

Thank you
for paving the way for
Squash in Manitoba!

Congratulations to all
Hall of Fame Inductees
Jared Niessen

**EAST SIDE
SELF STORAGE**



SQUASH MANITOBA INAUGURAL HALL OF FAME DINNER

INDUCTEES:

*Rick Borland Marnie Baizley Charlie Ives Alana Miller
Michael Nesbitt Carolyn Russell Henry Thiessen Gene Turk*

Saturday March 17th, 2018

*Winnipeg Squash Racquet Club
275 Stradbrook Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba*





Message from Sport Manitoba

On behalf of Sport Manitoba, congratulations to all the nominees and inductees at this year's Squash Manitoba Hall of Fame event. This event provides the opportunity to recognize Manitobans for their outstanding achievements and contributions to sport in our province.

Manitoba's sport community is proud of its squash history and those who have distinguished themselves as players, coaches, referees, and volunteers. Being inducted into the Hall of Fame represents excellence in their sport along with the hard work, dedication, and motivation that is put into achieving this level of recognition.

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

Sincerely,

Jeff Hnatiuk
President & CEO



Winnipeg Squash Racquet Club
275 Stradbrook Avenue, Winnipeg Manitoba
R3L 0J5

February 22, 2018

On behalf of the Winnipeg Squash Racquet Club, I would like to extend a hearty congratulations to all of this year's inaugural inductees to the Manitoba Squash Hall of Fame.

The WSRC is honoured that our facility was selected as the site for this year's event. The majority of the inductees have not only had a profound impact on the sport of squash but also on the viability and longevity of The Winnipeg Squash Racquet Club.

Sincerely,

Danny Braunstein
WSRC President and Chairman of the Board

GLASSBACK PRO SHOP



Congratulations

To all the Squash Manitoba Hall of Fame Inductees.

An honour well deserved!

Thank you for all you have done for the game of Squash!

Dave Glass, Head Pro
Winnipeg Squash Racquet Club

Gene Turk



Gene was born in Winnipeg in 1961. Gene's involvement in squash started over 40 years ago at age 12. He was gifted and excelled in many sports including hockey, badminton, squash, tennis, gymnastics, diving and speed skating. At age 14 he made sports a career decision and chose squash due to the influence of the great squash coach, Charlie Ives.

Gene began his incredible squash career in 1977 as Manitoba Junior Champion, a title, he and his twin brother, Bill held until 1979. That year he finished 4th at the Junior National Championships and was a member of Canada's Junior National Team that visited England for the final unofficial World Junior event, where Canada finished 3rd.

In 1980, he took his first provincial senior title and was 1st in the Manitoba Closed Championship from 1980-1987. He won the men's amateur in 1981 and 1986. In 1984, Gene was a member of the Canadian Senior Team that captured the Intercontinental Cup in Argentina and was named most valuable player of the event.

Gene led the "first ever" Manitoba team squad to win the Canadian Provincial Team Championship title in 1986 and was a member of the winning team again in Yellowknife in 1992. His travels took him to Australia where he took 2nd place in both the Gordonvale Open and Cairns Open.

In 1987, Gene was named to Canada's National Senior Team that competed at the World Championships in England. The team placed 8th out of 24 countries. He won the 1988 Bermuda Open and as a member of Canada's National Team, took part in the World Championship in Singapore in 1989. Gene also represented Canada in New Zealand and Malaysia.

Gene was a member of Canada's National Team for six years. In 1991-1992 at the Worlds in Helsinki, Finland, Gene was player/coach for Canada. He played in the third position on the team while acting as coach as well. The team placed 9th out of 24 teams. 1991 was a memorable year when Gene's wife, Margaret, gave birth to their daughter Melina. Son, Connor arrived in 1994.

