



Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame
219 May Street South Thunder Bay ON P7E 1B5
phone (807) 622-2852 fax (807) 622-2736
email: nwosport@tbaytel.net www.nwosportshalloffame.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (1 page in total)

Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame Announces 2018 Inductees

(July 25th, 2018, Thunder Bay, ON)

Four (4) Athletes and two (2) Builders make up the 2018 slate of Inductees to enter the Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame at the 37th Annual Induction Dinner and Ceremonies set for September 29th in Thunder Bay.

Lynda Devine – (Athlete): This Port Arthur born golfer won her first District Ladies golf title in 1964 at just 14 years of age, going on to claim 18 district titles from the 1960s to the 90s, 13 of which were consecutive. Competing outside of the district she won multiple Manitoba Open titles and was a 3-time Manitoba Women's Amateur champ. Claiming the 1968 Canadian Junior Women's title, the first and only woman from the region to ever win a national golf title, she competed in a total of 9 Canadian Amateur golf championships.

Janet Sillman – (Athlete): This multi-talented athlete claimed early honours as Hammarskjold High School's 1971 & 72 Female Athlete of the Year. A long-distance running specialist she was consistently the top female in races held in Thunder Bay, Minnesota, Manitoba and southern Ontario. Competing in the highly demanding sport of Triathlon she dominated local and provincial races, and was the first female across the finish line in the 1987 Montreal World Triathlon, finishing 28th overall. Competing in cycling she has won multiple races in her age category, including the 2005 World Masters Games and earned a 3rd place finish at the 2015 World Amateur Cycling Championships.

Dave Gatherum – (Athlete): This outstanding Fort William minor league goalie was signed by the Detroit Red Wings in 1952 and enjoyed a professional career that also included time in the WHL, QHL and AHL. Serving as the back-up goaltender for Terry Sawchuk in Detroit during their 1953-54 Stanley Cup winning season, he was called upon for 3 games, earning a shut-out in his NHL debut. Winding up his playing career with the Kelowna Packers from 1955-58, he was named an All-Star goalie, team MVP, and helped them advance to the 1958 Allan Cup finals. Returning to the Lakehead he passed along his knowledge as a manager and executive member for junior hockey.

Dennis Olson – (Athlete) This Kenora born player spent time in the junior ranks in Port Arthur before beginning his pro career in 1954. Going on to spend time in the IHL and WHL, he was called up by the Detroit Red Wings during the 1957-58 season. Acquired by the Springfield Indians, his AHL career spanned 1958-65 and saw him amass 307 points in 432 games, making him the 8th highest point getter in that franchise's history, and a 3-time Calder Cup AHL champion (1959-62). Following his playing career he returned to Kenora where he coached the Muskies junior team.

Dick Hill – (Builder) This builder spent six decades dedicated to sport as an administrator, official and volunteer. Starting in the late 1950s, he spent over forty years behind the plate umpiring games in Little League, senior and rural leagues and as an official for the 1981 Canada Summer Games. The Ontario District # 3 Administrator for Little League from 1980-98, he helped organize local, provincial and national tournaments. In hockey he served as a referee from the 1960s to 90s officiating in the Elks, Commercial league and with Thunder Bay Minor and Thunder Bay Amateur Hockey Associations.

Scott Fawcett – (Builder) Learning the game of football growing up in Fort Frances, this long-time coach went on to enjoy a close to 30 year career in which he was a part of ten championship squads. A special teams and defensive coordinator his record of success included a CFL Grey Cup victory with the 1999 Hamilton Tiger Cats, the 1985 CIAU Vanier Cup with the University of Calgary along with victories in the NAIA Upper Midwest Athletic Conference, Manitoba junior football league and NWOSSA and Northwestern Ontario titles with Fort Frances and Kenora teams.

The 2018 slate of Inductees will be officially inducted into the Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame on the evening of Saturday, September 29th at the Valhalla Inn. Tickets for the 37th Annual Induction Dinner and Ceremonies can be ordered by calling 622-2852 or via email at nwosport@tbaytel.net or dropping by the Hall at 219 May Street South.