



MEDIA RELEASE

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Lethbridge Sport Council Achievement Awards - Announcement of Winners

Lethbridge, Alberta: The Lethbridge Sport Council is pleased to announce the winners of the 11th annual Lethbridge Sport Council Achievement Awards for their achievements and contributions to sport in Lethbridge in 2020. These awards recognize and celebrate outstanding achievements on and off the field, which support and demonstrate respect of the game, a love of sport, respect for others and a commitment to fair play and ethical sport. We are proud to honour Lethbridge's athletes, coaches, volunteers, organizations, administrators, and businesses.

Lethbridge Sport Council Executive Director, Susan Eymann said, "Lethbridge Sport Council recognizes the power of sport and we are so proud of the dedication and determination of our sport community. This past year was a difficult one, but sport in Lethbridge has persisted to keep active living and sport in our lives."

We are pleased to announce the 2020 Lethbridge Sport Council Achievement Award winners.

Junior Male Athlete	Caleb Demaere
Junior Female Athlete	Evelyn Beaton
Senior Male Athlete	Andreas Troschke
Senior Female Athlete	Hailey Driscoll
Amateur Team	Female Hockey Peewee A Cyclones
Master Athletes (Co-recipients)	Kip Kangogo
	Coulee Classic Ice Dragons
Coaching Excellence	Chris Kukucha
Officiating Excellence	Mike Robinson
Volunteer in Sport	Danette Anderson
Sport Administrator	Shelley Boras
Sport Organization	ACE Volleyball Club
Shaun Ward Sport Champion	Jude Hooey
Knud Petersen Spirit in Sport	Karen Johnson
Business and Sport Excellence	Lethbridge Booster Juice

This year's awards were presented virtually due to the ongoing pandemic. A video compilation of presentations and acceptance speeches are on the Lethbridge Sport Council Website <https://lethbridgesportcouncil.ca/achievement-awards>

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2020 Junior Male Athlete - Caleb Demaere (Judo)

Caleb is 16 years old and has already accomplished more in the sport of judo than most athletes ever dream of. In 2020, Caleb was named Judo Canada's Most Outstanding U16 Male Athlete and qualified for Team Alberta on the Elite Nationals Roster. He won gold at the Elite U18 National Championships and a respectable 7th place at the U18 International Judo Federation Cup in Spain.

2020 Junior Female Athlete - Evelyn Beaton (Judo)

Evelyn was named the Lethbridge 2020 Kinsmen Sports Person of the Year, the Judo Canada U16 Female Athlete of the Year, the Judo Alberta Outstanding Performer of the year, and the outstanding U18 Female athlete at the 2020 Elite Nationals. She was the 2020 Elite National Champion in both the U18 and senior age categories which helped the Lethbridge Judo Club win the Judo Canada U18 Club of the Year Award. She followed this up with an impressive second place at the 2020 U18 European Cup in Italy in February 2020 and then competed out of her weight division to win a gold medal at the 2020 Edmonton International in the senior age division in March 2020.

2020 Senior Male Athlete - Andreas Troschke (Hammer Throw)

Andreas was named Pronghorn Athlete of the Week several times, named the 2020 Pronghorn Men's Track Team MVP, and the 2020 University of Lethbridge Pronghorn Athlete of the Year. Opening the indoor season Andreas won the weight throw in the first three meets before becoming the Canada West Champion. Andreas ranks second in Canada in the U23 male athletes in weight throw. At the U SPORTS Championships, Troschke threw 17.64 metres to win the bronze medal.

2020 Senior Female Athlete - Hailey Driscoll (Rugby)

Hailey was an impactful and dedicated player for the Pronghorns Women's Rugby Team, in both 15s and 7s. She was a 2020 U-Sports Academic All-Canadian, 2020 Canada West All Star, 2020 USports Second Team All-Canadian, 2020 Pronghorn Women's Rugby MVP, and named the 2020 Pronghorn Female Athlete of the Year. Hailey is not only an incredible rugby player, she is a great teammate.

2020 Master Athlete co-recipient - Kip Kangogo (Distance Running)

Kip Kangogo has been a Canadian National Champion in the 5,000 metre, 10,000 metre, and Half Marathon distances. Kip is now racing as a Master's athlete, 40 years of age and older, and continues to post fantastic results. He placed second overall at the Edmonton Marathon and was the first Canadian and Master's finisher with a time of 2:23:27. In the Victoria Marathon. He was 3rd overall with a time of 2:21:49 making him the top Canadian, top Master's athlete, and set a Master's Course Record.

2020 Master Athlete co-recipient - Coulee Classic Ice Dragons (Dragon Boat)

The Ice Dragons are members of the Dragon Boat Association of Southern Alberta - Coulee Classic Dragons team of women ages 50 to 70, who have paddled in Master's events in New Zealand, Australia and the Canadian National Dragonboat Competition. The 12-member Ice Dragons earned a silver medal in the women's division of the "Shiver and Giver" Fundraising Race during the 2020 International Dragon Boat Federation World Ice Dragon Boat Championships. The competition involved over 100 teams from around the world and is the largest Ice Dragon Boat Championship.

2020 Amateur Team - Peewee A Cyclones (Female Hockey Team)

The Peewee A Cyclones had a stellar 2019-2020 season winning gold at the prestigious Wickfest in Calgary, at their own Cyclones Classic tournament, and at the Cammi Granato Invitational Tournament in Vancouver. Several players participated in a skills competition while in Vancouver taking home the top spots in the Fastest Skater and Shootout competitions and as a result the team was featured in the Lethbridge Herald and on Sportsnet.

