

2023 MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS



Don Morrison

Qu'Appelle Valley – Lumsden High School



Al Wandler

South Central – Assiniboia Composite High School

SASKATCHEWAN HIGH SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



Merit Award Banquet

Emerald Park
June 22, 2023

2023 SERVICE AWARDS

Service awards are presented to the following individuals. Each award is inscribed as follows:

IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR SERVICE TO STUDENT ATHLETES AND FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE PHILOSOPHY AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SASKATCHEWAN HIGH SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

JOANNE FEELEY – SOUTH CENTRAL

Assiniboia Elementary School

- Joanne has served as SCDAA Treasurer from 2015 – present.
- She has served as Athletic Director at Assiniboia Composite High School in past years. Joanne has coached in SCDAA for 25 years.
- She has coached many successful basketball teams at both the senior and bantam levels.
- Joanne has been part of several provincial host committees at ACHS for both curling and volleyball.
- South Central District President Mitch Singleton had this to say: "Joanne Feeley is a tremendous supporter of athletics in her community of Assiniboia and the SCDAA District. Joanne has acted as SCDAA Treasurer for a number of years and has always strived to create efficient processes and user-friendly forms to ensure Athletic Directors remain organized and fees are paid in a timely manner. She has wholeheartedly supported athletics throughout her entire career and has been an asset to every team, school, and association she works with. Joanne's outlook on youth sports goes far beyond the wins and losses column and she aims to develop youth who can contribute to society in a meaningful way. Joanne is a valuable member of the South Central District Executive and the community of Assiniboia!"



ROSEMARIE TAM – WEST CENTRAL

Outlook High School

- Rosemarie Tam started coaching in 1986 when she coached senior girls volleyball in Wakaw with Morris Nemish. That team went to provincials that year, beginning a long career of successful teams in a number of sports.
- When she began teaching in Outlook in 1989, she immediately got involved in coaching. She has coached virtually every sport offered at OHS at one time or another!
- What we all know Rose for is her involvement in track and field. She began coaching the sport starting her teaching in Outlook. A love of athletics has been a part of Rose for her entire teaching profession and has not wavered despite retiring in 2015.
- For the past 10 years, Rose has continued giving back to athletes and sport by working at indoor track meets with PR Athletics to learn the Hytek program. This expertise has made her indispensable to the entire West Central Athletic Division as she has generously volunteered her time to help with coordinating the local, sections, and district track meets.
- Miles Bennett, former West Central District Athletic Commissioner, said: "Rose and I worked on many track meets together over the years and I can tell you that her attention to detail and devotion to the students of West Central is second to none."



TALENA SCOTT – SOUTH WEST

Ponteix School

- Talena has been teaching at Ponteix School for 8 years. In that time, she has coached senior girls volleyball, badminton, and junior basketball. Previous to that, she also taught in Gull Lake for a short-term where she helped coach track & field.
- She has held a position on the South West Athletic Conference as Athletic Director for 6 years, and has held an executive position on SWAC as Secretary for the past four years.
- Talena is the Volleyball Referee-in-Chief and has spent countless hours organizing our volleyball officials for both league and SWAC/SHSAA competitions. Talena has also been a SWAC Commissioner for many of our junior and senior district championships.
- SWAC Athletic Commissioner, Val Gordon, said: "Talena is a highly organized volleyball referee-in-chief for the South West Athletic Conference. She handles her role with professionalism, optimism and positivity. She is unflappable when handling the stress of planning numerous events or dealing with last-minute changes."



AARON ANDERSON – REGINA

RHSAA

- Aaron has been the RHSAA Commissioner for the past 5 years.
- Aaron began his teaching career in Craik, SK in 1990. From 1995 to 2011, Aaron taught grade 7/8 in Regina, then moving on to teach high school at Campbell Collegiate from 2011-2018.
- He coached volleyball, hockey, football, baseball, and basketball throughout his teaching career.
- Aaron has officiated a number of flag football, volleyball, and basketball games over his elementary and high school teaching career.
- Aaron (along with his wife Rochelle) is retiring from the Regina Public School Division at the end of June after 33 years in Education.
- Kelly Adams, current AD for Campbell Collegiate, has the following to say: "Aaron Anderson is everything that is right and good about school sport. He is dedicated, organized, passionate, respectful, and probably one of the nicest humans one could ever meet. He is truly a generous, caring, and compassionate teacher, coach, father, husband, and commissioner. It was a pleasure to have worked with him."



