

BC SCHOOL SPORTS
awards



2025-26
PACKAGE

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 18, 2025 AT 4 PM

HONOUR AWARD

The highest form of distinction BCSS can bestow upon an individual. This award is presented to an individual in recognition of a lifetime of service to school sports. The recipient is an individual who has demonstrated prolonged and distinguished service to BC School Sports, their zone local association, and school. This person has made a significant difference in the role of BCSS and the impact it has on the lives of student-athletes and our member schools.

BCSS MEDIA PERSON OF THE YEAR

Recognizing an individual in the media who has highlighted and celebrated school sport in their reporting. The nominee has continued to bring attention to BCSS, its member schools and student-athletes by showcasing the very best of school sport in BC. The recipient may be employed by traditional media outlets, but those who use blogs, social media, podcasts, or other emerging platforms to consistently promote school sports may be considered.

CRITERIA:

- Currently active or retired for no more than 3 years

The submission must include:

- Examples of articles, images, video or other pieces of coverage
- Minimum of 2 references of support

WOMEN IN SPORTS & LEADERSHIP

This award is to recognize the servant leadership of women in school sports. The recipient is a role model to colleagues and student-athletes alike. The recipient has made a tangible impact on school sport and has demonstrated commitment to their student-athletes, their school, and their sport.

CRITERIA:

- Must be, or have been a coach, athletic director, school or district administrator, or educator at a BCSS member school
- Have made contributions to their school, zone, and/or BCSS while promoting girls sports and participation
- Have encouraged and mentored girls and women for positions as athletic directors, coaches, officials, and related leadership positions in sports

INSPIRATIONAL SCHOOL

Recognizing a school whose special commitment to improving the lives of student-athletes and staff through leadership and public service. This school has contributed significantly to the welfare of school athletics and the local community.

CRITERIA:

- Administration has showcased support to the athletics department
- The school has created a culture that reflects BCSS values
- Found creative new ways to improve student-athlete experience

CITATION OF EXCELLENCE

COACH

Recognizing an outstanding coach and their distinguished contributions to their sport and athletes. The recipient of this award guides student-athletes to success through the philosophy of fair play and sportsmanship for a sustained period, while displaying values consistent with BCSS and school sport.

CRITERIA:

- Currently coaching at a BCSS Member School or no more than 2 years removed from last coaching position
- May be a educator, school district employee or community coach, although consideration will be given to longevity of service

OFFICIAL

Recognizing an outstanding individual and their distinguished contributions to the officiating of school sport. The recipient of this award has demonstrated outstanding commitment to school sport, being recognized as a quality official while displaying the values of BCSS and fair play.

CRITERIA:

- Must be, or have been active in an official's association with a constant presence at school games and BCSS championships
- Has contributed to the development of officials

ADMINISTRATOR

Recognizing the invaluable contributions from an administrator to school sport. The recipient has shown demonstrable leadership and sustainable support to athletic programs, athletic directors and coaches while contributing to the promotion and enhancement of athletic programs and the student-athlete experience at the school and/or district level.

CRITERIA:

- Must be, or have been an administrator at a BCSS member school or at a BC school district

The submission must include:

- Letter of support from coach and/or athletic director

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Recognizing an outstanding individual for excellence as an athletic director and the hard work and dedication shown to improve the student-athlete experience, enhance the school's athletic program, and build the school community at large. The Athletic Director leads by example and consistently demonstrates the values of their school and BC School Sports while finding new creative ways to support their coaches and student-athletes.

CRITERIA:

- Must be an Athletic Director at a BCSS member school or no more than 2 years removed from last serving in that role
- Consideration will be given to longevity and impact in the role

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE NOMINATION APPLICATION FORM](#)

2024-25 AWARD WINNERS

CITATION OF EXCELLENCE – COACH

Del Komarniski - South Kamloops Secondary

With over 30 years in school sport, Del Komarniski built one of B.C.'s most respected basketball programs at Westsyde and South Kamloops, reaching 16 BCSS Provincial Championships, nine final four, and seven Provincial medals, including AA girls titles in 2018 and 2019. A national medal-winning coach with Basketball BC, Del is valued for his vision, mentorship, and athlete-centered leadership.

Jill Fougner - Brentwood College

From Championship athlete to beloved coach, Jill Fougner's volleyball impact spans decades. A former All-Canadian UVic and national team athlete, she led Brentwood College to 17 BCSS appearances, two Provincial and 14 Island titles. Known for fostering trust and joy, Jill builds teams rooted in family, purpose, and lifelong connection.

Byron Green - Holy Cross Regional High

For over 40 years, Byron Green has quickly shaped school sport across four schools, coaching basketball, volleyball, and track. His teams captured multiple Fraser Valley titles and consistent Provincial success, including recent podium finishes. Known for his humility, care and mentorship, Byron leads with heart, ensuring athletes grow in confidence, joy, and life skills.

CITATION OF EXCELLENCE – OFFICIAL

Angelo Pulice - Soccer

For more than 40 years, Angelo Pulice has exemplified leadership and integrity in BC School Sport as an educator, coach, and official. Since 2002, he has served as North Fraser Valley allocator and longtime Head Referee at BCSS Provincials. From high school to the FIFA Women's World Cup, Angelo is known for fairness, humour, and mentorship.

