

2019 INDUCTEES

Heikki Kinnunen– Builder



Heikki Kinnunen has been a key role model in our local cross-country skiing community for over 40 years. He has provided the needed support that has helped developing athletes reach their own goals. This is because of Heikki's understanding of the sport of Nordic skiing, and what it takes to get high results. Heikki has passed this knowledge down to his athletes, and motivated them to become the best they can be. With 20+ years of local coaching experience, Heikki has inspired many new individuals to coach in both Sault Ste. Marie and Ontario, all of whom have contributed to improving cross country skiing. As a result, Heikki was awarded the Soo Finnish Nordic Ski Club's President's Award in both 1981 and 2006, which recognizes a person who has made a significant contribution over many years towards cross-country skiing in Sault Ste. Marie. In 1985, the club also awarded Heikki with the Kevin Allan Riutta Award, which is given to the person who promotes leadership through example, and fosters cross country skiing to our local youth.

Over the years, athletes that were coached by Heikki have reached great levels of success. Among these are Wayne and Keith Dustin. Wayne Dustin is a two-time Olympian, and many time Canadian national champion, who has represented our nation in many World Championships. Keith Dustin was the youngest person named to the Canadian junior national team, and has been quoted as saying: 'Heikki was the key to my success, and any of the other coaches would not have provided the many faceted support that I received from Heikki'. Other notable athletes that have been taught by him include: Melissa Hayman, Canadian Junior Champion, Helen Lindfors, National Masters Champion, Tenho Tikka, Canadian and Canadian Masters Champion, Kari Tikka, medalist at the Canadian National Biathlon Championships and the list goes on. Heikki has coached an additional 35+ skiers who have participated at a national championship level, all while representing the Soo Finnish Nordic Ski Club. He has previously been voted as the best technical coach in Canada by Cross Country Ski Canada. On top of all this, Heikki has his own experience as a competitive skier, as he himself was a Canadian Champion at the National Cross Country Ski Championships.

Accomplishments:

- Key driver in the infrastructure and programming of Cross Country Skiing in Sault Ste Marie.
- Started the youth skill development Cross Country Ski Program
- Coach of the Soo Finnish Ski Team for over 2 decades.

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John Greenwood – Builder



John Greenwood has spent over 50 years in figure skating as a skater, official, and an administrator. John began judging in the early 1960s, and since then has worked his way up to being one of the most respected ice dancing officials in the world. By 1981, he became a Canadian National judge for single, pairs, and dance, and judged or refereed almost every Canadian Championship until 2006. John became an international judge in 1985, and 6 years later in 1991 was made a World and Olympic judge and referee for the International Skating Union. John had the opportunity to represent Canada as a judge at the 1998 Nagano and 2006 Torino Winter Olympics. Eventually, he served on the International Skating Union's Official Assessment Committee, showing how much respect John had earned since starting his officiating in the 60s. Eventually in 2008, John retired from active National and International judging.

John's contributions to the sport of figure skating were not limited to just judging. John has worked for CTV television network, providing technical support at some international events, including the 2000 World Championships. He has also been a part of Skate Canada in different roles. John was Director and Chair of Skate Canada – Northern Ontario, as well as Director of Skate Canada as National Judges Chair, and Chair of the Technical Committee. For 13 years, John Greenwood was President of Skate Ontario, where he organized the Ontario Winter Games and Ontario's skating teams for the Canada Winter Games. Finally, John was the Canadian Team Leader for the 1990 Halifax World Championships, and a handful of World Junior Championships. Former Olympic Champions Tessa Virtue & Scott Moir, World Ice Dance Champions, Shae-Lynne Bourne & Victor Kraatz, and World Medalists Marie France Dubreuil & Patrice Lauzan are all amongst the skaters that have had the chance to be mentored by John. This elite list also includes the 2006 Canadian Olympic Team, numerous U.S. international competitors, and Chinese Olympic Pair and Ice Dance teams.

Not only has John been a world class judge, but he himself skated here in Sault Ste. Marie for many years. He has represented our city at provincial, national, international, and Olympic level events.

Accomplishments:

- 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics Judge
- 2007 Torino Winter Olympics in Italy Judge
- Over 10 World Championship Judging
- Worked with many Elite Athletes.