commitment to Manitoba and Saracens rugby.

This was all to Manitoba rugby's gain as Jeff continued playing for the province until 1993 and Premier 1st division club rugby until 1996. Jeff was the only Saracen to appear in all eleven of the Premier 1st Division Championship final victories the Saracens enjoyed between 1979 and 1992.



## 2016 Inductee

Jeff was a player of exceptional natural ability and this was certainly recognized by friend and foe alike. He was quick, agile, had excellent vision and possessed an extraordinary ability to beat a player one-on-one in a variety of ways. There was always a spontaneity about his game. Whether it was executing the perfect feigned kick, a dummy pass or just a lateral step at pace, he was able to leave his opponent clutching at thin air. There was an element of innovation about his game too and, for example, his basketball pass when the circumstances called for, came naturally to him, even though it did the so-called purist somewhat disturbed.

In summary, Jeff's spontaneity, innovations, quickness, pace and his deft eye for the 'opportunity' made him one of the best attacking players the Province of Manitoba has ever produced.



## Hall of Fame



[wanderersrugby.ca](http://wanderersrugby.ca)

The Wanderers RFC congratulates

**Angela Ploegman  
and John Walton**

on their induction into the  
Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

**Thank you** for your outstanding  
contribution to the Wanderers  
and Rugby in Manitoba over the  
years.

**Congratulations to all the  
2016 Inductees.**

*Congratulations* to the **STAND OUT 2016 Inductees**  
to the **Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame –**

Angela Ploegman, Jeff Harrison, Rob St. Germain, John Walton, St. Paul's  
High School Rugby Program, the Wasp Women's Athletic Association,  
and the 1972-75 Saracens Rugby Football Club 1st Division Men's Team



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**Manitoba Rugby**





# Angela Ploegman - Player

Currently residing south of the border in the state of Iowa and looking to start a youth rugby program in Scott County, **Angela Ploegman** enjoyed a relatively short but remarkable playing career during the 1990's. Her talents on the field were to garner her the respect of players and coaches alike, lead to national attention, and serve to inspire other young women in Manitoba to not only play the game, but to pursue it to the highest levels.

Angela played eight seasons (1990 – 1997) with the Wanderers Rugby Football Club serving throughout that period as the team's captain or co-captain and leading the team to 3 consecutive Women's Provincial Championships in 1995, 1996 and 1997. During this same eight year span, Angela played for the Manitoba Senior Women's Team and served as team captain from 1995 to 1997.

Her provincial team exploits were to garner Angela national attention when she was invited in 1995 to attend the Rugby Canada Under 25 National Women's Development Camp in Victoria, BC. Making the most of that opportunity, Angela was long listed for the Canadian Women's National Team in 1995, 1996 and again in 1997. In 1996 Angela was short listed for the Canada Cup in Edmonton, AB. where she earned her 1st Cap in a game played against France. This was to be followed in 1997 when Angela was again short listed for the Canada vs US Eagles exhibition game in Toronto, ON. and employed as a substitute against the US Eagles A team.



## 2016 Inductee

In addition to her accomplishments as a player, Angela served as Vice-President of the Women's Rugby Division in 1998 and added to that, time dedicated to the coaching ranks. In 1994 Angela, along with Krista Barkman and Shannon Ploegman, started the girl's rugby program at Mennonite Brethern Collegiate Institute (MBCI) where Angela remained to co-coach the team for three years. In 1997, St. Mary's Academy girls program was to see Angela as its new head coach and during the 1996 and 1997 seasons, Angela served to coach the Wanderers RFC Colts' team.

Angela was an impact player blessed with an impact personality. Few who crossed her path were spared her rugby laud, with many taking up the cause and strapping on the cleats to play the game we love.