Gene continued to compete and amassed an exceptional 14 National Master Championship titles from 1993-2009. He was also an invaluable member of numerous Manitoba Masters Teams. In 1982 Gene began working at the Winnipeg Squash Club and became Head Professional. This was the beginning of Gene's impressive coaching journey. Gene coached players from grassroots to elite for 33 years.

In 1991, Gene became the Senior Men's National Coach for 17 years. He coached Canadian teams for the inaugural appearance at the Pan Am Games in 1995 with the men & women winning team gold medals and singles gold medals. Gene was at the helm for the Golden Era of Canadian Men's squash, including Canada's best ever performance at the Men's World Team Championships, 2nd place in 1997 and a 4th place finish for the men in Islamabad in 2005. Gene also coached the Pan Am Games team in Winnipeg in 1999 to victories in men's and women's team and singles events. Gene was also the Team Canada coach at both the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, England and the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia.



Welcome Message from Squash Manitoba

On behalf of the board of directors and squash players throughout Manitoba, I would like to welcome you to the Squash Manitoba Inaugural Hall of Fame Dinner. Manitoba has a long and storied history of squash. Players have been participating and enjoying our sport since the first courts were built at the Winnipeg Squash Racquet Club in 1908. Once national tournaments became commonplace in Canada in the 1970's, Manitoba squash players travelled all over the country competing. It was not long before the keystone province was known for producing some of the toughest and most skillful competitors who also displayed the highest levels of sportsmanship and respect for the sport and they were winners. The eight inaugural inductees that we are honouring tonight share a combined total of 50 national titles in the age group and open categories, including an incredible six Canadian Open Championship Titles between the three women inductees.

The eight inductees are not only championship winners, they are builders, coaches, sponsors, and above all, great sports women and men. They represented themselves, their home province and their country, all over the world with dignity and pride, bringing with them a competitive spirit that made all Manitoba squash players proud. Although many people have contributed to Manitoba squash throughout the years, you simply cannot begin to tell the tale without including the squash stories of these eight inaugural nominees. I'd like to thank each of the nominees for their vast contributions to squash, and with them in mind, look to the future to grow the sport we love.

Thank you, have a fantastic night!

Josh Struthers
President



*Inductees
Squash Manitoba Hall of Fame
March 17th, 2018*



Rick Borland



Marnie Baizley



Charlie Ives



Alana Miller



Henry Thiessen



Henry's love of squash began at the age of 28. Despite starting to play squash a little later than some, he very quickly learned the lessons that his first coach, Charlie Ives taught him. Frequently battling on the squash court with fellow Hall of Fame Inductees Michael Nesbitt, Rick Borland and the young up and coming Turk brothers, Henry learned the intricacies of the game that would prove to be very fruitful in his pursuit of titles.

In 1981, Henry became the first Manitoban to capture a Canadian National title by winning the 35+ division. This was the first of many national titles for Henry. He won a total of thirteen Canadian National Age Group Championships from 1981-2005 in the 35+, 45+ 50+, 55+ and 60+ categories. This included an astonishing run of 4 straight titles in the 50+ division from 1993-1996. In 1998, Henry captured the title in the 55+ division at the World Masters Games in Portland, Oregon becoming the first and only Manitoban to have ever captured a world squash title.

In addition to being a world class player, Henry has been a great ambassador for Manitoba squash. He was also a volunteer for the squash event at the 1999 Pan Am Games in Winnipeg and served on the 2002 and 2008 Canadian Westerns Committees that hosted two successful championships in Winnipeg.

Henry also was a long time financial sponsor of the Manitoba Open Squash Championships, which for years has brought top players in from all over the world to compete for Manitoba squash fans. With Henry's substantial contributions to Squash in Manitoba, countless players have benefited from Henry's generosity.

Carolyn Russell



Carolyn was born 1974 and at the age of 10, started playing squash at the Winnipeg Winter Club. Encouraged by her parents, Tony and Susan Russell and coached by Jan Prieditis, Carolyn quickly became a top junior in both the province and the country. Carolyn was a member of the Manitoba Junior Squash Team from 1986-1992.

