

# 2022 INDUCTEES



## Bob Woolley – Athlete

Starting at the age of 10 after delivering newspapers, in Bob Woolley's spare time he would play in the youth league at the Churchill plaza lanes.

A lead mentor for Bob was past inductee and Canadian champion Jim Kramer Sr. It was Kramer who taught Bob how to throw a curve ball. His expertise and incredible knowledge of bowling led him to several competitions and winning titles. This included 6 TSN game appearances, 3 CBC bowling championships, and 2 national wins. In 1991 he was named Canadian Amateur Champion and again in 2001. This national title led to an opportunity to represent Canada at an international level. In 1991, the “worlds” was hosted in Beijing China. While there, Bob placed 11<sup>th</sup> out of 43 countries. In 2002, he returned to the international spotlight in Pataya, Thailand placing 32<sup>nd</sup> out of 90 countries.

After travelling the globe, Bob then started coaching youth leagues at the Churchill Plaza lanes for the next 28 years. In Bob's words this experience “brought me to an even higher level of bowling”.

In 1996 & 2001, Bob Woolley held a Canadian 3 game series record of 869. His game scores in 1996 was 270, 299, and 300. Throughout his bowling career, he managed to achieve 11, 800 plus 3 game series. He has a total of 20 sanctioned 300 games.

On a more local lens, Bob is a five time Northern Ontario, Canadian World Cup Participant starting in 1982, 1990, 91, 2000 & 2001. It is easy to acknowledge, that Bob Woolley is undeniably one of the greatest bowlers to have ever come from the Sault.

## Accomplishments:

- 1982, 90-91, 2000-01 - Five time N.Ont. Canadian World Cup Participant
- 1991 - Canadian Amateur Champion
- 1991 - Bowling World Cup, Beijing, China, 11th. Place.
- 2001 - Canadian Amateur Champion
- 2001 - Bowling World Cup, Pattaya, Thailand, 32nd. Place.
- 1996 - 2001 - Canadian 3 Game Series Record 869
- Bowled 20 sanctioned perfect games throughout his career.
- Eleven 800 Plus 3 Game Series

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## Lawrence “Larry” Tomie – Athlete

Larry started his athletic career at the age of 16 where he played junior and senior baseball locally. He was invited to attend the St. Louis Cardinals training camp in Hamilton. He made it on the Triple A team in Hamilton. However, he was unable to accept the invitation as he was under 18 years of age.

Larry Tomie was also heavily involved with Hockey. In 1951 he attended the Detroit Red Wings training camp. Afterwards he was picked up by the Windsor Spitfires junior team, in which Don Cherry was his defense partner.

Besides being a talented athlete, Larry Tomie also transitioned to being a coach. His love for sports transpired in coaching the Soo Northerner's Fastpitch team, who became the Ontario Sr. A Fastpitch Champions in 1969.

It was described when he was nominated to the Sports Hall of Fame that his alpine skiing career started with a chance meeting in 1983, when Larry met with the team manager of the Canadian National Men's Alpine World Cup Team “The Crazy Canucks”. He then became a member of the support team and travelled throughout the world cup season from 1983 to 1984.

In 1987 at the age of 55, Larry learned to ski and began his very successful racing career. Throughout his skiing debut, he competed against lifelong skiing members some of whom were Olympic alpine racers. Larry competed at several FIS events (The International Ski Federation). In 2014 he ranked as high as third in FIS overall World Cup Points. A year later he won four first place finishes in FIS international Championships in Chile and again in 2016 ranked first in FIS Overall World Cup Points. Among his FIS Successes, Larry also won two gold in the world master's winter games in Quebec City and world Masters Alpine Champion in 2015.

Larry also received the National Achievement Award presented by the premier of Ontario. This award recognized his contributions to Ontario sports. In 2016 Larry was also inducted to the “Maple Leaf International Club” in Collingwood Ontario.

## Accomplishments:

- Multi-sport athlete and coach with several accomplishments in baseball, hockey, and fastpitch.
- 2014 - Ranked as high as THIRD, FIS Overall World Cup points
- 2016 - Ranked as high as FIRST, FIS Overall World Cup points
- 2015 - FIS International Championships, Chile. 4 GOLD
- 2015 - World Masters Winter Games, Quebec City. 2 GOLD & WORLD MASTERS ALPINE CHAMPION
- 2016- Inducted to the “Maple Leaf International Club” in Collingwood, Ontario.