CURTIS SPELAY – EAST CENTRAL

Yorkton Regional High School

- Curtis is currently completing 17 years of teaching and coaching – 6 years at MCS and 11 years at YRHS.
- Curtis served as ECDA Junior High Coordinator from 2012-2014, Secretary from 2014-2020, and President of ECDA for 2021-Present.
- He has coached golf, volleyball, track and field, and basketball throughout his teaching career.
- He has officiated track and field and basketball for the past 23 years.
- ECDA Athletic Commissioner, Dan Alspach, and ECDA Officials Commissioner, Evan Rostotski, speak highly of Curtis: "Curtis has been a valuable member of East Central as a coach and executive member for a number of years. He is selfless, empathetic, and wears his heart on his sleeve. His love for sport is especially on display while coaching track and field." – Dan. "Whenever there is something that I need an answer to or some guidance on, I can count on Curtis for an answer. His wealth of experience is an asset that has made him valuable not only to myself, but to ECDA as well." – Evan.



DAVE CLARK – QU'APPELLE VALLEY

Indian Head High School

- Dave served on the QVDA Executive as Referee in Chief for Basketball and Member at Large for many years. He also participated as member of the SHSAA Basketball Ranking Committee and presented at the SHSAA Coaches Symposium.
- Dave has coached senior girls basketball since 1999-2000 and has made eight trips to HOOPLA and six consecutive years in a row. He has won two Provincial Bronze Medals and three Silver.
- He coached track and field with numerous athletes going to Provincials and has coached junior girls basketball at the same time as coaching senior girls.
- Dave officiates basketball and mentors young officials.
- QVDA President, Trevor Viergutz had this to say: "Dave pours his heart and soul into every sport that he coaches. Dave's success as a coach isn't by accident. He is a lifelong learner who is always striving to learn more. He has attended coaching clinics, meticulously watches film, and fills up white boards full of scouting reports. Dave is the type of coach that recognizes the potential in his athletes. He has the innate ability to realize when a team or an athlete can be challenged and pushed to their limits and what their potential is. It isn't just about X's and O's with Dave though. Athletes leave his program with a lifelong bond and some of their best high school memories. Learning values of sportsmanship, comradery, and finding their own strengths through sport. Indian Head High School and the community of Indian Head is extremely fortunate to have Dave Clark."



RYAN FOWLER – SOUTH EAST

Weyburn Comprehensive School

- The South East District would like to acknowledge the tremendous contribution that Ryan Fowler has made to athletics and education in the South East District and Saskatchewan over the last 18 years.
- In the early years Ryan taught in Radville, Oungre and Pangman. As with most small schools he was given the role as Athletic Director along with coaching various activities. During this time, he also became involved in the South East District Athletics. In 2007 Ryan decided to get into administration. Over the years he was principal of Lyndale, Pangman, Weyburn Junior High and at present Principal of Weyburn Comprehensive.
- Ryan has coached all of SHSAA activities with the exception of curling and wrestling. The schools that Ryan has been associated with have hosted provincial, regional and district championships. Ryan represented the SECPSD Admin group on the SEDAA executive. Ryan also served on the SHSAA Executive as Section 2 Representative.
- He recently signed on to become the Head Coach for the U18 and U23 National Powerlifting Team.
- Fred Jerred, Athletic Commissioner for SE Cornerstone School Division said this about Ryan: "Ryan is one who will assist you in any capacity. Although he still coaches he would likely see his role as one of "being an enabler" to the teachers who spend their time coaching student athletes. This includes the provision of appropriate financial support, time off for coaching, and support for coaching clinics and upgrading of qualifications. We are so fortunate to be able to have someone like Ryan sit at the table and be part of our athletic discussions."