CITATION OF EXCELLENCE – ADMINISTRATOR

Phil Ohl - Claremont Secondary

Phil Ohl's lifelong commitment to school sport began as a student-athlete and grew into 25+ years of coaching and leadership. From reviving rugby programs at Claremont to founding the Scrumfest tournament, he now serves as an administrator Spectrum. Phil champions inclusive access, community connection, and creating opportunities for every student-athlete.

CITATION OF EXCELLENCE – ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Jennifer Maitland - Windermere Secondary

For nearly 20 years, Jennifer Maitland has built inclusive, driven sport communities at Windermere Secondary as teacher, coach, and Athletic Director. Since 2011, she has led multiple programs, launched a student officials club, and created athletic scholarships. Known for visible leadership and mentorship, Jennifer's legacy lives on through the coaches and leaders she's inspired.

David Prissinotti - York House School

For over 30 years, David Prissinotti has exemplified servant leadership as a teacher, coach, and Athletic Director at York House School. Under his guidance, YHS earned eight AA Provincial basketball titles and expanded opportunities across many sports. A respected provincial leader and mentor, David believes school sport is ultimately about belonging, connection, and community.

2024-25 AWARD WINNERS

WOMEN IN SPORTS & LEADERSHIP

Michelle Nederlof - Duncan Christian School

For over 30 years, Michelle Nederlof has championed opportunities for girls through inclusive, purpose-driven sport. At Duncan Christian School, she built leadership-focused programs, expanded Island 1A girls basketball, and founded the Beyond Basketball initiative. Through empathy, advocacy, and mentorship, Michelle's legacy lives on in the athletes who now coach and lead with confidence.

MEDIA PERSON OF THE YEAR

Vivian Chan - vchanvisuals

Vivian Chan transforms school sport into powerful storytelling. A former Notre Dame athlete, she launched VCHANVISUALS to spotlight BCSS championships and underrepresented athletes across B.C. Since 2019, her work has become a trusted hub for schools and fans alike. Through authenticity and mentorship, Vivian is reshaping how student-athletes are seen and celebrated.

Steve Ewen - The Province/Vancouver Sun

For over 35 years, Steve Ewen has been one of B.C.'s most passionate voices for school sport. From community newspapers to The Province and Vancouver Sun, he has chronicled generations of student-athletes and championship moments. A Hall of Fame media inductee, Steve believes in the power of positive storytelling to unite, inspire, and preserve school sport's legacy.

MOST INSPIRATIONAL SCHOOL

Nanaimo Christian School

From seven teams to 35 across multiple sports, Nanaimo Christian School has built a thriving, inclusive athletics culture with over 40% student participation. Guided by strong leadership, a new gym, and educator-coaches, NCS prioritizes belonging, service, and student growth. As hosts of BCSS championships and community leaders, they embody sport with purpose and heart.

HONOUR AWARD

Louise Holmes

For over 35 years, Louise Holmes has been a pillar of school sport in Northern B.C. As coach, Athletic Director, North Central Zone President, and provincial leader, she built championship programs, hosted multiple BCSS events, and mentored generations of student-athletes. Grounded in service and integrity, Louise's lifelong dedication has left an enduring provincial legacy.

HISTORY OF THE HONOUR AWARD

2024	PAUL THIESSEN	1998	JACK MAY MARION MCNEILL
2023	ANNEMARIE WATTS		DARLENE CURRIE
2022	KERRY TAYLOR	1997	STAN GILL ROGER KRONQUIST
2021	SUE THORNE		GARY HAENSGEN EARL HENDERSON
2020	TOM DINSDALE	1996	ED PEDERSEN MIKE SMITH BOB STEBBINGS
2019	WENDY HYER		BILL MCNULTY CLIVE HUGHES
2018	JILL VOROS	1995	MARTY CROSS
2012	RANDY SEMENOFF RAJ PURI	1994	ED CARLIN STAN LAWSON JIM STEWART
2011	JO-ANNE LOADER	1993	DAVE GIFFORD BOB JACKSON VERA WILLIAMSON
2010	BOB MATLOCK	1992	BOB FERGUSON
2009	BRIAN LAVIOLETTE BRIAN LYNCH		JACK BUCKHAM BARRY CALLAGHAN MATT PHILLIPS DOUG HARSHBARGER
2008	PHILIP CIZMIC	1991	JACK ARMOUR VERNA CHERNOFF BOB GAIR CHANDRA MADHOSINGH
2007	JOE MOREIRA JO ANN WARD	1990	DON HARTWIG
2006	WALTER BECKER		DAN DOYLE HUGH MARSHALL RON VAN DOLAH RUTH WILSON
2005	BRIAN OLTHUIS	1989	DON MCINTYRE VAN MORRISON
2004	DAVID BINGHAM		
2003	MIKE CHARLTON		
2002	NEIL MURRAY ROD VANCE		
2001	VIC BIFANO MOE WILLIAMS		
2000	LEN CORBEN BARRY KINGSLEY		
1999	GAYLE GUEST BILL PARNELL BARRY STEWART DOUG STURROCK JACK TASAKA		