



## **NEWSLETTER JUNE 2026**

Sackville Sports Heritage Hall of Fame Society is pleased to announce the 2026 Inductees into the Sackville Sports Heritage Hall of Fame. The Induction Ceremony will be held Wednesday, October 7th, 2026, at 7 PM at the Sackville Arena in the Mezzanine 91 First Lake Drive, Lower Sackville NS.

### **Bill Brown Builder Hockey**



Over the past three decades, Bill Brown has been a foundational builder of the hockey community in Sackville, shaping not only competitive success on the ice but the culture, values, and accessibility of the sport itself. His contributions extend far beyond coaching wins or championships, reflecting a deep commitment to developing people, strengthening community ties, and ensuring hockey remained welcoming and sustainable for generations of players and families.

As a long-time coach within the Sackville Minor Hockey Association, including the longest-serving Bantam AAA coach in its history, Bill emphasized preparation for the next level through strong fundamentals, accountability, and respect for the game. He believed every player deserved to be coached as an individual, tailoring instruction to age, ability, and personal development, while fostering teamwork and lifelong friendships. Hundreds of athletes passed through his teams and programs, many of whom credit Bill with shaping not only their hockey skills but their confidence, character, and love of the sport.

Recognizing gaps in development opportunities, Bill founded Brown's Hockey Development Camp, bringing affordable, high-quality summer training to Sackville at a time when access to camps often required significant travel and expense. The camp became a hub for skill development, mentorship, and community connection, benefiting players of all backgrounds and abilities. Bill's builder legacy also includes his leadership in coach development. He established Sackville Minor Hockey's Coaching Mentorship Program and Junior Coach Program, creating pathways for young players and new coaches to grow into leadership roles. These initiatives strengthened the organization from within and ensured continuity of knowledge, values, and community pride. Through decades of service, Bill Brown helped build a hockey environment rooted in development, inclusivity, and community spirit, leaving an enduring legacy that continues to shape Sackville hockey today.

## Dianne Gray – Builder



Dianne Gray's lifelong commitment to sport and community has made her one of Sackville's most dedicated volunteers. Since moving to Sackville in the late 1970s with her young family, Dianne quickly became a familiar and enthusiastic presence in the local sports scene—both as a supporter and as a leader.

A community-minded educator, Dianne served as an elementary school teacher and vice principal, bringing the same energy to her students that she would later share with young athletes. Her love of sport began in her youth, inspired by her father's involvement in rugby and hockey, and she carried that passion forward as she cheered on her own active family from the sidelines.

Dianne's volunteer journey began in the early 1980s with the Sackville Taiso Gymnastics Club, where she supported fundraising efforts and later served on the executive, including a term as president. In 1981, she was also a founding member of the Sackville Sports Hall of Fame—an early indication of her deep commitment to preserving and celebrating local sport.

It was in hockey, however, that Dianne would make her most lasting impact. For 15 years, she dedicated herself to Sackville Minor Hockey, beginning as a board member and eventually becoming the first woman to serve as president. During her tenure, she introduced the initiation program for beginner players and helped design the Sackville Minor Hockey logo—both lasting contributions to the organization.

Dianne's involvement continued as her son advanced to the Sackville Jr. B Blazers, where she joined the board and has remained an integral part of the organization for over 25 years, including a decade as president. Whether working behind the scenes through fundraising and representing the Blazers on the Nova Scotia Junior Hockey League Board of Governors, or in more visible roles such as welcoming fans at the door on game nights, her presence has been constant.

Dianne played a key role in establishing the Timbits hockey program, sponsored by Tim Hortons, for young players, in partnership with regional organizations and community partners. For more than 30 years, she has coordinated the annual Timbits Jamboree at Scotiabank Centre, bringing together young hockey players from across the region. One of her greatest joys has been watching these young players take to the ice during intermissions at Halifax Mooseheads games—creating memories that last a lifetime.

The recipient of numerous volunteer awards, Dianne's contributions have touched countless lives and strengthened the fabric of sport in Sackville. Reflecting on her years of service, she shares, "Volunteering has been one of the biggest joys of my life. I am happy I could make a difference in Sackville's sporting community."

