

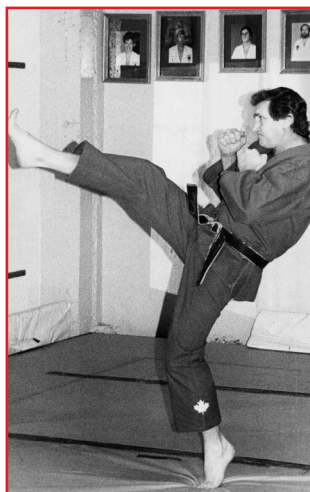
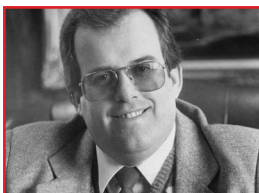


MILTON
SPORTS
HALL OF FAME

Induction Ceremony

Class of 2018

Thursday, November 15, 2018

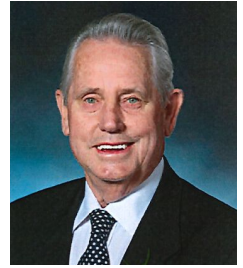


www.milton.ca/sportshalloffame

Message from Mayor Gord Krantz

On behalf of Milton Town Council, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of those in attendance this evening.

Thank you to the organizing committee for hosting tonight's induction ceremony for the Milton Sports Hall of Fame. Your ongoing commitment and support for this project helps celebrate our history and legacy in sports.



As a dynamic, diverse and growing community, we continue to invest in facilities, programs and initiatives to promote healthy and active living. However, while Milton is growing, we continue to take pride in our roots and the heritage that defines our Town.

I hope visitors to the Milton Sports Hall of Fame learn more about our past, recall fond memories of great sporting moments, and celebrate the impressive achievements of our hometown athletes.

Congratulations to all of tonight's inductees!


Mayor Gordon Krantz

Board of Directors



Back Row: Bob Lee (Member), Greg Olerenshaw (Member), Steve LeBlanc (Media and Fundraising Coordinator), Rod McLachlan (Member), Martha Gleeson (Member), Glenn Turner (Nomination Coordinator), Sam Kirkland (Ceremony Coordinator), Stephen Mangotich (Member)

Front Row: Executive, Kelly Guard (Treasurer and Fundraising Coordinator), Andrew Todd (Vice-Chair), Joe Yaworski (Chair), Uwe Samstag-Schnock (Secretary) **Absent:** Don Crowder (Member)

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MILTON
SPORTS
HALL OF FAME

Message from the Chairman



On behalf of the Milton Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors, I welcome you to the 2018 Induction Ceremony.

This is our third Induction Ceremony. With over 160 years of sports history to catch up on we will be a busy group. This has quickly become an annual event. Tonight will certainly be a great evening as we induct 5 more into the Hall of Fame to celebrate their athleticism, the entertainment that they have provided us and their building of sport.

The Milton Sports Hall of Fame is committed to recognize, honour and preserve the sports accomplishments and contributions of our sporting community. The Sports Hall of Fame Board researches, collects, exhibits and promotes the history significant to sport in Milton.

I offer a heartfelt "Thank You" for the tireless efforts of the Board, to the Milton Town Council, who endorsed this year's inductees, to Town Staff for their support and to our numerous sponsors, without whom this event could not happen. Thank you to all of the attendees tonight who have come out to help us formally recognize excellence in sports in Milton.

On behalf of the Board I congratulate and thank, Dave Brush, Brad Grant, Bob Kranstz, Jim Leworthy and the Milton Merchants Jr. A Hockey Team (1996-1998 era), collectively the "Class of 2018", for their invaluable contributions to sports, for entertaining us and for teaching us and future Miltonians to reach for the stars. Welcome to the "100% Club".

These Inductees have all excelled in their chosen sport at the local level and in many cases on the world stage as well.