After graduating from junior squash, Carolyn's international squash career skyrocketed. She was first a member of Team Canada at the 1996 Women's World Team Championships in Malaysia. This started a run of representing Canada 5 times at the Women's World Team Championships, with 4 top 10 finishes. Carolyn was a member of the Canadian National Squash Team from 1996-2011.

Carolyn's Team Canada career also included an incredible three Pan Am Games appearances. The first one taking place in Carolyn's home town of Winnipeg in 1999 where family, friends and Manitoba squash fans were in the house when she won a gold medal in the women's team event. Carolyn also won a team silver at the 2003 Pan Am Games in the Dominican Republic, and she won another women's team gold at the 2007 Pan Am Games in Brazil, bringing her Pan Am Games medal count to an incredible 2 golds and 1 silver. Carolyn also represented Team Canada at the World University Championships in 1998 and 2002, finishing 3rd at both.

Carolyn joined the WISPA (Women's International Squash Player Association) pro tour in 2001. She played professionally all over the world for 11 years, and achieved a career high world ranking of #40 in 2007. In 2006, Carolyn won the Canadian National Championships, becoming the third woman from Manitoba to reach this milestone.

Carolyn was a fierce and talented competitor on the squash court that always gave her all, whether she was representing herself, her province or her country.

Inductees Squash Manitoba Hall of Fame March 17th, 2018



Michael Nesbitt



Carolyn Russell



Henry Thiessen



Gene Turk





February 22, 2018

2017 Squash Manitoba Hall of Fame Inductees

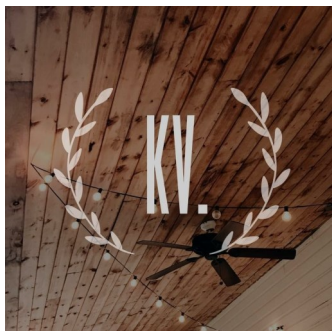
On behalf of the entire Winnipeg Winter Club membership, as well as Squash players near and far, congratulations on your induction into the Squash Manitoba Hall of Fame!

This achievement is not simply recognition of your athletic talents. The prestigious honor represents your extraordinary commitment and dedication to Squash in the Province of Manitoba both on and off the court. I am certain that you all will be great mentors to future Squash enthusiasts.

Sincerely

Rob Guthrie
General Manager
Winnipeg Winter Club

Official Photographer—2018 Squash Manitoba Inaugural Hall of Fame Dinner



Katvanmunster Photography

(Facebook)

kvmphotography@outlook.com

(204) 801-1720 (text only)

Mike Nesbitt



Mike Nesbitt's love for squash began nearly 70 years ago on the courts at the Winnipeg Squash Racquet Club. Encouraged by his father Rex, also a squash enthusiast, and coached by the legendary Charlie Ives, Mike quickly took to the game. While living in Toronto from 1957-1964, Mike continued to improve his squash game. Mike represented Canada at the US Nationals in Annapolis, Maryland.

On his return to Winnipeg, Mike became no stranger to winning tournaments, as he won the WSRC Club Singles Championships in both 1967 and 1970. He also won the Club Doubles Championships in 1965 and 1966. In 1976, Mike won the Manitoba Vets Championships, and in 1977 he won the Alberta Vets Championships. Mike also represented Manitoba at the first ever Canadian Team Championships in 1967, held to celebrate Canada's Centennial.

Mike not only excelled on the court, but he volunteered his time on the board of directors at the WSRC for many years, serving as President from 1970-1972. Mike also chaired the first Canadian Open tournament held in Winnipeg in 1974.

