



2024 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

Saturday, October 19th, 2024

The Gates on Roblin
Proud 10 time host of
the Annual Manitoba Rugby
Hall of Fame
Induction Dinner!

The Gates on Roblin, just minutes from the western edge of Winnipeg, boasts a beautifully landscaped seven-acre estate. Our amenities include a 200-seat fine dining restaurant, and a 400-guest state-of-the-art Ballroom. Along with our elegantly appointed Lounge, and the best riverside deck, we also offer several private dining rooms all nestled in a lush country setting.



Come home to The Gates! We provide world-class services, spectacular local cuisine, and unparalleled facilities to meet your every need.

The Gates on Roblin is truly a secret hideaway from the hustle and bustle of the City. It's a great place to sit back, relax and recharge in our cozy Lounge, or in any one of our comfortable dining areas. We would like to personally invite you to see what we have to offer, so please visit us soon by making online reservations through our website, www.thegatesonroblin.com.

The Gates on Roblin has you covered for all your entertaining requirements, whether on-site or off-site in your home or office. Our team of chefs have created each menu with a flair of creativity and a touch of the unexpected. We will tempt your palate with our signature dishes. Flavours will burst in your mouth whether you are sampling our Silver Tray Service at an off-site Cocktail Reception, enjoying our Plated Service at a corporate function in our Ballroom, or dining at our weekly Sunday Brunch. Please visit our website to view our complete range of services.



THE GATES
ON ROBLIN

6945 Roblin Boulevard • Headingley, Manitoba • R4H 1A2
T 204.224.2837 • F 204.885.6991



Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame

October 2024

To: **Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame 2024 Inductees**

From: **Glenys MacKenzie**
Chair, Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee

On behalf of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee, I would like to congratulate and welcome the 2024 inductees to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

2024 is the fifteenth year since the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame was established to honour those who have made a significant and valuable contribution to the game, which has been played in Manitoba since 1879.

It is not an easy path to induction as an Honoured Member. Nominations received from the rugby community are screened, reviewed, and researched by a Sub-Committee of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame, selected recommendations for induction are ratified by the Board of Directors of Rugby Manitoba, and then approved by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee for induction.

Whether you are a Player or Builder; you have all made outstanding and significant contributions to rugby locally, nationally and/or internationally. As Honoured Members you have been recognized by your peers for your notable achievements on and/or off the pitch, inspiring all involved in rugby.

We truly thank you for your contributions and dedication to our great game!

Sincerely,

Glenys MacKenzie
Chairman, MRHOF
www.manitobarugbyhalloffame.com

Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Honourable Members

PIONEER

• Ian Williams	2010
• Albert Shepherdson*	2010
• Jim Platt*	2011
• Robert Pringle*	2014
• John Whyte*	2015
• John Walton	2016
• Derry Newton*	2018
• Clint Evans*	2020
• Bob Rialland	2022

BUILDER

• Dwight Evans	2010
• MGRP Founders Committee	2010
• John Reilly*	2010
• Gilles Roy*	2010
• Bob Elder*	2011
• Art Logan*	2011
• Gary MacDonald*	2011
• Ken Pearn*	2011
• Glenys MacKenzie	2012
• Don Pincock	2012
• Peter Press	2013
• Jim Feasby	2014
• Rick Romsa	2015
• Rob St. Germain	2016
• WASP Women's Athletic Association	2016
• St. Paul's High School Rugby Program	2016
• Don Innes	2017
• Jim (Pops) Russell	2017
• Karen Rhoda	2018
• Peter Nolan*	2018
• Arleigh Mackenzie	2019
• Randy Dilk	2019
• Scott Harland	2020
• Colleen Horton	2020
• Sandy Donald	2023

OFFICIAL

• Ken Adams	2010
• Dave Barnes*	2011
• Mike Brown*	2012
• Gary Nicholson	2012
• Ray Skett	2012
• Wilf Erichsen	2013
• T. Colin Gibbs*	2013
• Guy McKim	2014
• Paul Harland*	2015
• Bill Zubrack	2018