Joe Yaworski, Chairman

Past Inductees

Inductee	Category	Sport	Year
Scott Hogarth	Athlete	Martial Arts	2016
Peter McDuffe	Athlete	Ice Hockey	2017
Enio Sclisizzi	Athlete	Ice Hockey	2017
John Tonelli	Athlete	Ice Hockey	2016
Ed Whitlock	Athlete	Athletics	2016
Bruce Hood	Builder	Ice Hockey	2017
Cliff Houston	Builder	Ice Hockey/Baseball/Tennis	2017
Carole Murray	Builder	Swimming	2016
Campbellville Merchants	Team	Baseball	2016
E.C. Drury Spartans	Team	Freestyle Wrestling	2017

In Memoriam of Bruce Hood



Donation to the Hall of Fame made by
Bob & Sherry Lee in honour of
2017 Inductee Bruce Hood

Platinum Sponsor - Milton Minor Hockey Association



Master of Ceremony - Chris Mei



Chris Mei can be seen normally on The Weather Network and CBC News Network, Monday to Friday but his extensive performing credits include public speaking, stage, screen, television, movies, comedy, commercials, music and radio.

Chris always brings a great deal of levity to any event and he will always thank his time studying at The Second City Comedy Improv School and the time he spent writing for and performing with his own comedy troupe.

"I am honoured and proud to be returning as your Master of Ceremonies for the 3rd Annual Milton Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. The Town of Milton has a rich history in success both on and while orbiting this planet. Tonight we immortalize our collection of notable sports successes in 5 very deserving honourees. Let's celebrate!"

Agenda - Milton Sports Hall of Fame Induction

Cocktail Hour

Wall of Fame Unveiling..... Joe Yaworski & 2018 Inductees

A Look Back at the Inaugural Class of 2017

Welcome Chris Mei, Master of Ceremony

Piping of Inductees Dave Punton Jr.

Opening Remarks Joe Yaworski
Mayor Gord Krantz

Inductions Bob Kranz, Brad Grant, Dave Brush, Jim Leworthy
Milton Merchants Jr. A Hockey (1996-1998 Era)

Welcome New Inductees..... John Tonelli (Class of 2016)

Closing Remarks Chris Mei
Social

Thank you to our Contributors and Supporters

The Milton Sports Hall of Fame extends a big thank you to all of the sponsors for their generous contributions to this event. We extend a very special thank you to the many volunteers working to make tonight's event a success.

Thank you to the following contributors for their donation to help support the Milton Sports Hall of Fame

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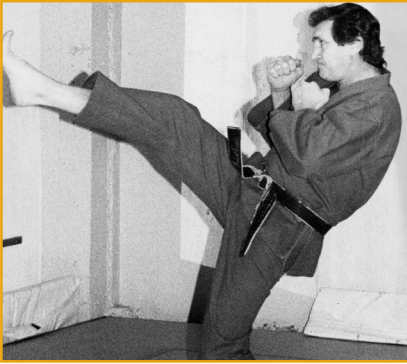
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Dufferin Aggregates, a division of CRH Canada Group Inc., is pleased to sponsor the Milton Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony and to celebrate our local sports history. Congratulations to this year's inductees for your love of the game and community!

BOB KRANSTZ

Jiu-Jitsu



Bob Kranstz' first taste of martial arts came in Judo, but he transitioned to Jiu-Jitsu in the 1960s — drawn to a more complex and all-encompassing style of combat.

Bob's commitment to martial arts has evolved over his 45-plus years of competition.

His sport has taken him around the world and yielded many tournament titles.

Between 1986 and 1992 Bob was at the height of his career, winning three world

championships (1986 Philadelphia, 1988 Australia and 1992 Argentina) and one second place finish (1990 North Carolina) in the Men's Masters Individual Sport Jiu-Jitsu Championship.

An eighth-degree black belt, Bob has also been instrumental in developing the sport. He opened Milton's first Jiu-Jitsu dojo in 1974, starting out first as a high school program before moving to the top floor of the Legion building, and later to Main Street.

The dojo is now run by his daughter, who is also a four-time world champion. Together they have taught and inspired thousands of students, many who have gone on to further national and international Jiu-Jitsu success.

Besides winning national championship titles, Bob's pupils have gained knowledge of self-defense and self-confidence through his mentorship, leading many a parent to join adult classes.

