

Mr. Edward (Ed) Browne

Inducted into the NLBA Hall of Fame in 1981 as a “Builder”



Edward Browne played the major role in the establishment and operation of basketball within the province. He filled every role within the sport with dedication and expertise; remaining a player all of his life while working long and hard as a coach, referee and administrator. His service to the sport spanned local, provincial, national and international activity as he earned a wonderful reputation everywhere for his efforts on behalf of basketball. As an educator at Memorial University for 16 years and at the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College for five years, Mr. Browne provided guidance and leadership for thousands of students, within and outside of basketball. He also excelled as a player in baseball and as an oarsman, while performing with skill in hockey, soccer and track and field.

It goes without saying, that Edward P. Browne can be called one of the Fathers of Basketball in Newfoundland. Ed was one of the founding members of Basketball Newfoundland (now NLBA) and was Basketball Newfoundland’s president for many years. He was also one of the founding member of the St. John’s Basketball League and their president for many years. He was coordinator of basketball in the 1974 Newfoundland Games, manager for the 1979 – 1981 Canada’s National team, and Convenor for an endless number of provincial basketball championships at all levels for men and women. Other of Ed’s achievements includes being the founder of the Masters tournament in Newfoundland; founder of boys’ provincial high school tournament in Newfoundland, and founded in 1977 of the basketball camp held annually in Corner Brook, NL.

Some of Ed’s coaching experiences included the following:

- Men’s Canada Games Team in 1967
- Men’s Canada Games Team in 1971
- Men’s Canada Games Team in 1975
- Teams in Junior Men’s Nationals for many years
- Men’s senior varsity team at Memorial University from 1959 – 1975 (at times he also coached men’s junior and intermediate teams as well)
- Men’ and Ladies’ teams at Memorial University’s Junior College in Corner Brook from 1976 – 1981
- Basketball Newfoundland’s provincial coach for at least four years.

In the refereeing category he:

- Held “A” rating with Newfoundland Association of Basketball officials
- Had conducted many, many official clinics in all areas of the province
- Has refereed at all levels of competition in Newfoundland

The items listed highlight the contributions made by Ed Browne to Basketball Newfoundland from 1950 – 1981. However, they by no means catalogue his total contribution to basketball in

Newfoundland. Nobody could even list the contributions made by Ed Browne to basketball because there were endless player camps, officials clinics and organizational meetings that he held for which there is no record. Ed's dedication and love for the game has also inspired many people throughout Newfoundland to become involved in all aspects of his sport.

In the early 1950's Ed Browne was involved in the administration, playing, coaching and officiating levels of basketball. In 1981, Ed Browne was still involved in the administration, playing, coaching and officiating levels of basketball. This type of involvement was continued uninterrupted throughout the thirty years.

Ed has assisted the National team program by serving as Basketball Canada's men's National team manager and assistant coach. Without question his administrative expertise and industrious management has been a necessary factor in the overall success of the National Men's team. In this capacity, Ed served the team in Canada, South America, Central America, USA, Russia, England and throughout Europe at events like the 1976 Montreal Olympics, World Student Games (Universiade) World Championships, Pre-Olympic tournaments and Pan-American Games.

Son of the Honourable William Browne of St. John's, Mr. Browne died in 1983. He was inducted into the Sport Newfoundland and Labrador Hall of Fame on November 3, 1984.