PLAYER / TEAM

• Larry DeBooy*	2010
• Corinne Enns	2010
• Winnipeg Rugby Football Club (Winnipeg Blue Bombers)	2010
• Val Gompf	2011
• Neville Rhoda	2011
• SNAFU Rugby Tournament	2011
• 1994 Manitoba U17 Boys Provincial Team	2012
• Riley Barkman	2013
• Saracens RFC Men's Premiership Championship Team 1979-86	2013
• Brian Erichsen	2014
• Brent Tomchuk	2014
• 1996 Manitoba U19 Jr Women's Provincial Team, National Champions	2014
• Brenda Treleaven	2015
• 1997 Manitoba Sr. Men's Tier II National Championship Team	2015
• Jeff Harrison	2016
• Angela Ploegman	2016
• 1972-1975 Saracens RFC 1 st Division Men's Team	2016
• Andrew Jackson	2017
• Mandy Marchak	2017
• St. John's High School Rugby Team	2017
• Lou Furlan	2018
• Shannon Ploegman Smith	2019
• Brian "Benji" Marchak	2019
• Sidney Roberts	2019
• Harry Robertson	2022
• Erik Luinenburg	2022
• Simone Hernandez- Ramdwar	2023
• 1985-89 Winnipeg Wasps Third Division Team	2023

* Passed

Introduction

CELEBRATING RUGBY



Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame: 2024 Inductees

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame celebrates the history of the sport of Rugby in Manitoba, first played in 1879, and aims to recognize those whom have significantly contributed to the game and its development.

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Induction Sub Committee recommended a number of potential Inductees, three of whom were subsequently ratified by Rugby Manitoba and approved by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee for Induction in 2024.

We truly appreciate the accomplishments and contributions to the game of Rugby of these individuals and welcome them as Honoured Members of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

2024 Honoured Members



Wayne Guenther – Builder



Amanda
Thornborough – Player



Troy Williams – Builder





**PREMIER
OF MANITOBA**

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Manitoba, I want to congratulate the new inductees into the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

This honour recognizes individuals and teams for their incredible achievements and contributions to rugby in our province. Sports like rugby teach us about the value of hard work and collaboration, while also being a great way to get moving and get outside. The individuals being recognized this year represent incredible athletes and coaches, many of whom dedicated their lives to the sport of rugby.

Congratulations to Amanda Thornborough, Troy Williams, and the late Wayne Guenther. We are all proud that you are Manitobans.

I wish you all a wonderful evening of celebrating excellence in Manitoba sports.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wab Kinew'.

***The Honourable Wab Kinew
Premier of Manitoba***



Mayor's Message

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, I'd like to welcome everyone to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame's 15th Induction Dinner.

Tonight, we honour the contributions of three outstanding individuals - Wayne Guenther, Amanda Thornborough, and Troy Williams - who have played a key role in strengthening the rugby community here in Manitoba.

Congratulations to the 2024 inductees being recognized tonight and thank you for your contributions to rugby in Manitoba. May your stories inspire the next generation of players, coaches and enthusiasts.

This year, Winnipeg marks 150 years as a city. An important part of our shared history is the organizations that celebrate our community and make Winnipeg a better place to live, work and play.

Thank you to the Rugby Manitoba board, staff and volunteers for organizing tonight's event and your ongoing efforts to shine a light on the remarkable individuals and teams that have had a profound impact on the sport of rugby.

My best wishes for a wonderful evening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Gillingham".

Scott Gillingham
Mayor
City of Winnipeg





MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF BRANDON



On behalf of myself as Mayor, the Brandon City Council, and all residents of Brandon and the surrounding area, I extend heartfelt congratulations to the 2024 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame inductees: Wayne Guenther, Troy Williams, and Brandon's own Amanda Thornborough.

A special congratulations to Amanda Thornborough. From your beginnings at Vincent Massey to your achievements on the world stage, your career in rugby is truly commendable. We are incredibly proud of all you have accomplished.

To the other honorees, congratulations on your remarkable achievements. Your dedication to the sport of rugby is deeply appreciated. You now join 72 esteemed members across Manitoba.

A sincere thank you to the organizers, sponsors, and volunteers for making this event possible. Your dedication and commitment are invaluable.

Here's to the 2024 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame inductees!

With best regards,

Mayor Jeff Fawcett
City of Brandon



On behalf of Sport Manitoba, I am delighted to extend our warmest congratulations to Wayne Guenther, Amanda Thornborough, and Troy Williams for being honoured as this year's inductees into the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

This esteemed group has made significant and lasting contributions to the sport of rugby in Manitoba. Wayne Guenther, whose dedication spanned 37 years, was a cornerstone of the Winnipeg Wasps Rugby Football Club, inspiring countless young athletes with his passion for the game. Amanda Thornborough, whose journey began in Brandon, rose to international acclaim, representing Canada on the world stage with skill and grace. Troy Williams, a formidable presence both on and off the field, shaped the Assassins Rugby Football Club through his leadership and commitment, leaving an indelible mark on the rugby community.

