

Accessible Sports

Joe Wiwchar

Joe Wiwchar (1935-) was born in Winnipeg into a family of Ukrainian heritage. Starting out as a talented young athlete, Joe discovered a love of coaching at the age of 17. Since then, coaching has taken him all over the world.

Since arriving in Morden in 1970, Joe has worked tirelessly to make sports more accessible at all levels. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame where he has been the volunteer Manager since its inception.

Joe has received recognition at the local, provincial and national levels including Morden's Citizen of the Year Award, induction into the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame and Volunteer of the Year for the Manitoba and Canadian Baseball Associations.

Joe and his wife Arlene have three married sons and six grandsons. Though his devotion to sport has required sacrifice on many occasions, Joe takes great pride in his family.

Admittedly opinionated in the sports arena, "Trader Joe" is generally a man of few words, whose sense of fairness and approachability are demonstrated in his attitude of "playing the game to win, but not at all costs". His grandson fittingly captures Joe's true character – "People say Mr. Baseball is Babe Ruth, but I think the real Mr. Baseball is my grandpa...and I'm glad he is my grandpa."



Hank Unrau

Henry "Hank" Unrau (1956-) was born in Winkler into a family of Russian Mennonite heritage. Known for his modest, hardworking nature and participation in sports, he strives toward perfection in everything he does.

Hank's passion and drive have enabled him to excel in challenging sports. He completed the Iron Man Triathlon twice and finished several Marathons including New York, Minneapolis and Manitoba. As an avid cyclist, he was instrumental in the development of the local Minnewasta Trail and continues to participate in the maintenance of the trail.

Hank's love of life is infectious, touching people of all ages and abilities. His enthusiasm and leadership have been put to use in his volunteer work with Special Olympics, the Kids of Steel Triathlon, the establishment of the 3rd Wave Triathlon Club and informal support and encouragement for fellow participants.

Hank's attitude toward life – "I would rather wear out than rust out!"



Howard Sager

Howard Sager (1940-) was born in the Freemasons' Hospital in Morden and has lived and worked all his life on the family farm just west of Morden. As a life-long citizen, he is a visionary who sees potential in the community's residents and physical space.

Howard has invested volunteer time and labour in many local projects and activities including the construction of the Morden Curling Rink, development of Colert Beach, coaching minor sports and involvement with the Morden Legion.

His interest in sports took him well beyond Morden in the 1960s and 70s, when he and his brothers represented Manitoba seven times in the Elks Canadian Curling Championship. They returned home with the Elks Corby Cup four times.

To his family, friends and neighbours "Howie" is known for his kindness, sense of humour and love of nature. He is a lively conversationalist who generously "lends a hand", from paying a visit to delivering Christmas Cheer Hampers.

Howard is an exemplary ambassador for Morden. His optimistic attitude is obvious as it pours out through his frequent observation – "Isn't this great...just great?"



Morden

BASEBALL MANIA
PLAYED MORDEN MANI WACHTM. DEC. 12, 1913

TM

Baseball • Married vs. Single • 4pm, December 12, 1913 Morden, MB