2020 Coaching Excellence - Chris Kukucha (Lacrosse)

Chris is the Director of Coaching and Player Development for the Lethbridge Lacrosse Association. He opened the 2020 season with player and coaching clinics recognizing the importance of offseason mentorship, conditioning, skill development and a sense of community. In February, Chris partnered with community members to offer Indigenous youth and coaches an opportunity to try lacrosse. Chris engages in extensive research and contributes greatly to policy development, ensuring an ethical and best practice standard level of play and leadership. He has trained many coaches that have won medals at the provincial level most recently in 2019, Midget Gold, Bantam Silver, and Peewee Gold.

2020 Officiating Excellence - Mike Robinson (Baseball)

Mike believes a well officiated game is one that the official goes unnoticed by bystanders. For 30 years Robinson has been committed to the officiating program for the Alberta Softball Umpires Association, Lethbridge Softball Umpires Association, Alberta Softball Association, and Softball Canada. He is a Level Five Internationally certified umpire and a Level C certified Instructor/Evaluator. He has been a voting delegate for Softball Alberta for 25 years and 28 years for Alberta Softball Umpires Association. For Zone 1, he served as Umpire in Chief for 11 years, Secretary/Treasurer for 10 years, and Secretary/Treasurer for Alberta Softball Umpires Association for three years.

2020 Volunteer in Sport - Danette Anderson (Volleyball)

Danette Anderson is the heartbeat of the Lethbridge division of the ACE Volleyball Club. In charge of all the tryouts, collecting paperwork, and other daily duties Danette is at the facility six days a week. During year one she took care of the administration by collecting paperwork, answering emails, and talking to parents. In year two she made sure everything ran smoothly while the club doubled in size. She committed to 12 hour days every single Saturday where she kept score for the games.

2020 Business and Sport Excellence - Lethbridge Booster Juice

Cary, Mike, Tim and the rest of the Booster Juice staff were excited about the Lethbridge 2020 Alberta Summer Games and wanted to be involved. Booster Juice donated over 2000 water bottles to be distributed to the participants of the Games. With a retail value of over \$25,000 this is one of the larger business donations to become a Diamond Sponsor. Since the Lethbridge Games have been cancelled the Lethbridge Booster Juice team has graciously agreed to donate the water bottles to the next scheduled youth Games. A sampling of events and sport organizations supported by Booster Juice include the 2019 Lethbridge Baseball U12 Major AAA Schools-Out Tournament, the Lethbridge Hurricanes, the Lethbridge Soccer Association, GS Lakie school sports, and the Lethbridge Lacrosse Association.

2020 Shaun Ward Sport Champion - Jude Hooley (Archery)

Jude Hooley has been a leader in the sport of archery in southern Alberta and across Canada for three decades as an athlete, coach, administrator, and volunteer. Jude and her late husband Dennis owned Archery Unlimited, from 1995 until they retired in 2007. She was inducted into the 2007 Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame as an athlete having accumulated 19 national and 29 provincial records, represented Canada three times at the World Archery Championships and again in 2007 and 2013. Jude still holds many national records. In 2015, she was awarded the Archery Alberta Coach of the Year honour. She coached an athlete to a silver at the 2010 Worlds and Jamie Brehaut of Lethbridge to his World Cup debut and silver medal finish. As an administrator Jude has sat on executive boards locally, provincially, and nationally. In 2019, Jude was awarded the Archery Canada's highest level, Diamond Volunteer Recognition Pin.

2020 Sport Administrator - Shelley Boras (Volleyball)

As Lethbridge Volleyball Club President, Shelley Boras has made an overwhelming contribution to the world of volleyball in Lethbridge - for athletes but also for parents, coaches and the university/college community. With over 9 years of volunteer commitment, she has invested countless hours instilling passion in athletes and coaches, developing/strengthening partnerships (Lethbridge College, Volleyball Alberta), improving programming (expanded ages, recreational program and fall development during COVID-19) and has successfully advocated to bring back volleyball events like the Premier (provincial) tournament to our city.

2020 Sport Organization - ACE Volleyball Club

David Wildman, founder of ACE Volleyball and his team have done a lot in a short period of time. Coming to Lethbridge two years ago, ACE wanted to provide an opportunity for more kids to play volleyball. In the first year the Club joined the Lethbridge sports scene they had four teams spanning ages 14-18 with roughly 48 players. In year two the club doubled in size with over 100 athletes. ACE Volleyball has made cash donations to the Lethbridge College Kodiaks Women's Volleyball team where ACE alumni athletes currently play. They have also donated over \$10,000 to Make-A-Wish foundation in Southern Alberta.

2020 Knud Petersen Spirit in Sport - Karen Johnson (Dragonboat, Running)

Karen supports several running events, the dragon boat community, is a Taiko drummer, lover of yoga, and a coach. As a mature athlete, coach, and volunteer, she believes in being a positive role model for healthy aging and dynamic participation. Karen began dragon boating in 2002 when she paddled with the City of Lethbridge crew during the first Lethbridge Rotary Dragonboat Festival. Finding a passion for the sport, Karen was instrumental in starting Team ID in the hope of extending the paddling season and participating in other dragon boat festivals. In 2020, Karen was elected Dragon Boat Canada Festival Director.