It is a privilege to recognize and celebrate the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame's Class of 2024. Your passion, dedication, and unwavering commitment have not only shaped the sport, but also enriched Manitoba's sport heritage. Your legacies will continue to inspire future generations of rugby players, coaches, and enthusiasts across the province.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet McMahon".

Janet McMahon
President & CEO
Sport Manitoba



sportmanitoba.ca

info@sportmanitoba.ca
204-925-5600

145 Pacific Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3B 2Z6

Funding Partner:





September 5, 2024

Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame
Attn: Mr. Ray Hoemsen
2 Point Road
Winnipeg, MAN

Dear All,

Thank you so much for including me in this wonderful celebration of the 2024 Inductees into the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

A Hall of Fame induction is reserved for the most distinguished players, builders and teams among us. This year's inductees are by no means no exception and represent the very best of the Manitoba Rugby community in terms of their commitment, dedication, talent and tenacity.

On behalf of Rugby Canada, I would like to offer sincere congratulations to Amanda Thornborough, Troy Williams and Wayne Guenther and family. Thank you for your leadership, your example and your stewardship of the game rugby in this great province.

Like those who have come before you in receiving this honour, you are now part of the fabric that is the proud legacy of rugby in Manitoba. Your achievements will live on and serve as an inspiration to current and future players alike, both in your home province and across this country.

Thank you to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame and their selection committee. Recognizing and celebrating the rich history of rugby in Manitoba is a worthy endeavour and an important part of growing the game.

And finally, to Amanda, Troy and Wayne, may your individual and collective accomplishments shine brightly tonight and always.

Have a wonderful evening.

My very best,

Kathleen McGinn

HEAD OFFICE

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rugby.ca
contact@rugby.ca





Rugby Manitoba
145 Pacific Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2Z6

To the 2024 Manitoba Hall of Fame Inductees,

On behalf of Rugby Manitoba, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the 2024 Manitoba Hall of Fame Inductees: Wayne Guenther (Builder), Amanda Thornborough (Player), and Troy Williams (Builder). Your exceptional contributions to the sport of rugby have left an indelible mark on the Manitoba rugby community, and we are immensely proud to see you recognized with this prestigious honour.

Wayne Guenther (Builder, Posthumous) - Wayne's legacy as a dedicated player, coach, and administrator over 37 years has been a cornerstone of rugby in Manitoba. His passion for developing young athletes and fostering a love for the game was evident in his work with the Winnipeg Wasps RFC, the Manitoba Youth Rugby program, and the broader rugby community. Wayne's commitment, enthusiasm, and mentorship have left a lasting impact on all who were fortunate to learn from him.

Amanda Thornborough (Player) - Amanda's outstanding achievements, from her early days at Vincent Massey High School to representing Canada at two Women's Rugby World Cups and earning caps with Rugby Canada's U19, U20, and Senior Women's teams, are a testament to her remarkable talent, dedication, and love for the game. Her accomplishments on the national and international stage, including her participation in the historic Women's Barbarians Invitational Team, serve as an inspiration to athletes across the country.

Troy Williams (Builder) - Troy's journey from a formidable player at Transcona Collegiate to an esteemed leader, coach, and administrator with the Assassins RFC embodies the spirit of dedication and passion for rugby. His contributions as a coach, club executive, and president have significantly shaped the development of the sport and community within Manitoba, fostering a strong foundation for future generations of rugby players.

We celebrate each of you for your extraordinary accomplishments and contributions to rugby. Your induction into the Manitoba Hall of Fame is well-deserved recognition of your commitment, passion, and love for the sport. Rugby Manitoba is proud to have been a part of your journey, and we look forward to your continued influence on the sport we all cherish. Congratulations once again on this remarkable achievement.