MARVIN RENNEBERG – HORIZON CENTRAL

Muenster School

- Marvin taught briefly in Quinton, SK before settling in at Muenster School from 1984 until his retirement in 2011.
- While at Muenster School, Marvin was continually active coaching and administering high school sport since that time. He not only coached elite teams and individuals that won provincial championships, but would also take on pretty much any team that needed a coach.
- As an official, Marvin established himself as an excellent soccer official and carried this ability over to basketball, track, and volleyball when he saw there was a need. He also worked hard at recruiting and retaining officials.
- He was the Commissioner for numerous provincial championships, prepared and maintained the track at St. Peter's College for many championships, was the President of the local school athletics organization for many years, and was the District President the last 5 years of his career. With amalgamation, he was instrumental in creating the Constitution, Bylaws, and Policy documents for the newly formed HCAA. He also sat on the SHSAA Executive Council as the Official's Representative from 2002-2006.
- Since Marvin's retirement, he has continued to act as the HCAA Referee-in-Chief for soccer each year and has been a key soccer official in the area.
- Brian Grest, Horizon SD Administrator of Student Activities, had this to say: "Marvin was a firm believer in all the values we hold so dearly in the SHSAA such as sportsmanship, hard work, and effort. He inspired a lot of us to really become better people, including his students and his colleagues."



RYLAN MICHALCHUK – NORTH CENTRAL

Birch Hills Public School

- Rylan has been a long-time coach and district executive representative in the North Central District. He has spent 9 years on the NCDAA executive in the roles of President, Vice-President, and Secretary. In addition, he has been the AD for Carlton and Birch Hills Schools.
- His coaching background has been extensive with both Carlton and Birch Hills schools from football to basketball to track and field. He has also put in hundreds of hours planning and hosting provincial Hoopla and Track & Field.
- His leadership in the district has been very effective over the years as he has always put kids first. Rylan has also stepped up and help officiate local leagues and games around the district. His organizational skills as well as the time and effort he puts into the district have been very impactful to many coaches, athletes, and officials.
- Rylan started his career at Carlton Comprehensive High School and went on to his current Vice Principal position at Birch Hills Public School. Next year he will be moving into the role of Vice Principal at Carlton High School.
- Lindsay Strachan, fellow colleague, had this to say: "Rylan's commitment to what is best for students is evident in the relationships he creates and the enthusiasm he brings to the school environment. His understanding of the value of extra-curricular opportunities for student athletes has driven years of quality service at both the high school and district levels."



SCOTT BRINKLOW – NORTH EAST

Tisdale Middle & Secondary School

- Scott was NESSAC President from 2006-2011, Past President from 2011-2016, and has been Secretary since 2021.
- He was the TMSS Athletic Director for more than 20 years.
- Scott has coached volleyball, basketball, and track and field throughout his teaching career and has been a Teacher Supervisor in junior curling for a few years.
- Scott has many years of volleyball and football officiating and scorekeeping.
- Tisdale's Athletic Director Riley Hobbins had this to say; "Scott has dedicated many years to the athletics of students and creating better athletes and people in a number of different capacities. At TMSS we are thankful for all the work he has put in to our athletic programs over the years as well as his role as Athletic Director. On a personal note, I am grateful for Scott teaching me the ins and outs of becoming an Athletic Director so we can continue the work he has put in at TMSS. Thanks Scott and congratulations! It is well deserved!"