## Hall of Fame

# 1972-1975 Saracens RFC Cast of Characters



Adams Ken  
 Balan Carl  
 Bester Wayne  
 Biernes Ray  
 Brolly Al  
 Bruce Doug  
 Cheang Kim  
 Corser Nigel  
 Davis Ed  
 Dean Geoff  
 \*\*Debooy Larry  
 Einarson Garry  
 \*\*Fauley Wayne  
 Filipchuk Doug  
 Furlan Dan  
 Furlan Lou  
 Giacomini Len  
 Gillespie Rob  
 Goss Howie  
 Hanzman Franz  
 Hearn Jack  
 Heffner Tom  
 Hepple Jeff  
 Jablonowski Zbig  
 \*\*Logan Art  
 MacDonald Gary  
 Madden Greg  
 Major John  
 McDonald Brian  
 McDougall George  
 Mulvey Bob  
 \*\*Newton Derry  
 Nitchuk Leroy  
 Nufer Gerry  
 O'Neil Jim  
 Olson Dave  
 \*\*Parisian Jim  
 Press Peter  
 Sammons Doug  
 Saydack Gord  
 Schaefer Ian  
 Shick Bill  
 Starr Ray  
 Stepnuk Brian  
 Taber John  
 Terleski Dennis  
 Thomas Dave  
 Tildsley Barry  
 Tildsley Chris  
 Turner Bob  
 Wentz Mark  
 Wieler Ed

\*\* Posthumous Honor

Written records are not available of the era. Apologies if anyone was missed.

# 1972-75 Saracens Rugby Football Club -Team

The foundation of this successful Saracens team was the four pillars or “founding fathers” of the Club, with a dedicated and colourful supporting cast. Enthusiastic imports and local Canadians combined to forge the Saracens early and consistent success. Imports included Peter Press, a coach whose eloquent demands and punishing practices developed stamina for the long run, and Ken Adams, whose combination of shifty speed and smart play bewildered opponents and taught the rookies. Home grown talents were Howie Goss, whose tenacity and heart anchored the pack, and Gerry Nufer, whose uncompromising competitive nature sparked the team.

Founded in 1968 and capturing senior men’s Premier provincial championships that year and in 69, plus 2nd Division championships in 69 & 70, by the early 1970’s the Saracens “train” was building steam for six Premier Provincial championships in its first eight years, four occurring consecutively from 1972 to 1975. In an era when few locally played the game, with no substitutions or injury replacements, commitment was high to not only field a team, but to win consistently. The Saracens club was adept at both attracting imports and developing local talent, converting football players to the sport. With strong 1st and 2nd Division teams, and at one point two 2nd Division teams, the Scimitars & the Sabres, the Saracens demonstrated great recruitment and talent, the depth of which was to show for many years to come.

Commitment described the Saracens and its 1972 to 1975 team. Commitment:

- to the exhausting Churchill Drive practices with backs carrying forwards up the hill on their shoulders, and Peter’s favourite finale, the “run to the pumphouse...and back!”;
- to each other, on and off the field, as a band of brothers;
- to the club, playing, touring and winning;
- to the game, a revelation to many, and;
- to the league, as evidenced in supporting events of other clubs, high school rugby, hosting touring sides and initiating SNAFU, a tournament tradition that continues to this day.

Club records from the time show commitment to events hosted by other clubs with Saracens urged to support them, and that support actively reciprocated by other clubs annually competing at SNAFU. As one of the top tournaments in North America, SNAFU regularly drew teams from Georgia, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Kansas City, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, BC, and farther afield from London and the Caribbean. Starting in 1971, and still going, SNAFU offered opportunities to compete and celebrate the game. Each local team hosted a visiting side that built league solidarity in a long weekend of competition and camaraderie, establishing longstanding inter-city connections that exist to this day.

Stamina was essential as both practices and games were contested at a high level. Inter-squad games were as tenacious as league games, followed by great camaraderie, a rugby tradition. In an era of no substitutions, one was expected to finish the game, and then drink a beer with your previous foe of a few moments ago, and now a very fine fellow. The league was smaller then, so chance meetings around town were cause for celebration with club members or opponents.

The team’s high level of play was recognized by the League, with Saracens regularly placing many players and coaches on provincial sides for Inter-Provincial competitions. Also of note were hard fought contests, with world class touring sides, Lliannelli in 1973 and Lansdowne in 1974. As the team to beat, the 1972 to 75 Saracens helped raise the level of competition to the point where other clubs captured Premier Provincial championships during the years of 1976 to 1978.



## 2016 Inductee

Farther afield, the Saracens and the 1972 to 75 team tested their stamina and metal by going on tour. Facing other teams, differing tactics and strategies helped build Saracen skills. The team toured actively, south, starting with frequent trips to Chicago, then Dubuque, Madison, Minneapolis. Annual tours west included Regina (Prairie Cities) and Saskatoon (Louis Riel Days), with open invitations to come to SNAFU in mid-summer.