Sincerely,
Steve Dreger
Executive Director, Rugby Manitoba

Steve Dreger

Colleen Horton
Assistant Executive Director, Rugby Manitoba

Colleen Horton

Christian Taylor
President, Rugby Manitoba Board of Directors

Christian Taylor



On behalf of the Board of Directors of Maple Grove Rugby Park, I would like to provide our congratulations to the very deserving inductees Amanda Thornborough (Player), Troy Williams (Builder) and the family and friends of Wayne Guenther (Builder) to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

Congratulations on your induction to the Manitoba Ruby Hall of Fame!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randall Horton", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

RANDALL HORTON
President
Maple Grove Rugby Park

Maple Grove Rugby Park and Sportsplex
190 Frobisher Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2N 3Z1



On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and all supporters of the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame & Museum, we extend our hearty congratulations to the newest inductees into the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

Amanda, Troy, and Wayne, being recognized by your sport in this way is a substantial accomplishment and also warrants appreciation for a job extremely well done. Thank you for everything. You serve as inspirations for new generations of athletes and builders who will follow your lead in rugby. This is a lasting legacy that will impact those individuals and the sport of rugby for years to come.

You stand as pillars not only of rugby's community but of sport as a whole. Your dedication and accomplishments demonstrate the power of sport. They exemplify how leadership, teamwork and health through activity are character traits we all should embrace.

To those family and friends celebrating you, please also take a moment to appreciate those who preceded you. This wonderful collection of athletes, builders and teams serves as the foundation of the rugby community. You are most welcome and deserving additions.

We at the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame & Museum are honoured to be entrusted with our sporting past, as through this we inform our collective future in sport and beyond. Rugby is a core pillar of this larger sports community, which in turn positively impacts our society. We cannot thank you enough for what you have done and continue to do to support sport and society.

Once again, congratulations and thank you on this very special occasion. We look forward to continuing to celebrate the incredible accomplishments of rugby across Manitoba now and in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don MacDonald".

Don MacDonald
Co-Chairs, Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Palamar".

Jeff Palamar

sportmanitoba.ca/halloffame

halloffame@sportmanitoba.ca
204-925-5936

100 -145 Pacific Ave
Winnipeg, MB, R3B 2Z6

A program of
Sport
MANITOBA



September 1, 2024

Dear Glenys,

We are pleased to welcome and congratulate the newest members of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame, the latest in a distinguished list of Manitoba Rugby Hall of Famers. :

- Wayne Guenther – Builder (Posthumous).
- Amanda Thornborough – Player.
- Troy Williams – Builder.

In recognizing, Amanda and Troy and Wayne posthumously, you not only show appreciation for their achievements and contributions to Manitoba Rugby, you also inspire high levels of sustained commitment and aspiration from all those that follow...and we applaud that.

Further, we send greetings to all the attendees at the 2024 Induction Dinner gathering to celebrate these inductees. The dinner, like the Canadian Rugby Foundation and its Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund, helps raise funds to develop and grow rugby in Manitoba and across Canada. Thank you for your continued support!

As a gesture of support for Manitoba Rugby, the Canadian Rugby Foundation again offers to match any donations to the Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund (all tax receipt-eligible) received by October 30, 2024 to a maximum of \$2500.

We look forward to seeing who will be in the next Hall of Fame classes and who will be representing the Province of Manitoba on pitches not just in the province but across the nation and around the world.

Cheers,

Jeff Chan, Executive Director

Mike Holmes, Chair

Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund

As a gesture of support for Manitoba Rugby the Canadian Rugby Foundation will match any contributions to the **Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund** received by October 30 2024, up to **\$2500**.

There are many ways to donate to the Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund.

- 1. ONLINE:** Canada Helps.org will automatically send out a tax receipt for donations to the Manitoba Rugby Endowment fund made via this link:
<https://canadianrugbyfoundation.ca/index.php/support-a-fund/club-funds/manitoba-rugby-endowment-fund/>
- 2. CHEQUE:** The Canadian Rugby Foundation will send a tax receipt for donations to the Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund made by cheque which are sent c/o **Canadian Rugby Foundation, 709 Yates St., PO Box 8003, Victoria, BC, V8W 3R7** with the Fund name (Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund) in the memo line of the cheque.
- 3. ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER/INTERAC:** Transfers can be sent to payments@canadianrugbyfoundation.ca with an additional email to **Breann Ling** at cdnrugbyfoundation.financial@gmail.com with the details of the deposit for tax and allocation purposes; i.e., Donor's Full Name and Address and the Name of Fund Allocation (Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund). The Canadian Rugby Foundation will send a tax receipt.
- 4. BANK WIRE TRANSFER:** The Canadian Rugby Foundation will provide a tax receipt for donations made using the banking information and address below and an email to cdnrugbyfoundation.financial@gmail.com to inform Breann King of the date to expect the transfer, with amount and name of donor as well as the name of the fund (Manitoba Rugby Endowment Fund):
CIBC 3147 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C.
Account No. #05030-7605617, Canadian Rugby Foundation,
Bank No. # 010, Swift # CIBCCATT.