Giving back to the sport, Bob organized some of Canada's first Jiu-Jitsu competitions, and he has also served as an international referee. As a result, he was instrumental legitimizing the sport globally by crafting a set of universal rules that promote safety and fairness in Jiu-Jitsu.

Bob continues to host two tournaments each year out of his Milton dojo. By promoting international competition, his ultimate desire is to see the sport accepted into the Olympics one day, and he has coached the Canadian team at the World Championships.

Whether at the regional, provincial, national or international level, Bob's awards are numerous — including a 2014 induction into the Canadian Blackbelt Hall of Fame.

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BRADLEY GRANT

Ice Hockey



A Milton resident for more than 30 years, Bradley “Brad” Grant purchased Milton’s Jr. B team in 1986 — then known as the Steamers — and, with strong talent and a dedicated coaching staff, turned the team into a league and provincial powerhouse.

One of his first decisions upon taking control of the team was to rename the club the Merchants after Milton’s Junior C team of old. His three-year plan quickly became a 15 year labour of love.

In the season prior to the sale, the team had finished in last place, but under Brad’s stewardship the club had an above .500 record within three years.

As a result, Brad was well respected by the entire Merchants’ organization and had a number of long-term volunteers. In 1993 the team jumped from Junior B to Junior A.

The Merchants won five-straight divisional championships from 1995-99, four league titles overall, an Ontario championship and a trip to the national Royal Bank Cup in Nanaimo, B.C. in 1998.

He prided himself on having as much local talent on his teams as possible, including siblings from four different families (Bertolis, Haydars, Janjevichs, and McPhails), as well as seven players from Milton the year the Merchants went to Canada’s national championship, the RBC Cup.

During his ownership, numerous players earned scholarships and went on to play higher levels of hockey.

Brad was the first chairman when the Ontario Provincial Junior Hockey League was formed in the late 1990s, was treasurer of the Ontario Hockey Association for 14 years before becoming OHA chair and received Hockey Canada’s Order of Merit in 2017.

During his time as OHA chair he focused on fostering success for the Junior B and C leagues, revising the OHA constitution and improving player safety.

Brad continues to be involved with the OHA, serving as past chair and an advisor on the board of directors.

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BASEBALLMILTON

DAVE BRUSH

Ice Hockey / Baseball



A lifelong Miltonian, Dave Brush was a gifted athlete who advanced to the junior level in hockey and intermediate in baseball.

But it was his tireless efforts in developing local sports organizations for which he is best remembered.

After serving in the Second World War as a RCAF wireless air gunner, Dave returned to Milton and managed the Fred Armstrong Arena for two years — a labour of love, before Milton had artificial ice.

His dedication to hockey included coaching at the minor league level and founding the town's first Junior C club (Milton Merchants) in 1964 as co-owner and president, which later became Jr. B and eventually Jr. A.

Dave worked hand-in-hand with Cliff Houston in the operation of the Milton Minor Hockey Association and served as a referee with Cliff in the Ontario Hockey Association for five years.

Believing in the power of sport to affect change amongst the town's youth, Dave supported expanded local sports facilities, and when it came to fundraising he was Milton's number-one fundraiser and ticket seller. He was also known to act as "an unofficial welcome wagon" to new residents, recruiting them for local projects.

While serving on the minor hockey executive and through his involvement with the local Lions Club, Dave was also instrumental in getting a second arena built in the early 1970s.

For his efforts and dedication to Milton sports and local charities, Dave was named 1975 Citizen of the Year.

Dave was equally involved in baseball, having umpired for many years and coached the local intermediates to the Halton County and Ontario "C" titles in 1949 — with a number of championship teams to follow.

In the late 1950s he started the Milton Minor Baseball Association, and years later assisted in forming Milton's first girls' softball league.

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At Intrigue Media, we believe in empowering people to take a leadership role in the community. Congratulations today to all the inductees for their leadership and role in the community of Milton.

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JIM LEWORTHY

Lacrosse



Jim Leworthy had a goal of introducing Milton to Canada's national sport — lacrosse — and began setting his plan in motion.

In 1984, he set up shop in the local mall with a large registration display. Jim and his boosters would sign kids up by giving them a lacrosse stick to try it out, while mom or dad were won over on the benefits.