### Donald MacVicar Coach



**Donald MacVicar – Born into a very sports minded family in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1936, to Charles and Edith MacVicar. He and two of his brothers played varsity rugby and hockey for Acadia. Don grew up playing numerous sports in Glace Bay and was athlete of the year for Morrison High School in both his grade 11 and 12 years.**

**He attended Acadia University (class of 1957) and played varsity rugby, hockey, and captained Acadia’s first football team in his final year. When universities switched their major fall sport from rugby to football; high schools switched from rugby as the fall sport, to soccer. Don began coaching soccer as soon as he began teaching.**

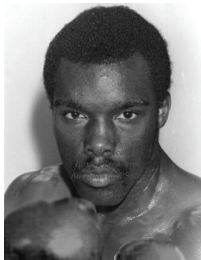
**Don became a physical education teacher and taught/coached for 35 years. He began his career in New Waterford in 1957, where he coached the girls’ basketball team to a Provincial Championship. In 1960 he moved to Bedford with the opening of Sidney Stephen High School, which served all high school students from Upper, Middle, Lower Sackville, Bedford, Oakfield, and Waverly. He coached basketball, volleyball, soccer, and track. He then had a two-year stint at Dartmouth High School before marrying Ann Mosher in 1963 and returning to teach/coach at Sidney Stephen High School. His team’s soccer success began at Sidney Stephens and continued at Sackville High School when all students and teachers moved to the new larger school in Sackville - with the largest gym east of Montreal.**

**Don enjoyed teaching/coaching with an emphasis always on fair play and respect for the student-athletes. The student athletes, he feels, repaid him with appreciation and cooperation. He feels privileged to have coached the high school male student athletes from Sackville in soccer, basketball, and track for 16 years. The school came close to winning the provincial championship in basketball in the early 70’s and the track team won the provincials in the late 60’s. Success to a degree stood out in all 3 sports, but one stood out. The soccer teams! Between 1965 and 1978 his boys’ soccer teams won 7 Provincial High School Championships!**

**Don wants it known that after he and half the student body transferred to C.P. Allen High School in 1978, the Sackville High boys team won 2 more championships in soccer the next 3 years. He was happy for them.**

**Don thanks all his former student athletes – win or lose they always made him proud. They were a joy to coach. Thanks for the memories.**

## Cedric Parsons Athlete Boxing



Hi, my name is Cedric Parsons and as a kid I always liked sports- volleyball, soccer, and boxing. When I was fifteen years old, in 1978, I joined Downsview Boxing Club, and I met a trainer named Brian Baker. He trained me for a couple of years in amateur boxing where I had about fourteen fights. I attended the Canada Games in Brandon, Manitoba in 1979, representing Nova Scotia, where I won the silver medal.

In 1980 I went to the Olympic trials and won the heavyweight division, earning the right to represent Canada. Unfortunately, Canada boycotted the Olympics in Moscow that year. As a result, in 1980, I made the decision to turn professional with Brian Baker as my trainer. Throughout the years I was fortunate to have other trainers, Pete Leppard (whose group included Ricky Anderson and Sonny Wicks) and the Petronelli brothers Guerino "Goody" and Pasquale ("Pat"), who trained Marvin Hagler.

In my career I had eighteen professional fights in Canada and the US. winning 14 and losing 4. I was ranked 24<sup>th</sup> in the world. I fought boxers such as Bert Cooper (challenged for the world heavyweight title on 3 occasions), Henry Tillman (who won the Heavyweight gold medal for the United States at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles), Donovan "Razor" Ruddick (40-6-1; 1988 Canadian Heavy Weight Champion. He is known for two fights against Mike Tyson in 1991, a fight against Lennox Lewis in 1992, and a fight with Tommy Morrison in 1995).

After his career Cedric worked in Kirk Johnson's training group where in 1989 Kirk won the World Junior Heavyweight Championships.

It is a difficult journey getting to the top level; however, I got a chance to travel and meet many people. I want to thank my parents for their constant support and my mom who always came to my fights. I want to thank Brian Baker for being an enormous influence in boxing and my life. Thanks to my friends who encouraged me and especially to Eddie Parsons who was always there for me in my boxing career and is a devoted friend.

### SEEKING 2027 NOMINATIONS - DUE SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

The Hall of Fame is seeking nominations for the 2026 Induction Class. The deadline for nominations is September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. On the link below you will find the rules for election and the nomination form. <https://sackvillesportshalloffame.org/nominate/>. If you have questions please contact President - Darrell Dempster at 902-476-0633. Successful applicants will be honored in the fall of 2026.

**CURRENT INDUCTEES1981-2025**

Eighty inductees in the SSHoF. Thirty-one athletes. thirty-eight builders and eleven teams.