Off the field, these same Saracens fostered high school rugby, as players took time to coach high school teams at Sisler, St. John’s, Sansome, Westwood, Garden City and Transcona Collegiate. Many in the Saracens’ successful “second wave” of 1979 to 1986 were players who started their rugby careers at Sisler and St. Johns High Schools.

The Saracens 1972 to 75 team built upon a solid foundation, with commitment to the game and each other. They lived up to it, on and off the field. It was a club and team that grew stronger year after year and served to elevate both the development and caliber of the game and the league in the province of Manitoba for future years to come. The Saracens 1972 to 75 team are proud partners of the growing history of rugby on the Prairies.



## Hall of Fame



The Winnipeg Wasps would like to congratulate **Rob St. Germain and Wasps Women's Athletic Association** on their induction into the Rugby Manitoba Hall of Fame. Both have made tremendous contributions to our club and to the sport of rugby in this province, and they both embody the true spirit of rugby. Thank you for your dedication to the sport we love, this recognition is well and truly deserved.

**Black and Gold Forever**



# Black and Gold Forever

# Welcome to the Rugby Hall of Fame

Congratulations to all of the 2016 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame inductees.

Welcome to



1155 Main St. Winnipeg 204 586-6599

# Manitoba Rugby





# Rob St. Germain - Builder

**Rob St. Germain** was to launch his “legendary” rugby career in 1972 following the promise of free food and beverage as a guest of the Wasps Rugby Football Club, to watch rugby game films at the old Carling’s Brewery. A teacher at Glenlawn Collegiate, Rob was to play his first game that year against the Assassins Rugby Football Club at Hubic Field. But that was just the beginning, as Rob went on to play for another 34 years with both the Wasps RFC and the Legends before he retired as a player in 2006. Rob’s contributions to the sport of rugby, however, go well beyond his exploits as a player.

As one of the founding members of the Legends Rugby Team, Rob and his cohorts provided a much needed opportunity for older players to continue playing competitive rugby in 3rd Division, the team winning the 3rd Division Provincial Championship in 1992 and recipient of the Manitoba Association of Rugby Referees “Spirit of the Game Award” in 1994 and 1995.

In addition to serving as Captain of Wasps RFC teams several times over the years, Rob coached the Wasps RFC in 1978, coached Fort Richmond Collegiate high school boys’ rugby teams during the first years of high school rugby operations, coached the first women’s rugby teams in Manitoba at the high school level at Fort Richmond Collegiate in 1978/79 and the senior women’s club level with the Wasp Women’s Athletic Association.

Playing and coaching were not enough for Rob as he served his club in the capacities of President, Vice President and Board Director for several terms over the years. In addition, Rob was the original webmaster of [www.waspsrugby.com](http://www.waspsrugby.com), the first rugby webpage in Manitoba, and continued on as the club’s webmaster for over 20 years updating and authoring much of its content.

In 2003 and 2006, Rob was part of a three member organizing committee that successfully ran the Rugby Canada Junior National Championship Festivals in Winnipeg. The success of the 2003 festival was to result in Rob being recruited by Rugby Canada in 2004 to provide assistance and help run the Junior National Championship Festival in Hamilton, Ontario when local volunteers were experiencing organizational difficulties.



## 2016 Inductee

One of Rob’s proudest moments was to see the establishment and construction of Maple Grove Rugby Park (MGRP) in 1985. Following its establishment, Rob served for many years as the bar manager, organized a major fundraiser for the park by hosting a Rugby World Cup event in 2007 and would go on serve as President of MGRP from 2009 to 2014.

Rob’s long tenure and his many and varied contributions to the sport stand him in elite territory as one deserving of induction as a Builder in the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

Today, Rob volunteers his web based talents to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame having created its website [www.manitobarugbyhalloffame.com](http://www.manitobarugbyhalloffame.com) and serving as webmaster.



## Hall of Fame



# RUGBY MANITOBA

*On behalf of Rugby Manitoba we would like to congratulate all of the 2016 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame inductees.*

*Your hard work and commitment to the sport of rugby in this province is exemplary.*

*It is because of your efforts and many like you that the sport we all love can continue to thrive in Manitoba.*

***Cheers!***

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Rugby Manitoba offers a variety of programs for kids of all ages. Our programming expands a lifetime in sport and begins with kids as young as 4 years old.