Point your phone's camera at this QR code to visit link.

If you have any questions please contact either **Ray Hoemsen** (ray@rugby.mb.ca) of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame or **Jeff Chan** (jeffchan@gmail.com) of the Canadian Rugby Foundation.



CONGRATULATIONS

2024 MANITOBA RUGBY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

BUILDER:

Wayne Guenther

PLAYER:

Amanda Thornborough

BUILDER:

Troy Williams



Black and Gold Forever

WASPS RUGBY



The Winnipeg Wasps Rugby Club celebrate the induction of Wayne Guenther to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame - class of 2024. Wayne's contributions to the Wasps and rugby in Manitoba, as a player, coach and administrator were vast and reflected his commitment, devotion and passion to our sport, both on and off the field.

The Wasps Women's team and alumni would especially like to honour Wayne for his dedication to coaching. His exceptional leadership and enthusiasm has made a lasting impact and serves as inspiration for the next generation of Wasps.



We proudly recognize Wayne's accomplishments - Black and Gold Forever.



Wayne Guenther

BUILDER



A graduate of the Winnipeg Wasps' Kelvin High School "recruitment center", **Wayne Guenther's** contributions to the sport of Rugby span a period of some 37 years. Player, coach, administrator, Wayne covered the whole field in exemplary fashion.

Wayne played Rugby for over 22 years, all with the Winnipeg Wasps Rugby Football Club and was a mainstay talent with the club and key factor in many of the Wasps' Premier Division League and Premier Division Provincial Championship teams during the nineties. He was also selected to the Manitoba Senior Men's Provincial Team in 1984.

In 1986, Wayne initiated his coaching experience as an assistant coach under Rob Bruce Baron, coaching the Under 19 Junior Men's Selects Rugby Team to a 4th finish at the National Championships played in Winnipeg between August 22nd to 24th of that year. Years later he was

to become the Head Coach of the Winnipeg Wasps RFC Women's Rugby Team between 2013 and 2016, successfully leading the team to a Provincial Championship in his final year. From 2014 to 2019, Wayne served as coach of the J. H. Bruns High School Rugby Team winning a Championship for the school in 2016.

The recipient of the Manitoba Rugby Union's (MRU) Presidents Award in 1991 and the Rugby Manitoba Raymond Skett (Coaches) Award in 2015, Wayne was prolific as an administrator throughout the nineties. Between 1991 and 1998, Wayne alongside Ray Hoemsen and MRHOF Honoured Members' Wilf





Erichsen and Gary MacDonald, initiated and served as an instructor for the immensely popular Manitoba Youth Rugby program. In 1992 Wayne served on the Board of Directors of the MRU in charge of Junior Development and followed that up in 1993 serving as MRU President. In 1997 and 1998 he served on the Rugby Manitoba Board of Directors in charge of Schools and Junior Development and served in 1998 as Vice President of the Winnipeg Wasps RFC, and in 2023, as Rugby Manitoba Board of Directors Vice President before his passing.

Keen of wit as well as eye, Wayne had a passion for photography, and it was rare that one would not see him strolling the grounds of Maple Grove Rugby Park without a camera strapped around his neck taking pictures of the action both on and off the field. As evidenced by his contributions to the sport, Wayne enjoyed most the coaching, mentoring and development of young athletes and those who were new to the sport, instilling in them a love for the game and the camaraderie it entailed. Truly a legacy worth honouring and remembrance.





Congratulations to the 2024 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Inductees!

Builder **Wayne Guenther**

Player **Amanda Thornborough**

Builder **Troy Williams**

President **Randall Horton**

Vice President Internal **Keenan Horton**

Vice President External Operations **Jose Orellana**

Secretary **Justin Rak Banville**

www.maplegroverugbypark.com



**The Barbarians would like to congratulate
Amanda Thornborough on her induction
to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.**



BRANDON BARBARIANS RUGBY CLUB
www.brandonbarbs.com

Amanda Thornborough

PLAYER

Amanda Thornborough first played rugby at Vincent Massey High School in Brandon, Manitoba in 2005 and joined the Brandon Barbarians RFC in 2008 before moving to the Westshore RFC in Victoria, British Columbia in 2013. Less than a decade after first playing high school rugby she played in her second World Cup in 2017 (Canada won silver at her first World Cup in 2014).