**Athletes (31) Valerie Bechard, James Sheppard, Trevor Wamback, Ross Webb\*, Paula O'Connell, Chris Scott, Derrick Dempster, Hannah Hubley, Leslie-Anne Young\*, Danial Murphy, Rick Pinkney, Daniel J Romo, Bernard (Bernie)Bishop, Jillian D'Alessio, Paul Sheppard. Lewis Kelly Jr, Sarah Bray, Eileen Burke, Gladie (Mosher) Turple, James Blood, Nicolle Gillis, David Pinkney\*, Kim Vanderhoek, Wayne E Gordon, Jeri Sharkey, Lisa (Carberry) Rowe, Ross Raymond Sampson, Scott Edward Kelly, Frank McMahon, Garnet Sydney Cooke, Robert Douglas Peverill.**

**Builders (38) Steve Baur, Steve Brown, William 'Bill' Repchull, Darrell Dempster\*, Gord Dwyer, Shawn Healey, Pat Henneberry, Mike Lidstone, Derrick Brooks, Bill MacDonald, Rob Morgan, Stehen Lane, Kevin Ross, Dr. Patricia (Benoit) Chafe, Donald J Syms, Larry Marchand, Hubert Earle\*, Bud Bremner, Ray Ivany, George H Matthews, Ken Faulkner, Lake District Recreation Association, Hugh MacDonald, Barbara Ann Slaunwhite, Robert Eldon Bayard, John (Jim) Collins, Glen Slaunwhite, Herman H Wills, Les Mayo, Ken Barrett, Doug Mitchell, Bill Arsenault, John Sperdakes, Alison Arsenault, Bill Chase, Greta Marina Gordon, Pauline Stanick, Taylor Gordon\*.**

**\*Members of Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame.**

**Teams (11) Sackville Under 16 Ladies Soccer 1980, Sackville Under 18 Men's Wrestling 2013, Sackville Baseball Little League All-stars 1971, Sackville Bantam Acadians 1985-86, Millwood Knights 2011-12, Sackville High Kingfishers 1992-93, Sackville Chiefs 2012, Sackville Jr. B Blazers 2011, Sackville Acadians Softball 1983, Sackville Jr. C Blazers 1977, Sackville Scooters 2002.**

**2025 Inductees**

**Steve Brown**

**Steve Baur**



**ARTIFACTS NEEDED The Board of Directors continues is to look for artifacts (uniforms, warmup suits, jackets) for display on the walls. We are also looking for items relevant to your induction (trophies, plaques, pictures, certificates) to display in the cabinets located on floor level. If you have an artifact to donate contact Adam Lucas at 902-448-9655 or email adamlucas1514@gmail.com.**

## RELOCATION TO THE SACKVILLE ARENA

The Board of Directors of the Sackville Sports Heritage Hall of Fame Society announced in November that we would be leaving the Sackville Sports Stadium. Thank you to the SSS for hosting the Hall for thirty-seven years. The Board is pleased the Hall has relocated to the Sackville Arena in the Mezzanine area. Thank you to the Board of Directors of the Lake District Recreation Association for the opportunity and support. Special thanks to Allan Smith, Past President of LDRA! Thank you to Lachance Signs, Nova Trophy and King Moving for your assistance!

### THE MOVE



### THE ARENA



**The Sackville Sports Heritage Hall of Fame Society was honored to take part in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Bill Chase Cup that honored Ken Faulkner this year!**

**Bill Chase**, inducted in 2003 to the SSHHoF, was a dedicated hockey builder and community leader. Bill was instrumental in establishing the Sackville Blazers Jr B Hockey Club inducted in 2012 to the SSHHoF. and served as a founding member of the Sackville Minor Hockey Association. Bill gave thousands of hours volunteering and provided financial support for numerous undertakings that earned him a permanent place in Sackville's sporting history. **Ken Faulkner**, inducted in 2009 to the SSHHoF, was a past-president and former executive of the Sackville Minor Hockey Association who involved himself in the building of the Sackville Community Arena in the 1970s. He continued to play a key role through the 1980s and into the 1990s with the Sackville Blazer junior team, serving as president and treasurer for the club. Also, Ken was a member of the notorious Corner Boys during Blazer home games.

FAULKNER                      OPENING CEREMONY                      BILL CHASE      KEN



**Steve Ferguson SSHHoFS Volunteer of the Year 2026**



The Board of Directors of the Sackville Sports Heritage Hall of Fame Society was pleased to honor Steve Ferguson as our volunteer of the year at the 45<sup>th</sup> Lake District Recreation Association's Volunteer Recognition Dinner held on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Sackville Legion. Steve has been a Board Member with the Sackville Sports Heritage Hall of Fame Society from 2012 until today. Fourteen years of service. Thank you Steve!

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Gold Partners – \$500 Donation



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Connecting our community since 1971

## **SACKVILLE LEISURE CENTRE BINGO**

# **BINGO**

<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>O</b>
7	26	40	58	73
14	22	34	55	68
4	24	FREE	46	72
9	20	36	52	74
6	28	35	49	64

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Silver Partners – \$250 Donation



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