Up until the mid 1970's, squash in Canada was played almost exclusively on North American sized squash courts, which were designed to be played with a hardball. All of the squash courts in Winnipeg were of the North American variety. However, the international sized courts, which were designed to be played with a soft ball, was the future of squash. Mike recognized this, and knew that in order for the sport to continue to grow in Manitoba, squash players in the province must have access to the international sized courts. With this in mind, Mike was the driving force, both in terms of finance and passion, to build Winnipeg's first public co-ed facility with all international sized courts, which became, the Court Sports Club. All of the major racquet clubs in Winnipeg followed suit, and this ensured that squash in Manitoba would be in step with the rest of the squash world and ready for the future of the game.

For nearly 35 years, thousands of Manitobans were introduced to the game and grew their passion for the game on the courts at the Court Sports Club.

Alana Miller



Alana Miller grew up on the courts at the Winnipeg Canoe Club. Under the tutelage of coach, Archie Chawla, she excelled at squash, badminton and tennis, winning junior provincial titles in all 3 sports. She also won Canadian junior titles in the under 13 category and two more in the under 15 category. In Alana's later teen years, she chose squash as her main competitive sport and from that point on she continued her domination of Canadian junior girls squash with a Canadian National title in the under 17 category and capped off her junior career with an under 19 Canadian Junior title in 1998. Alana was nominated 5 times for Sport Manitoba's Junior Athlete of the Year (1996, 1998, 2003, 2005, 2008) and won the prestigious title in 1996.

Alana turned pro in 2003 joining WISPA (Women's International Squash Professional Association). In 2003, her world ranking went from #133 to #46 in a 12 month span. At this time she was being coached by Trevor Borland. In 2003, at the Canadian National Squash Championships, Alana won her first Women's Open title. Alana won two more Canadian National titles in 2007 and 2008, while also competing on the international WISPA tour, reaching a career high world ranking of #30 in 2009.

Alana was also a member of the Canadian National Squash Team from 2003-2010. She reached the pinnacle of her Canadian squash team career at the 2007 Pan Am Games by winning a gold medal in the women's team event and winning a silver medal in the women's individual event. Alana won gold representing Canada at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India, as well, at the Women's World Team Championships in 2004, 2006 and 2008.

Dr. Alana Miller resides in Toronto with her husband Will. They just celebrated the birth of their daughter, Ava Catherine Martha Milroy.

Rick Borland



Rick Borland was an outstanding junior athlete in Manitoba. So much so, that he was nominated for Manitoba's outstanding junior athlete of the year in 1961 and 1962 for his participation in tennis, football and curling.

Due to the demands of his work and his growing family, Rick played less tennis, and as a new challenge, took up squash in the mid 1970's. Also at this time, Rick and Heather welcomed their two sons. Jonathon was born in 1974 and Trevor in 1976. Rick's first provincial squash title came in 1979 when he won the Men's A event at the Manitoba Open.

Rick joined the Winnipeg Squash Racquet Club in 1980 when he started playing with, among others, long time friends, Henry Thiessen and Mike Nesbitt. In 1988 and 1989 Rick was the Vets A Provincial Champion. During the squash season from the mid 1980's until 1999, Rick assisted the Canoe Club racquets pro, Archie Chawla. Rick co-ordinated the junior program, generously devoting his time. Rick was instrumental in the success of some of the junior players coming out of the Canoe Club over that time.

The 90's were a busy time for Rick as he continued his success on the squash courts. He won the 1991 Manitoba Men's A Championship at the Carleton Club. Rick also won the Men's A 45+ event at the 1993 Reebok Jester Vets Tournament. In 1994 he won the Manitoba Men's Open "Vets A". That year, Rick also represented Manitoba at the 1994 Senior Men's Team Championships at age 48!

Rick won his first national squash title in the Men's 45+ division in 1996. This was the first of an incredible 16 national age group titles with multiple wins in each of the 50+, 55+, 60+ & 65+ categories. Rick has won more age group Canadian National Titles than any other Canadian.