An accomplished centre, Amanda first played for Manitoba (U19s) three seasons, starting in 2008 and then the Manitoba U20s in 2011, helping the Manitoba U19 to finish third at their National Championships in 2010.

Amanda played her university rugby with St. Francis Xavier University (Antigonish, Nova Scotia) from 2009-2013, earning Rookie of the Year honours in 2009 and being recognized as a Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) All Canadian (2012 & 2013), National Champion (2010 & 2012) and National Tournament All-Star (2010 & 2012).

Between 2009 and 2019, she played with Rugby Canada's U19 & U20 (eight

caps), National Senior Women's 7s (four caps at the Hong Kong Sevens in 2013) and the National Senior Women's 15s (30 caps) – representing Canada at two Rugby World Cups (2014 & 2017) and a Nations Cup (2013).

Amanda was a member of the 2014 Women's Rugby World Cup Team which was inducted into the Rugby Canada Hall of Fame in 2020 for its "breakout performances in the lead up to and during the 2014 Women's Rugby World Cup in France. This historic group of elite athletes turned in a magical performance in 2014 making it all the way to the Final to be narrowly defeated by England. Their 2nd place finish is highest Rugby World Cup finish of any Canadian side."¹





Amanda was also one of two Canadians invited to the historic first-ever Women's Barbarians (Baa Baas) Invitational Team in 2017 (versus Munster), as well as the 2019 Barbarians (versus the United States of America). The Barbarians were started in England 1890, those invited must not only be good players but act professionally both on and off the field.²

In Amanda's own words³: "My favorite thing about rugby is the power and combat aspects. Being able to physically challenge an opponent is a great feeling. There are not a lot of women's sports that allow you to do that. Honestly my teammates have been the biggest influence and role models. To play with some of the best players in Canada inspires me. Whether it's at my club, University or National Program, there is always someone to learn from and someone to push me to be better." Throughout her high school, club, university, national and international rugby playing career Amanda has truly exhibited her skill, poise, professionalism and love for the game.



Congratulations to all of this year's inductees into the Hall of Fame! This **honour** is a testament to your *hard work, talent, and exceptional achievements*. Celebrate this **remarkable** milestone—you've truly earned it!



BRUMBIES RUGBY



— CELEBRATING 15 YEARS —

Congratulations
to all of the
2024 Manitoba
Rugby Hall of
Fame inductees

We raise our whistles to you all!





The Assassins are thrilled to celebrate Troy Williams' induction into the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

As a loyal Assassin for over 20 years, both as a player and a coach, Troy's dedication to building the rugby community in Manitoba has led to many accolades! Coaching highlights include the 2016 Premier & Div 2 Men's Championship wins and helping guide the Women's Premier team to their consecutive title victories starting in 2019!

You'll often catch this Maui look alike on the sidelines telling stories, sharing laughs, or at The Riverside with a cold one and wings, singing some karaoke or cheering for the Toronto Maple Leafs!

Thank you for all you have brought to the game of rugby and our community. Thank you, Troy!



TOUGHNESS, CHARACTER & TRADITION.
ASSASSINS RFC

Troy Williams

BUILDER

Troy Williams started his rugby career at Transcona Collegiate in 1987 under the tutelage of coach Randy Hilderman. Troy was obligated to take up the sport when his physics teacher decreed that rugby was a more fitting form of punishment for him, rather than spending time in detention for his many transgressions.

Recruited by Dave Simpson in 1993, Troy played club rugby for the Assassins Rugby Football Club, retiring in 2012. During this period, he played Premier 1st Division rugby for 15 years followed by 5 years with the club's 2nd Division team. Honoured by his teammates, Troy was voted as Best 1st Division Forward four times and Club Most Valuable Player in 2011 and played on the Assassins RFC Premier (1st)

Division "League" Championship teams of 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2003, the club's Premier (1st) Division "Provincial" Championship teams of 1995, 1997, 1998, 2000 and 2003, as well as the 2nd Division "Provincial" Championship team of 2007.

