



# Paul van Steen Sports Achievement Award

The Paul van Steen Sports Achievement Award was created by the Bridlewood Community Association (BCA) in 2009 in memory of a dedicated community member and volunteer who helped establish and support sports programs in Bridlewood across many age groups and levels. The goal of the award is to recognize excellence in competitive or demonstrative sport by a permanent resident of Bridlewood over the age of 16.



Paul Van Steen moved to Bridlewood in 1979 and helped establish the Bridlewood Spring Sports Program for children aged 5 – 12. This program offered an 8 week league of both soccer and softball. He also led the establishment of community run outdoor ice rinks throughout Bridlewood, organized winter carnival events (eg. cross country ski races, snow sculptures, broomball games), Bridlewood Canada Day activities and was a driving force behind the Bridlewood Men's Hockey league. He passed away suddenly in 2007 while renewing his hockey refereeing certification. Paul was also heavily involved with the Bridlewood Community Association and assisted with Park Development as well as coordinating the Outdoor Rink Program for many years. Paul's legacy lives on in the Spring Sports program which now serves over 750 children every spring, the Bridlewood Men's Hockey league which is a men's non-contact hockey league and the 9 volunteer-run outdoor rinks in Bridlewood.

The Paul van Steen Sports Achievement Award consists of a commemorative trophy to be inscribed with the winner's name each year and kept in the Eva James Community Centre display cabinet as well as a keepsake trophy and a \$250 cash award for the recipient.

## **Selection Criteria**

The award is open to any athlete over the age of 16 who currently exhibits excellence in representative or competitive sport. All candidates must have a Bridlewood address (including Emerald Meadows) as their primary residence. Leadership in their field and community involvement activities will also be considered. Nominations must include the completed nomination form (attached) which describes the candidate's accomplishments (sports, leadership and community) as well as no fewer than 2 letters of reference by coaches, trainers, teachers or other professionals confirming details of their athletic achievements and/or describing the candidate's leadership and community involvement activities. Please note that we will be contacting references.

## **Nomination Process**

Eligible candidates or their nominators must follow the following procedures:

- Meet the above selection criteria – currently active, over the age of 16 whose primary residence is Bridlewood (including Emerald Meadows)
- Provide one copy each of the Nomination form and all reference letters.
- All documents must be either e-mailed to [sports@bridlewood.ca](mailto:sports@bridlewood.ca) or mailed to the following address on or before August 31 of each year:  
BCA True Sport Awards Selection Committee  
PO Box 45064 RPO Bridlewood  
Kanata ON K2M 2Y1

## **Selection Committee**

The BCA Executive Committee will appoint a Selection Committee that will include at least three (3) people but no more than five (5) members including the Chair of the BCA Sport Committee who will act as Chair. The other committee members shall be BCA members. The BCA Sport Committee is governed by its terms of reference and will use the True Sport values of excellence, fairness, inclusion and fun to assist in the selection process. Selection Committee members are prohibited from submitting nominations and/or voting on a candidate who is a member of their direct family.

Nominations will open on May 1<sup>st</sup> of every year and close on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Selection Committee members will review each nomination, verify references, and short list their respective top 3 candidates. The Selection Committee will meet to discuss the candidates and select the most qualified candidate. While the goal is to have a consensus, in the event that one cannot be reached, the candidate with the most votes will receive the Award.

The BCA Executive Committee will then review and approve the selection process. The BCA Executive Committee reserves the right to not select a candidate if they feel that there are no suitably qualified applicants. The prize will be awarded at the Bridlewood Community Association's Annual General Meeting in October.

A photograph and brief biography of the prize winner will be displayed on the Bridlewood Community Association website ([www.bridlewood.ca](http://www.bridlewood.ca)) and published in local community newspapers.