



Sport BC Announces the Presidents' Awards Recipients

For Immediate Release – February 18, 2026, Vancouver, BC



Sport BC's Presidents' Awards presented by Sports With Balls (and a Rock!), celebrate the outstanding volunteers that make sport possible across British Columbia.

Behind every practice, competition, and community sport experience is a volunteer who shows up, often quietly, always consistently. Their leadership, generosity, and commitment shape safe, welcoming, and meaningful sport environments in every corner of the province. Each year, the Presidents' Awards, presented by Sports with Balls (and a Rock), honour volunteers from Sport BC member organizations whose contributions go beyond expectation and whose impact is felt far beyond the field of play.

Thirty-Nine (39) recipients will be recognized in a special ceremony prior to Sport BC's 58th Athlete of the Year Awards on Thursday, March 5, 2026.

Sport BC is proud to celebrate the 2026 Presidents' Awards recipients and extends heartfelt thanks for the time, care, and passion they continue to give to sport and to their communities across British Columbia. Thank you to the Sport BC members that submitted their volunteer for this recognition.



Sport BC Presidents' Awards Recipients

Sport BC Member

Badminton BC

Basketball BC

BC Archery

BC Athletics

BC Blind Sports and Recreation Association

BC Diving

BC Fencing Association

BC Freestyle Ski Association

BC Games Society

BC Golf

BC Hockey

BC Lacrosse Association

BC Netball Association

BC Rhythmic Sportive Gymnastics Federation

BC Seniors Games Society

BC Snowboard Association

BC Soccer

BC Sport Cheer

BC Sports Hall of Fame and Museum

BC Wheelchair Basketball Society

BC Wheelchair Sports

Boxing BC

Curl BC

Field Hockey BC

Football BC

Horse Council BC

Recipient

Donn Aven

Kevin Kaardal

Viera Kopecky

Darren Willis

Robert (Bob) Thiessen

Christine Frohloff

Igor Gantsevich

Regan Truscott

Nadine Barbisan

Kathy Chen

June McKenzie

Harpreet Grewal

Dana Graf

Evgeniia Prokopenko

Bob Ewashen

Billy (BJ) Wilson

John Charlton

Dawn Silver

Ross Wolrige

Gerry Kripps

Bernie Hesmert

Gowtham Mohan

Keith Switzer and Al Kersey

Kara Joyce

Matt Mercier

Jacqueline Pieters



Sport BC Member

I-SPARC
Judo BC
Karate BC
KidSport BC
Pickleball BC
Skate Canada BC/YT Section
Softball BC
SportMedBC
Squash BC
Swim BC
Triathlon BC
Volleyball BC

Recipient

Corinne McKay
Ramon Rodriguez
Donna Gardecki
Ronnie & Kathy Paterson
David Snell
Susan Morriss
Jason Ranchoux
Marc Rizzardo
Shawn Zwierchowski
Naomi Smith
Andrea Damiani
Carol Hofer

Thank you to the sponsors of the 58th Athlete of the Year Awards!



About Sports with Balls

Sports With Balls (and a Rock) is a collaborative working group of Sport BC members comprised of the following Provincial Sport Organizations: Basketball BC, Baseball BC, BC Lacrosse, BC Rugby, BC Soccer, Curl BC, Softball BC, and Volleyball BC. Sport BC is grateful for the continued support of Sports with Balls and their belief in celebrating volunteerism.



About Sport BC

Sport BC believes in the power of sport and is committed to building stronger communities through positive sport experiences. Our goal is to enhance and support sport participation in British Columbia ensuring everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Through our KidSport BC, BC Amateur Sport Fund, and BC Women & Sport along with our services Sport BC Insurance, and Payroll and Group Benefits; Sport BC supports our seventy plus member organizations. Keep up to date @SportBC

Athlete of the Year Awards

Thursday, March 5, 2026

@SportBC

#SportBC58thAOY

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