Our Rookie Rugby programs run across multiple community centres in Winnipeg. These programs are targeted for kids 16 and under. Including Mini, Flag and Tackle programs which run April-June annually.

We offer school based rugby in a variety of schools in Winnipeg in the spring as well. Whether it's through school based Rookie Rugby sessions or our High School league play.

# Cheers!

# Manitoba Rugby



# Wasp Women's Athletic Association - Builder

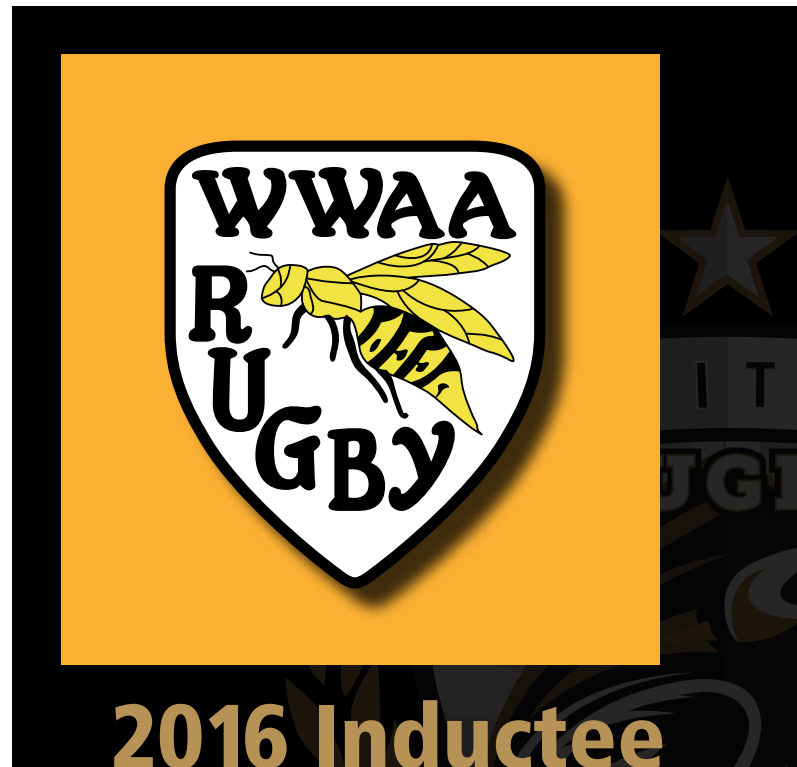
For 34 years, the mandate of the **Wasp Women's Athletic Association (WWAA)** was to "Promote Women In Sport". This unique Canadian organization encompassed various sports with women of diverse ages, skill levels and abilities. It provided an opportunity for women to play organized sports after high school. There have been hundreds of women who have enjoyed the benefits of participation in sport over the years thanks to the WWAA.

Over the lifetime of the WWAA there were 6 different sports in the organization: baseball, team handball, rugby, volleyball, soccer, and touch football. It was one of the first clubs to be grandfathered into working Bingo fund-raising events. In 1985, the WWAA was one of the founding members of Maple Grove Rugby Park (MGRP) and was an active member there for many years. The association also supported members from Club level at both Provincial & National levels. Members were always the first to volunteer for many rugby events such as the Western Canada Summer Games (1990), the Canada Rugby Cup (2000), and hosting the Venezuelan women's rugby team.

The WWAA was founded in 1976 with the sport of baseball. The camaraderie experienced by that team led to the addition of Team Handball. The popularity of Team Handball grew and there were up to 4 teams at one point. The team participated in out of town tournaments as well as hosting a number of local outdoor handball tournaments at MGRP. In 1980-81 a group of WWAA members also played Volleyball. Soccer and Touch Football were two more sports that were added to the WWAA's endeavors with MGRP serving as their home field.

In 1979, WWAA team handball members Betty Wilson and Karen Campbell Rhoda, with help from others, took on the challenge of recruiting two women's rugby teams. The formation of these 2 teams, the Wasps and the Wanderers, signified the birth of senior women's rugby in Manitoba. That first WWAA rugby team had four courageous coaches, Riley Barkman, Rob St. Germain, Cole Summers and Ian Murray, who were tasked with coaching an entire team of rookies.