Together with wife Carol, he founded the Milton Minor Lacrosse Association. In order to increase interest and skill level, Jim would attend local schools and often provided the necessary equipment.

Through bingo fundraising, his philosophy meant no interested child was turned away due to lack of funds. His only request was parents should help run the bingos.

The minor league ranks grew from 40 players in its inaugural year to as many as 500 during his 15-year tenure.

Since that inaugural season, the Mavericks have produced many tournament and provincial champions from tyke all the way up to the intermediate age groups.

Once the minor system was firmly established, Jim turned his attention to bringing a Jr. B franchise to town, and accomplished that in 1995 — serving as both president and head coach of the Mavericks.

In his final year with the Mavericks' organization, Jim secured the bid for Milton to host the 1999 junior B national championships — the Founder's Cup — leading Milton's team all the way to the final as coach before they fell to Edmonton.

During his time with the junior club, many of his players secured athletic scholarships or went on to higher levels of competitive play, including at the collegiate and, for a select few, pro levels.

He remains involved with the sport in more recent years as a coach, as well as his work with the governing body Ontario Lacrosse Association.

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MILTON JR. A MERCHANTS (1996-1998 era) Ice Hockey



The 1996-97 and 1997-98 Merchants represent the high point of success in the hockey club's history, having won back-to-back league championships and making it to the Dudley Hewitt Cup (Central Canadian championship) both years.



In the 1997 OPJHL playoffs, Milton swept Streetsville and Mississauga in the first two rounds before defeating both Bramalea and Newmarket in seven games in the following two rounds. However, it was a team from Sudbury that prevented them from reaching the RBC Cup national championship.

That year Ron Baker and Darren Haydar had been amongst the team's scoring leaders. The next season, the two snipers would once again each eclipse the 100-point mark by an even wider margin during the regular season.

Down two-games-to-none against the Oakville Blades in the second round of the OPJHL playoffs, the '97-98 Merchants stamped shamrock stickers on their helmets and proceeded to win their next game in double overtime.

After losing those two games against Oakville, the Merchants quickly turned it around and won their next 15 straight playoff games.

That year the club went on to defeat Sudbury's Rayside-Balfour Sabrecats in six games to win the Dudley Hewitt Cup title and advance to the national Royal Bank Cup in Nanaimo, B.C.

The series win over Sudbury was especially sweet for the Merchants after those same Sabrecats had defeated Milton the year before at the Buckland Cup and Dudley Hewitt Cup final.

At the 1998 Royal Bank Cup, the Merchants made it to the semifinals, falling to the eventual national champion South Surrey Eagles.

During this championship tenure the team had seven players who grew up in Milton and went through the local minor hockey system, which is practically unheard of by today's standards.

Over these two seasons, the Merchants combined for an impressive regular season record of 78-15-6, good for an 0.84 winning percentage.

TEAM

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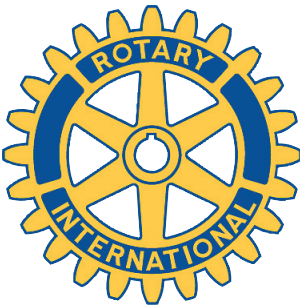


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Sports Hall of Fame
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The Keith Houston Family

Donated by his children
Sharon, Trevor and Keith

Milton Sports Hall of Fame

Milton has a rich sporting history; many elite-level athletes were born, grew up or have moved into Milton.

The Milton Sports Hall of Fame is a not-for-profit organization. The Board members are all volunteers who work together to formally recognize Milton's top athletes, teams and sports builders. The Milton Sports Hall of Fame pays tribute to those who have brought us so much excitement and pride.

The Milton Sports Hall of Fame enables us to recognize, honour and preserve the sports accomplishments and contributions to our sporting community. The Milton Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors are committed to research, collect, exhibit and promote the history significant to the development of sport in Milton.

We are very proud of the Milton Sports Wall of Fame in the Milton Sports Centre and the Milton Sports Hall of Fame online presence. The Wall of Fame includes static and video history of the Inductees, present and past.

Learn More:
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