A formidable prop forward with an intellect for the game, Troy was big, powerful, and mobile for his size, and



was well known to "bring a load" with the ball in hand, when making a tackle, hitting a maul or a ruck, or taking issue with opponents keen on taking liberties. Off the field, his notoriety for hijinks and pranks is legendary and were to leave many a provincial team coach fit to be tied.





At the provincial level, Troy was the starting prop for the Manitoba Senior Men's Provincial team from 1995 to 2001, which included three seasons in the highly competitive Rugby Canada Super League, as well as being a member of the 1997

Tier 2 National Championship team inducted to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame in 2015.

In addition to his accomplishments on the field, Troy served as the Assassins RFC Women's team coach from 2001 to 2003, the Senior Men's teams coach from 2007 to 2009 and again as the club's assistant coach for both the Men's 1st and 2nd division and Women's 1st division teams from 2017 to 2020. Prior to becoming club President in 2003, Troy served for several years on the club's executive, occupying various positions including Treasurer and Maple Grove Rugby Park representative, and was the recipient of two club President's awards in honour of his contributions and commitment to the club.





Congratulations to
the 2024 Manitoba
Rugby Hall of
Fame Inductees.

From your friends
Wanderers RFC

Our Vision.

To support the growth and development of all aspects of the sport of Rugby in Manitoba.



Our Objectives.

1. Work to help establish, restore and sustain connections among Rugby Alumni.
2. Financially and morally support and improve the game of Rugby at all levels of play.
3. Identify males and females with standout athletic ability and provide financial support that will widen their opportunity to play at an elite level.
4. To provide a financial vehicle for patrons and friends of Rugby to assist in the growth and development of Rugby in Manitoba.
5. To support programs that will increase the number of players and build community awareness for the sport of Rugby.
6. Support events that restore and strengthen the relationship between Rugby Alumni and the current community based clubs involved with Rugby in Manitoba.
7. To provide additional financial support for programs not currently funded at a provincial level that improve the quality of play and skill levels for players, coaches and referees.
8. To continue to support and enhance Maple Grove Rugby Park as one of Canada's premier facilities.

**The Saracens's Rugby Club
would like to salute all
the 2024 Inductees.**

**You are all champions
of Rugby in Manitoba.**

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1968 Saracens RFC
1969 Saracens RFC
1972 Saracens RFC
1973 Saracens RFC
1974 Saracens RFC
1975 Saracens RFC

1979 Saracens RFC
1980 Saracens RFC
1981 Saracens RFC
1982 Saracens RFC
1983 Saracens RFC

1984 Saracens RFC
1985 Saracens RFC
1986 Saracens RFC
1988 Saracens RFC
1990 Saracens RFC
1992 Saracens RFC



Guidelines

PURPOSE: TO CELEBRATE THE HISTORY OF THE SPORT OF RUGBY IN MANITOBA BY RECOGNIZING THOSE WHOM HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE GAME.

CATEGORIES

- Player/Team
- Official (Referees, Coaches, Managers and Non-coaching Staff)
- Builder (Administrators, Media, Patrons and multiple category contributors)
- Pioneer (contributions should, but not necessarily, be prior to 1975)
- Volunteer

GENERAL CRITERIA

- Nominees should have been involved in Rugby at least 20 years and have contributed significantly to the sport of rugby in Manitoba.
- Player nominees should have been retired from playing for at least three years from a national or provincial team program.
- Nominees may be recognized posthumously.
- Nominees may be considered while holding elected office at the provincial, national or international rugby board level.
- Nominees will not be considered for induction while serving on the Manitoba Rugby Hall Of Fame Committee in the following positions: Committee Chair, Sub-Committee Chairs and Induction Sub-Committee - Nominations Coordinator and Selections Jury members.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

- Nominations are to be submitted using the MRHOF Nomination Form. The form can be found at and submitted directly from the MRHOF website.
- Nominations will be acknowledged as submitted upon their receipt.
- The Nominator may be asked by the Induction Sub Committee Nomination Coordinator to provide additional information and/or documentation concerning the Nominee in support of the nomination.
- Nominations for induction are valid for a period of three years (once a nominee is deemed eligible).
- Nominations not recommended for induction within the three year period of nomination validity may be re-nominated; otherwise Nominations recommended for induction stand in perpetuity.
- Nominations will be considered by the Induction Sub Committee and any subsequent recommendations for induction are subject to final approval by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee and ratification by the Rugby Manitoba Executive.
- Criteria for evaluation should include:
 - Accomplishments
 - Honours received
 - Involvement with the game
 - Overall career
 - Recognition of their contribution(s) by club, union and community (local, national and/or international).
- Inductees recommended for induction by the Induction Sub Committee, approved by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee and ratified by the Rugby Manitoba Executive will be announced in late spring/early summer, prior to their induction in the fall.