The WWAA Rugby team thrived. They captured a number of Manitoba Women's Provincial Championships (1985–1988, 1990–1992 and 2001) and were always well represented on the Manitoba Senior Women's side from its inception in 1983. A number of players have represented nationally as either first 15, travelling reserves or long listed members of Canadian National Women's teams including: Doreen Whalley - 1987; Simone Ramdwar, Colleen Horton, Heather Miller and Barb Dawes - 1988; Brenda Treleaven - 1988-89; Val Gompf - 1988-91, April Gobert - 1990 and U-19 listed Crystallee Grouette and April Tremblay in 2000. The club also went on many tours in Canada and North Dakota, and in 1987, ventured overseas to England, Wales and France for games against Oxford, Blaneau-Gwent, Loughborough, London Wasps and Chilly-Mazarin.



The WWAA has been instrumental in developing women's rugby over the years. In addition to mini/youth rugby development, many members have been involved in coaching at both rural and city high schools including: Springfield, Fort Richmond, Dakota, Glenlawn, Elmwood, Vincent Massey (Brandon), and Minnedosa Collegiate. The club can be proud to see their lineage in many of the teams and clubs (Brumbies) the WWAA members have helped to develop.

The WWAA was a great organization that promoted women in sport for 34 years. Regrettably it was dissolved after the 2010 season. The women's rugby team continues to thrive and has found a new home with the Wasps Rugby Football Club.

Because of its role in developing and promoting women in sport, and specifically women's rugby in Manitoba, the Wasp Women's Athletic Association is a worthy inductee to the MRHOF in the category of Builder.



## Hall of Fame





**Manitoba Rugby**





# St. Paul's High School Rugby Program - Builder

The rugby program at **St. Paul's High School** was established in 1985 by Kevin Booth, an alumni/teacher at the school who was later to become Vice-Principal. The program has grown and strengthened since its inception and has annually fielded between 3 and 5 teams involving some 70 to 120 high school players. From the start, the school's policy has been "no cuts, all participants welcome, no exceptions"; a philosophy truly representative of the game of rugby.

In the early days, Kevin was assisted by Ron Vanderhooft, Ian Millar, Michel Khan, Al Carruthers, Stacey Dainard, Gennaro and Luca Macchia. Michel Khan served as head coach in the mid-1990's, to be followed by Nathan Cole from 2003-2006 and Perry Cole from 2007 to the present. Their leadership and the strength of the program were aided by many others who provided coaching assistance and with the full support of school administration, teachers and staff.

Many players have developed their skills at St. Paul's and played on as adults with other local clubs, Provincial team programs and on representative sides throughout the world. Many more have learned about the game of rugby and have spread its message and shared their positive memories far and wide. Alumni from the school have and continue to contribute to the functioning of Rugby Manitoba, as coaches, officials, Board members, members of Maple Grove Rugby Park and more.



## 2016 Inductee

The St. Paul's High School Rugby Program has won numerous provincial school championships, beginning in 1986 and continuing repeatedly and regularly to the present. They have also toured to Northern Ireland, Ireland, Scotland & Ireland, Connecticut, Dallas, Kansas City, Colorado, Montreal, Washington D.C., and South Africa, serving as fine ambassadors of the game and for the province of Manitoba throughout the world.

The St Paul's High School Rugby Program has and continues to significantly contribute to the growth and development of rugby both in Manitoba and throughout the world.



## Hall of Fame

# 2016



The **U of M Wombats Rugby Football Club** and **The Red Top Restaurant**  
would like to congratulate The St. Paul's Rugby Program,  
as well as the rest of the 2016 inductees,  
on their well deserved induction to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.