The Western Canadian Masters Team Championships was always a favourite event for Rick. He was a stalwart team member for Manitoba and an instrumental part of "Team Toba's" four titles during that time. He took part in twelve Championships from 1998- 2010 as a competitor, selection committee member and exemplary team leader.

Rick and his wife Heather have been enthusiastic supporters, as volunteers and financial sponsors of the Women's Squash Association tournament. This professional event has been hosted at the Winnipeg Winter Club and promoted by their son Trevor and volunteer committee since 2009. It is held in conjunction with the Manitoba Closed Squash Championships. The Borland's have been there to help out wherever needed. Annually, they open their home to billet players, help with draw desk duties and shuttle players to the airport and around the city. Rick and Heather spend countless hours ensuring the event's success.

Rick is a true gentleman, invaluable mentor and a great ambassador for squash.

Marnie Baizley



Marnie Baizley started her long and storied squash career at the Winnipeg Canoe Club. Working with her coach, Archie Chawla, she quickly became the number one junior girl in the province as well as a top player in the country. Marnie won the Canadian Junior Girl's National Championship in the under 14 category in 1989 and she won again in the under 16 category in 1990. Marnie continued her junior career by competing internationally as part of the Canadian Junior Women's Team that placed 6th at the Junior Women's World Team Championships in 1991 in Norway and also at the same championships in 1993 in Malaysia, placing 8th.

Marnie turned pro in 1997 joining WISPA (Women's International Squash Professional Association). At this time, she was being coached by Mike Way in Toronto. In 1999, at the Canadian National Squash Championships, Marnie won her first Women's Open title. Also that year, Marnie reached her career high world ranking of #30 while competing on the WISPA tour. Marnie was the gold medalist while representing Canada at the 2000 World University Games in the Czech Republic. Her second National Women's Open title was won in 2003.

Marnie was a member of the Canadian National Squash Team from 1997-2007. At the 1999 Pan Am Games in Winnipeg, the biggest squash event Manitoba had ever hosted, Marnie won a gold medal in the women's team event and a silver medal in the individual event, thrilling her hometown crowd. She also competed in the 2003 Pan Am Games in the Santo Domingo, winning a silver in the women's team event and a bronze medal in the individual event.

Marnie resides in Toronto with her husband Graham Ryding and their three children, Finella, Obie and Nolan.

Charlie Ives



Charles Ives' remarkable career as both an athlete and builder of the sport of squash has spanned almost 60 years.

Starting out as a "ball boy" at the Queen's Club in London, England, Ives became the club junior professional by the time he was 18. In 1933, R.S. Swan-Dixon, was discussing the establishment of a squash club in Winnipeg with one of Britain's great amateur squash players, Frank Strawson. Swan-Dixon needed a junior pro to come to Canada and Strawson immediately knew the perfect man for the job, his regular playing partner and good friend, Charlie Ives. From 1934-1942, Ives taught squash as pro of the old Winter Club on Smith Street. His special teaching methods lent the name of "Charlie's Boys" to all the juniors that passed under his tutelage.

From 1942-1949, Ives continued to teach during evenings and weekends at the old Winnipeg Squash Club on Donald Street and the list of "Charlie's Boys" grew. When the new Winnipeg Winter Club opened its doors in 1949, Ives returned there to teach and actually taught at both the Squash and Winter Clubs from 1958-1977. Almost every squash player that picked up a racquet in Winnipeg at this time was taught the game by Charlie Ives, including such notable players, as Michael Nesbitt, Gene Turk, Bill Turk, Henry Thiessen and many more.

In 1977 the Carleton Club opened offering yet another challenge to Charlie Ives. The legacy of being one of "Charlie's Boys" continued to grow until the list included two and three generations in some families. In recognition of his lifetime commitment, Ives was presented with the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977 and made an honorary citizen of Winnipeg in 1984. His contributions to the sport not only in Manitoba, but in Canada are immeasurable and he will always be known as the "Father of Squash" in the province of Manitoba.