



## **Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame**

*Honouring the Past, Inspiring the Future*

### ***Lakers' dozen powerhouses to be honoured***

***Jr. dynasty, Rideout, Hart Harris, Meehan, Chapman to be inducted April 4***

In a first for the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame, a dynasty is being inducted into the team category. And what a dynasty it was! The Burnaby Lakers from 1996 to 2007 owned junior lacrosse in British Columbia and excelled nationally going to the Minto Cup, emblematic of junior lacrosse supremacy in Canada, in all 12 of those years emerging as champions five times. The Lakers will be joined in induction by three-time world masters mountain bike champion John Rideout, field hockey triple threat Barb Hart Harris, South Burnaby Metro Club youth basketball founder Ken Meehan and international sprinter Doug Chapman. Their induction into the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame will take place at the Riverway Golf Course clubhouse on Friday, April 4, 2025.



#### **ATHLETE**

##### **John Rideout**

##### **Mountain Biking**

It's usually the father introducing their sons to a sport, but in John Rideout's case it was the other way around. In 1992, Rideout's 15-year-old son suggested he take up downhill mountain biking. Rideout thought why not?

He thought his son wanted to further their father-son bond by bouncing down the hills over rocks, roots and ramps together. In hindsight, though, Rideout suspects his boy was hoping "there might be a significant trickle-down effect of expensive biking equipment." Whatever the motive, Rideout was hooked.

Initially he joined some other fathers of sons who mountain biked. But soon he was taking part in local and provincial events and his competitive juices flowed. When Canada was named host of the world masters circuit over a six-year period Rideout was all in. Rideout won his first world title in 2002 taking the 55+ category and his second two years later in the 55-59 category. Both events were held in Bromont, Que. Then in 2016 in Val di Sole in northern Italy, Rideout captured his third world crown by winning the 65-and-over competition. Additionally Rideout finished in the top five in his age category at four other world downhill biking championships.





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## ATHLETE

### Doug Chapman

#### Athletics

If it wasn't obvious Burnaby Central student Doug Chapman was destined for an international sprinting career it became crystal clear one day in 1969. It was at the Vancouver and District Inter-High track meet when Chapman won the 100-yard, 220-yard and 440-yard races along with being on the winning 4x220-yard relay team. The most impressive result came when Chapman stunned everyone by rocketing across the 100-yard finish line in 9.9 seconds breaking a 42-year-old record high school record held by famed sprinter Percy Williams, who went on to win two gold medals at the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam.

Under the tutelage of legendary Central track coach Ken Taylor (Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame honoured member inducted in the class of 2003), Chapman's speed earned him a scholarship to the University of Oregon, a U.S. track and field collegiate power, helping the Ducks win a NCAA championship in 1970, a team that was inducted into the school's sports hall of fame.

Chapman went on to represent Canada at several international competitions. That same year, the 18-year-old was on Canada's 4x400 relay team that finished fourth at the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh. At the 1971 Pan American Games in Cali, Columbia, Chapman came in sixth in the 400 metres and fourth in the 4x400 relay. Chapman was also chosen for the 1972 Summer Olympic Games in Munich and the 1973 Pan Pacific Games.



## ATHLETE/BUILDER/COACH

### Barb Hart Harris

#### Field Hockey

Barb Hart Harris has done it all for field hockey. Hart Harris was part of the Greater Vancouver Women's Grass Hockey Association that twice represented Canada at the International Federation of Women's Hockey Associations (IFWHA) World Conference, the sport's version of a women's World Cup. The first was in Amsterdam in 1959 and the second in Baltimore in 1963. Hart Harris was Canada's captain in both events.



Hart Harris became a teacher in the Burnaby School District where she was able to develop her coaching chops. Her field hockey teams regularly made the playoffs and two of her Burnaby South basketball squads (1961 and 1964) reached the provincial championships.

The long-time Burnaby resident also has an extensive resume as a builder. She was named chair of the field hockey competition field during the 1973 Canada Summer Games held in Burnaby and New Westminster. The Canada Games experience prepared Hart Harris for a five-year stint as the vice-chair and tournament coordinator for the 1979 IFWHA held at the University of British Columbia. It was the largest gathering for a women's sports event ever held in Canada. Hart Harris went on to hold several administrative positions at international and local field hockey events for more than three decades.

Much of her work at these competitions was done alongside her former teammate and friend Moira Colbourne — a Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame honoured member (inducted in 2001) and long-time Hall committee member — earning them both induction as builders into the Canadian Field Hockey Hall of Fame in 2020.

Hart Harris's administrative skills were also put to use for decades as an organizer for Terry Fox Runs at her daughter and grandson's schools for decades as well as 11 years organizing Burnaby's annual Terry Fox Run at Swangard Stadium.



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## BUILDER

**Ken Meehan**

### Basketball/Soccer

After helping to rebuild the South Burnaby Metro Club's soccer program in the 1990s, Ken Meehan's attention turned from the pitch to the hardwood. Meehan had noticed there wasn't any organized youth basketball in Burnaby so he founded one at SBMC in 1996. Meehan got some SBMC members to form a committee and then recruited former NBA player and Canadian Basketball Hall of Fame member Lars Hansen to run the boys program and local coaching legend Norm Roberts to run the girls.

Meehan managed and operated the boys program by himself. He registered players, organized teams, planned game and practice schedules, coached house league teams, did budgets and assembled volunteer coaches.

Over the years the SBMC Eagles program grew with more and more boys and girls joining. And they were good. The U13 elite teams alone have won 22 titles. Local high schools have been beneficiaries of the program too. St. Thomas More Collegiate has had many SBMC players on its teams that have advanced to 3A provincial championships while Burnaby South has become a powerhouse capturing the provincial 4A title in 2018, 2020 and 2022 thanks in part to the skills groundwork laid by the program that Meehan built.

## TEAM

### Burnaby Jr. Lakers 1996-2007

#### Lacrosse

The numbers from the Burnaby Jr. Lakers dozen-year dynasty between 1996 and 2007 are staggering. During their reign of 12 seasons, the Lakers won the Minto Cup, Canada's national junior lacrosse championship, in 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2005. (The 1998 team has already been inducted into the Hall but the Hall recently changed its criteria from requiring teams to be from a single season to allow for the induction of teams over multiple consecutive seasons.) During the dynasty, the Lakers went to the Minto Cup all 12 years. In addition to their five titles the Jr. Lakers were runners-up six times and came third once (2006).

The Lakers finished first in the BCJALL regular-season standings in 10 of the 12 seasons and were second the other two. Their won-loss-tie record was 259-26-1, which is a winning percentage of 90.9%. The Lakers went undefeated in the 1998, 1999 and 2006 seasons. They suffered one loss twice, just two losses three times and three losses



a trio of times. During the Lakers' dynastic dozen they scored 1,685 more goals than their opposition, an average difference of 140.4 more goals per season.

The mastermind behind the dynasty was the late Jack Crosby, a lacrosse legend who was inducted into the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame's first class in 2001. Crosby recruited outstanding coaches including Burnaby Hall of Fame honoured members Dave Lough (2008) and Paul Dal Monte (2013), and current Vancouver Warriors coach Curt Malawsky while attracting or drafting many elite players. Although throughout the dozen seasons there was turnover in coaches, players and staff, the one constant was the program's commitment to excellence in its culture which became the dynasty's foundation.

• For additional information, including ticket purchases for the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2024 induction event, please visit our website at [bshofbc.com](http://bshofbc.com). Media wishing to do an interview can contact Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame chair David Boroevich at 604-992-4004.