## Manitoba Rugby



# It's all about Teamwork!



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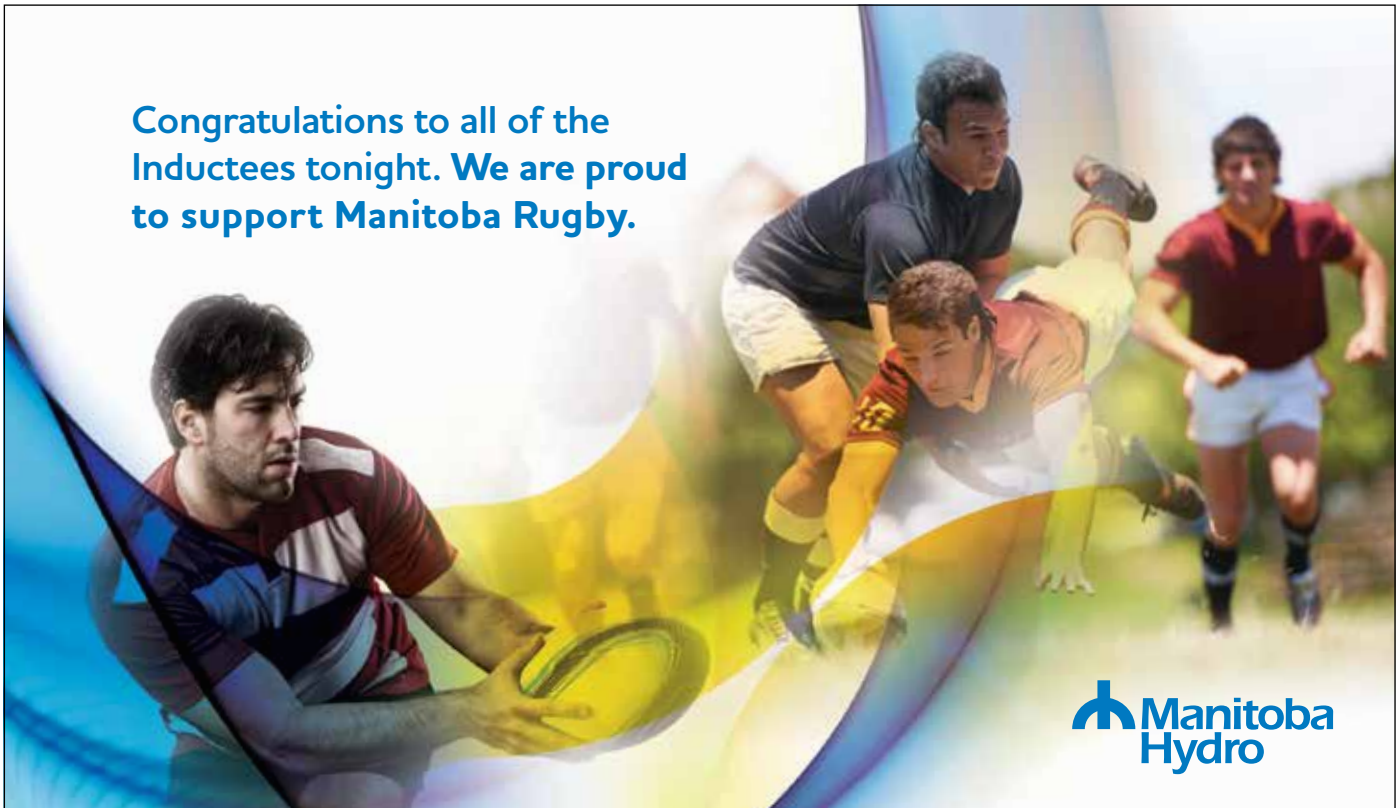
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Our congratulations to all of the  
2016 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Inductees!

Congratulations to all of the  
Inductees tonight. We are proud  
to support Manitoba Rugby.



 **Manitoba  
Hydro**



## Hall of Fame



# Value Creation Through the Cycles

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# Manitoba Rugby





# Greatness never settles.

Congratulations to all  
of this years inductees,  
on achieving their place  
of honour in the Manitoba  
Rugby Hall of Fame.



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to all the 2016  
Rugby Hall of Fame  
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# Hall of Fame

# Maple Grove

## Rugby Park



Maple Grove Rugby Park is one of North America's finest rugby facilities boasting five regulation size rugby pitches, a licensed clubhouse and is homefield to rugby for many clubs in Manitoba.

## Congratulations from the MGRP

to the Hall of Fame Inductees and to the organizers  
and supporters of the Hall of Fame Dinner.