NUMBER OF INDUCTEES

- Maximum of five (5) inductees annually.

TIMELINES

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| • Nomination Receipt | Ongoing all year |
| • Nomination Research | Ongoing all year |

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| • Nomination Evaluation | End April |
| • Nomination Recommendation | Mid May |
| • Nomination Ratification | End May |
| • Nomination Approval | Mid June |
| • Nomination Announcement | End June |
| • Nomination Induction | Mid October |

RATIFICATION RESTRICTIONS

Should a MRHOF Recommended Inductee, put forth to Rugby Manitoba for ratification, be found to have been:

- convicted of a criminal or civil offence, or otherwise formally found to have committed an act or action that has caused embarrassment to the sport of rugby in the eyes of the public, the Recommended Inductees' ratification shall be denied.
- formally charged with a criminal or civil offence, or otherwise formally found to have committed an act or action that would result in embarrassment to the sport of rugby in the eyes of the public, the Recommended Inductees' ratification shall be held in abeyance pending the formal outcome of the charge or committed act/action.

HONoured MEMBER REMOVAL

Should a MRHOF Honoured Member be found to have been convicted of a criminal or civil offence, or otherwise formally found to have committed an act or action that would bring about embarrassment to the sport of rugby in the eyes of the public, the Honoured Members status within the MRHOF shall be revoked by the MRHOF Committee.

INDUCTION SUB-COMMITTEE

- Chairman – appointed by the Chairman of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee.
- Nomination Coordinator - appointed by the Induction Sub-committee Chairman
- Selections Jury Members (4 minimum) - appointed by the Induction Sub-committee Chairman and approved by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee, shall consist of at least:
 - One past president of a Manitoba Rugby Club currently in good standing.
 - One past president of either Rugby Manitoba, Maple Grove Rugby Park, or the Manitoba Association of Rugby Referees.
 - Two Alumni Representatives - former players or officials (one male, one female) – retired from on field game activities for a period of five years.

REVISION

These Guidelines are subject to revision by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee, who will provide a copy of the revised Guidelines to Rugby Manitoba.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE MANITOBA RUGBY HALL OF FAME & RUGBY MANITOBA

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame is an independent organization, and is at arms-length from Rugby Manitoba, with no reporting relationship (other than for informational and liaison purposes) to Rugby Manitoba.

Thank you

2024 MANITOBA RUGBY HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE STRUCTURE:

Committee Chair:

Committee Vice-chair
Recording Secretary
Communications Coordinator

- Glenys MacKenzie
- Jim Russell
- Jim Russell
- Ray Hoemsen

Finance Sub-Committee Chair
Treasurer
Sponsorship Coordinator

- Jim Feasby
- Jim Feasby
- Vacant

Induction Dinner Event Sub-Committee Chair
Venue/Catering/Beverages Coordinator
Tickets/Invitations Coordinator
Program/Prize Coordinator
MC/Agenda Coordinator

- Linda Romsa
- Rick Romsa
- Vacant
- Steve Silcox
- Linda Romsa

Exhibit Sub-Committee Chair
Archivist
Inductee Displays and Dinner Displays Coordinator
Web Site Coordinator
Inductee Memento Coordinator
Artifact Historian

- Glenys Mackenzie
- Glenys Mackenzie
- Glenys Mackenzie
- Rob St. Germain
- Rick Romsa
- Glenys Mackenzie

Induction Sub-Committee Chairs
Nominations Coordinators

- Wilf Erichsen
- Wilf Erichsen

Selections Jury Members

- Val Gompf
- Gary Nicholson
- Guy McKim
- Randy Dilk
- Arleigh MacKenzie

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- All the Advertisers who made this program so special.



Nominations
are now open for
the **2025 Manitoba
Rugby Hall of Fame.**

Nominate a deserving Rugger today at
www.ManitobaRugbyHallofFame.com

**We are at 75
great new friends...
and still counting!**

The Friends of Rugby
would like to congratulate all three inductees
in today's ceremonies.