KEVIN HARBIDGE – SASKATOON

Holy Cross High School

- Kevin attended Holy Cross High School, playing Crusader basketball for the legend Dave Hardy. Following an after-grad party, Kevin was involved in a serious car accident where he sustained significant injuries to his spinal cord. Kevin was left as a Quadriplegic. Now for most people that would limit your abilities to stay involved in able bodied athletics, but not Kevin, as he turned his focus on coaching the game he loves.
- Kevin taught math and coached basketball at E.D. Feehan for ten years from 1990 – 2000. In 2000, Kevin was transferred to his alma mater Holy Cross High School. He coached every gender and every level of basketball in his 23 years at Holy Cross.
- He has been in several City Championship games and has won several City Titles with his younger teams and lead his senior girls team to City and Provincial titles in 2010 and 2011.
- Holy Cross High School Athletic Director Scott Hundseth had this to say: "You won't find a more dedicated, passionate, or selfless coach than Mr. Harbidge. If I have to sum up what makes Kevin so special, it's really quite simple. He doesn't care about the outcome of any game or even a season as much as people may think. He cares about an athlete's development above anything else. Kevin didn't want his athletes to just be great players - he wanted them to be great people. The focus was always on the individual, not the athlete."



RYAN NICKELL – BATTLE WEST

Maymont Central School

- Ryan is the Athletic Director for Maymont School, the current President of Battle West Athletic Association, and he sits on the Sportsmanship Committee (which he initiated).
- He is involved in soccer, volleyball, golf, track and field, and elementary sports.
- Ryan started a soccer program in his school despite having no background in soccer because that was where his student's interests lay. He has worked hard to develop the knowledge and expertise to meet their needs.
- Ryan is an official of soccer, volleyball, or anywhere he is needed.
- Ryan is an advocate of school sport in all schools and all students.
- Battle West Athletics Member at Large and SHSAA Board Member, Ken Parker, said: "Ryan is an excellent ambassador of Battle West Athletics. His opinion is recognized and respected at every level from the local to the provincial level."



GALE STACK – CENTRAL VALLEY

Lord Asquith School

- Gale has been involved with coaching at Lord Asquith School for the past 30 years at the High School and Middle Years level, including Senior Girls Volleyball, Junior Girls Volleyball, Junior Boys Basketball, Cross-Country, and Track and Field. Gale's athletes and teams have won CVAC and Provincial Medals, and Gale herself was honoured as the CVAC Female Coach of the Year in 2017.
- As a coach, Gale has played a vital leadership role in developing a school culture of sportsmanship, respect, and dedication in sport, and she is a consistent and passionate advocate for inclusion and involvement for all students in extra-curricular activities.
- Heather Braun, colleague and co-coach, said: "Gale Stack is the heart and soul of our school and community. She selflessly gives her time and her heart for the fulfillment of her students and athletes. It is impossible to consider Gale as only a coach or only a teacher, for regardless of the hat that she is wearing, she approaches everything she does with only one objective: to empower those around her to be better today than they were yesterday. Gale is the model of compassion, inclusion, and empathy, consistently putting the needs of her athletes and students first and creating a culture in her classroom and gym as welcoming spaces where the only thing that matters is giving kids the opportunity to be the best version of themselves."
- Melissa Bachmeier, colleague and co-coach, said: "Working alongside Gale is a privilege I do not take for granted. Her work with students, whether in the classroom or on the court, is led with love. Her knowledge of athletics and teamwork is second only to her ability to raise each athlete to their highest potential."



RYAN SKLAPSKY – NORTH WEST

Bishop Lloyd Middle School

- Ryan had served on the NWHSAA Executive for the past 4 years. Ryan's last role with the NWHSAA was the Vice-President while also taking care of the NWHSAA website.
- Ryan has also been the Athletic Admin for the Jr High schools in Lloydminster, looking after the scheduling and the coordination of leagues within the city, while also organizing/assisting in the running of District events that take place in Lloydminster. This position has also allowed him to become a regular at the NW meetings where his voice and experience has been heard and counted on. Because of this, he has become one that has attended SHSAA AGM's and has given insights to the group that have been important in group decision making.
- As a staff member of Bishop Lloyd, he has also volunteered his time to assist the coaching staff of the Lloyd Comprehensive football team, while also picking up coaching duties in his own school.
- NWHSAA Vice-President, Kendra Paramchuk, had this to say: I have enjoyed having the opportunity to work with Ryan. His interests are the interests of the group. He will give you an honest effort with an honest opinion. Ryan has been a great addition to the group, and the NWHSAA and Lloydminster has benefited from his involvement."