### MGRP Executive and Board Members:

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| • Jose Orellana  | VP operations |
| • Chris Chapman  | VP finance    |
| • Kerry Peterson | Secretary     |
| • Dan Parks      | President     |

### MGRP Board of Directors:

- |                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| • Dan Kevany      | Wasps     |
| • Hilary Fewster  | Wanderers |
| • Marty Dobson    | Saracens  |
| • James McPherson | Wombats   |
| • Brett Kehler    | Assassins |
| • Dave Wilson     | MRU       |
| • Amanda Kula     | MARR      |



**The Brumbies Rugby Club would like to congratulate all of the 2016 inductees for your contribution to the sport of Rugby in Manitoba.**

**Congratulations to the WWAA for being one of the Pioneer Clubs to support Women in Rugby.**



# **Congratulations!**

**to the 2016 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Inductees!**



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## **Hall of Fame**





**The Assassins Rugby Football Club  
and its sponsors would like to  
congratulate the 2016 inductees into  
the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.**



**CELEBRATING OUR 49 YEAR HISTORY  
[WWW.ASSASSINSRUGBY.COM](http://WWW.ASSASSINSRUGBY.COM)**



**Manitoba Rugby**





# Congratulations Hall of Famers



Congratulations to all of the 2016 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame inductees.

## And Future Hall of Famers

### Westman Youth Rugby Program.

The Brandon Barbarians RFC partnered with Westman Youth Rugby are introducing rugby to the next generation of Barbarians. Boys and girls aged 6-14 train, compete, and fall in love with the game that has given us so much.

[www.brandonbarbs.com](http://www.brandonbarbs.com)

[www.westmanyouthrugby.com](http://www.westmanyouthrugby.com)

## The **FIRST** rugby inductee into the Sports Manitoba Hall of Fame!

**John Reilly**  
Rugby/Builder



The first Rugby inductee into the Sport Manitoba Hall of Fame, **John "Kiwi" Reilly** was co-founder of the Brandon Barbarians Rugby Football Club in 1981, served on the Executive for 28 years in numerous capacities including President, and was a force in the development of rugby in Western Manitoba. Following his untimely death in 2009, the North Pitch of Brandon's Canada Games Rugby Park was renamed Reilly Field in recognition of his many contributions to the game. An exceptional player in his own right, Reilly played the wing as well as the hooker position. He was co-chair on the National U-18 Championships and helped develop world class rugby fields for the 1997 Canada Summer games in Brandon.



# Hall of Fame

# Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Induction Guidelines

## Purpose

- To celebrate the history of the sport of Rugby in Manitoba by recognizing those whom have significantly contributed to the Game.

## Categories

- Player/Team
- Official (Referees, Coaches, Managers and Non-coaching Staff)
- Builder (Administrators, Media, Patrons, and Volunteers)
- Pioneer (contributions should, but not necessarily, be prior to 1980)

## General Criteria

- Nominees should have been involved in Rugby at least 20 years and have contributed significantly to the sport of rugby in Manitoba.
- Player nominees must have been retired for at least three years from a national or provincial team program.
- Nominees may be recognized posthumously.
- Nominees may be considered while holding elected office at the provincial, national or international rugby board level.
- Nominees will not be considered for induction while serving on the Manitoba Rugby Hall Of Fame Committee in the following positions: Committee Chair, Sub-Committee Chairs and Induction Sub-Committee – Nominations Coordinator and Selections Jury members.

## Nomination Procedure

- Nominations can be provided on-line or via downloadable form.
- The Nominator may be asked by the Induction Sub Committee to provide additional information and/or documentation concerning the Nominee.
- Nominations for induction are valid for a period of three years (once a nominee is deemed eligible).
- Nominations not recommended for induction within the three year period of nomination validity may be re-nominated; otherwise Nominations recommended for induction stand in perpetuity.

## Selection Process

- Nominations will be considered by the Induction Sub Committee and any subsequent recommendations for induction are subject to ratification by the Rugby Manitoba Executive and final approval by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee.
- Criteria for evaluation should include:
  - Accomplishments
  - Honours received
  - Involvement with the game
  - Overall career
  - Recognition of their contribution(s) by club, union and community (local, national and/or international).
- Inductees will be announced in late spring/early summer, prior to their induction in the fall.

## Number of Inductees

- Maximum of ten inductees annually.