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## Peter Ruicci – Builder

Peter Ruicci is commended for his unwavering dedication to the local sports community. He helped establish the sport culture in Sault Ste. Marie and contributed to the growth and success of many sport editors, columnists, athletes, and coaches today with his incredible support. His peers have described him as a first-class reporter with one of the best personalities the Sault has ever seen with an unparalleled work ethic.

Starting from a young age Peter was fueled with ambition. Always an avid sports enthusiast, he knew Sport Journalism was the passion he wanted to pursue. His childhood dream soon became a reality when his uncle assisted in his first broadcasting position while still in high school. Considered a ‘rookie’ he still had a small feature on television that would soon be a practical experience for his later endeavors. The ambition continued throughout university, while enrolled at Lake State University he continued to work in local media.

From 1978-1995 Ruicci primarily worked in radio and television. He is well remembered for often reporting and highlighting local school stories on the 6 o'clock news. Around 1984, Peter was in touch with a news director stationed in Windsor, who soon transferred to The Sports Network. This professional friendship led Peter to be offered a job by TSN just a few years later. Although other circumstances influenced Peter's decision to stay in the Sault, it showcases how talented he was at his profession and that he deserved a spot in the major sport reporting industry.

A highlight in Peter's career was covering the Memorial Cup Champions Soo Greyhounds in 1993. The Soo Greyhounds were a major component in Peter's journalism career. In 1995, Peter then transitioned into print media which was a seamless shift from reporting it live. He began writing for the Sault Star.

In 2006, he was inducted into the Russ Ramsey High School Sports Hall of Fame in the builder's category. This award is given to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to High school sports. Nearly 6 years later in 2013, Peter was also named Sun Media Sport's Journalist of the Year. Other nominees were some of the country's most acclaimed which again has demonstrated that Peter belonged alongside them. Today he is an active member of the Sault Hockey Hall of Fame Nomination Committee and runs the Greyhound Gazette.

## Accomplishments:

- Over 40 years working in television and radio sports broadcasting and print journalism in Sault Ste. Marie
- 2013 Sun Media Canadian Sports Journalist of the Year
- Covered the 1993 Memorial Cup Champion Soo Greyhounds
- Inducted into the Russ Ramsay High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2006

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## Richard Vallee – Builder

Richard Vallee has been a key leader in the figure skating community, not only in Sault Ste. Marie but on an international scale for the last 40 years.

Richard started his career as a skater, and then proceeded to be a coach, judge, clinic leader, workshop presenter and committee member. Richard started skating in Sault Ste. Marie at the Sault and Hiawatha Figure Skating Clubs, followed by coaching for the Sault Figure Skating Club.

On a national scope, he has been a judge at invitational level competitions, and sectional-level competition. These competitions have allowed him to travel throughout Northern Ontario, Western Ontario and Saskatchewan.

Richard has also been both judge and referee for the Western, Eastern, Central, and Atlantic divisions and has even been a reoccurring judge at the Canadians and even awarded Olympic Silver medalist Brian Orser his Perfect 6 in 1988.

His international career was kick started in 1991 at Blue Sword Competition in East Berlin. This international endeavor has guided him to competitions in Slovenia, Mexico City, Kiev, Vienna, Zagreb and Helsinki. He also has had the opportunity to judge at Skate Canada, Skate America, Trophée de France and the NHK Trophy in Tokyo.

## Accomplishments:

- International (ISU) Judge (singles & pairs) at competitions including, Mexico City, Kiev, Slovenia, Turin, Vienna, Helsinki, and Zagreb. As well as Skate America, Skate Canada, Trophée de France, and NHK Trophy (Tokyo) (1991-2017)
- National Judge and Referee: Canadian Championships (Canadian) as well as Atlantic, Central, Eastern, and Western Divisional competitions (1985-2017)
- Judge/Referee (singles & pairs). Experiences include, sectional-level competitions across Northern Ontario, Western Ontario, and Saskatchewan. Invitational competitions including, Algoma Interclub, February Frolic, Let's Skate, SummerSizzle, Minto SummerSkate and Scarboro Skate (1975-2017)
- Member/Chair: National Judges Committee, International Judges Committee, National Officials' Development Committee, and the Educational and Development Committee for Skate Canada
- Canadian National Team (Official) for the World University Games in Turin, Italy (2007)