## Timelines

- |                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| • Nomination Receipt        | Ongoing all year |
| • Nomination Research       | Ongoing all year |
| • Nomination Evaluation     | End May          |
| • Nomination Recommendation | Mid June         |
| • Nomination Ratification   | End June         |
| • Nomination Approval       | Mid July         |
| • Nomination Announcement   | End July         |
| • Nomination Induction      | Mid October      |

## Removal

- If an inductee brings the Game in disrepute, including by a criminal action, the Selection Committee will review the situation and make a recommendation for retention or removal, conditional upon the approval of the Rugby Manitoba Board (not only the Executive).

## Induction Sub-committee

- Chairman (appointed by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee).
- All appointments by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame will normally be for a two-year term for the purpose of continuity.
- Honourable Member/s of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.
- Independent non-rugby community representative.
- One Manitoba Rugby Club Past-President.
- Minimum one past president of either: Rugby Manitoba, Maple Grove Rugby Park, Manitoba Association of Rugby Referees, Manitoba Rugby Club in good standing.
- Alumni Representatives – two former players or officials (one male, one female) – who have been retired from the game (on the field) at least five years.

## Revision

- These Guidelines are subject to revision by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee, who will provide a copy of the revised Guidelines to Rugby Manitoba.

## Relationship between the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame and Rugby Manitoba

- The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame is an independent organization, and is at arms-length from Rugby Manitoba, with no reporting relationship (other than for informational and liaison purposes) to Rugby Manitoba.

[www.manitobarugbyhalloffame.com](http://www.manitobarugbyhalloffame.com)

[www.manitobarugbyhalloffame.com/nomination-form.html](http://www.manitobarugbyhalloffame.com/nomination-form.html)

# Manitoba Rugby



# Thank You

## 2016 MANITOBA RUGBY HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE STRUCTURE:

### Committee Chair:

Secretary:  
Communications Coordinator:

### • Jim Russell

- Jim Feasby
- Jim Russell

### Finance Sub-Committee Chair:

Treasurer:  
Sponsorship Coordinator:

- Blair Riordan
- Blair Riordan
- Gary Macdonald

### Induction Dinner Event Sub-Committee Chair:

Venue/Catering/Beverages Coordinator:  
Tickets/Invitations Coordinator:  
Program/Prize Coordinator:  
MC/Agenda Coordinator:

- Linda Romsa
- Rick Romsa
- Jose Orellana
- Jamie Cole
- Linda Romsa

### Exhibit Sub-Committee Chair:

Archivist:  
Inductee Displays and Dinner Displays Coordinator:  
Web Site Coordinator:  
Inductee Memento Coordinator:

- Glenys Mackenzie
- Glenys Mackenzie
- Glenys Mackenzie
- Rob St. Germain
- Rick Romsa

### Induction Sub-Committee Chair:

Nominations Coordinator:  
Selections Jury Members:

- Ray Hoemsen
- Ray Hoemsen
- Val Gompf
- Wilf Erichsen
- Ashley Prest
- Larry Cherrett
- Gary Nicholson

### SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- All the Advertisers who made this program so special.

Note: Feel free to drop us a line should you have comments or suggestions. At [rugbyhalloffame@gmail.com](mailto:rugbyhalloffame@gmail.com)



## Our Vision.

To support the growth and development of all aspects of the sport of Rugby in Manitoba.

## Our Objectives.

1. Work to help establish, restore and sustain connections among Rugby Alumni.
2. Financially and morally support and improve the game of Rugby at all levels of play.
3. Identify males and females with standout athletic ability and provide financial support that will widen their opportunity to play at an elite level.
4. To provide a financial vehicle for patrons and friends of Rugby to assist in the growth and development of Rugby in Manitoba.
5. To support programs that will increase the number of players and build community awareness for the sport of Rugby.
6. Support events that restore and strengthen the relationship between Rugby Alumni and the current community based clubs involved with Rugby in Manitoba.
7. To provide additional financial support for programs not currently funded at a provincial level that improve the quality of play and skill levels for players, coaches and referees.
8. To continue to support and enhance Maple Grove Rugby Park as one of Canada's premier facilities.



# Hall of Fame

# That adds up to **48** great new friends!

The Friends of Rugby  
would like to congratulate all seven inductees  
in today's ceremonies.

