



# SASKATCHEWAN SPORT AWARDS

## 2021 Program

January 27, 2022 | YouTube Premiere





## About the Saskatchewan Sport Awards

The Saskatchewan Sport Awards celebrate the outstanding achievements of Saskatchewan's amateur athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers. Coach, Team and Athlete of the Year recipients are nominated for their achievements in their sport throughout the calendar year and returned in 2021 after a year hiatus because of restrictions on sport throughout 2020. Coach and Volunteer Dedication Awards recognize the outstanding contributions of long-time members of the amateur sport community. New for 2021, the Inspire Through Sport Award recognizes an athlete, coach, official, administrator or team who demonstrated courage, determination and/or perseverance and whose unwavering spirit serves to inspire others across the amateur sport community and beyond.

The Saskatchewan Sport Awards is an annual program of Sask Sport, a non-profit organization that serves as the federation for amateur sport in Saskatchewan. For more information about Sask Sport, visit [sasksport.ca](http://sasksport.ca).

Sask Sport would like to thank all those who took time to nominate these outstanding recipients and finalists, and acknowledge Sask Lotteries as the main fundraiser for amateur sport in the province.

The Saskatchewan Sport Awards will also be available for viewing on January 28 on SaskTel maxTV Local on Demand feature channels 46/346.



## Emcee

Derek Taylor, host of SportsCage on CKRM

## Voiceovers

Jessica Frost, morning host on Play 92.1

## Greetings

Lance Dudar, Sask Sport Chair

Hon. Laura Ross, Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport  
and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

## Awards

Inspire Through Sport: Jonathan Mudryk

Volunteer Dedication: Jamie Schneider

Coach of the Year

Youth Female Athlete of the Year

Youth Male Athlete of the Year

Coach Dedication: Astrid Baecker

Volunteer Dedication: Megan Penno

Team of the Year

Inspire Through Sport: Marj Walton

Volunteer Dedication: Jocelyne Moe

Coach Dedication: Erin McCormick

Male Athlete of the Year

Female Athlete of the Year





## Youth Athlete of the Year Finalists

### Female



#### **Isabella Brown**

**Saskatoon · Weightlifting**

Nominated by Saskatchewan  
Weightlifting Association  
Gold medal at senior nationals,  
silver medal at junior nationals



#### **Teah Chavez**

**Regina · Tennis**

Nominated by her family  
and supported by Tennis  
Saskatchewan  
Multiple top-12 finishes and  
semifinal appearances at  
national and international events



#### **Abby Goddard**

**Swift Current · Equitation**

Nominated by her family and  
supported by the Saskatchewan  
Horse Federation  
Top-10 finisher at American  
Quarter Horse Canadian  
Nationals, Ford World Youth and  
other events

### Male



#### **Carson Hindmarsh**

**Saskatoon · Baseball**

Nominated by Baseball  
Saskatchewan  
Pitcher with the Canadian Junior  
team during 18U series against  
the United States



#### **Chase Pochylko**

**Saskatoon · Golf**

Nominated by Golf Saskatchewan  
Youngest qualifier for the  
Canadian Men's Amateur  
Championship

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#### **Past Winners - Female**

2020 – Not awarded  
2019 – Savannah Sutherland, Borden, Athletics  
2018 – Savannah Sutherland, Borden, Athletics  
2017 – Rebecca Dean, Regina, Swimming  
2016 – Samantha Ryan, Saskatoon, Para Swimming

#### **Past Winners - Male**

2020 – Not awarded  
2019 – Rylan Wiens, Pike Lake, Diving  
2018 – Daniel McCullough, Saskatoon, Kayaking  
2017 – Connor Sparks, Saskatoon, Baseball  
2016 – Graeme Fish, Moose Jaw, Speed Skating



## Coach of the Year Finalists



**Mary Carroll**

**Saskatoon · Diving**

Nominated by Dive Sask  
Coached Saskatchewan-based  
diver Rylan Wiens to Olympics  
and coach with the Saskatoon  
Diving Club



**Kim Folk**

**Regina · Special Olympics**

Nominated by Special Olympics  
Saskatchewan  
Head coach of the Regina  
Wildcats softball team and other  
Special Olympic programming



**Eric Kramer**

**Saskatoon · Swimming**

Nominated by Swim  
Saskatchewan  
Canadian Paralympic swimming  
coach who helped two  
Saskatchewan-based swimmers  
to Paralympics



**Scott MacAulay**

**Regina · Football**

Nominated by the Regina  
Thunder Football Club  
Head coach of the Regina  
Thunder and received the Prairie  
Junior Football and Canadian  
Junior Football Coach of the Year  
awards

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### Past Winners

2020 – Not awarded

2019 – Jason Reindl, Saskatoon, Athletics

2018 – Tom Sargeant, Saskatoon, Football

2017 – Cyril Dorgigné, Regina, Water Polo

2016 – Lisa Thomaidis, Saskatoon, Basketball



## Team of the Year Finalists



### Team Sherry Anderson Curling

Nominated by CURLSASK  
Won the Canadian Senior Curling  
Championship for the fourth time  
in a row with a 10-4 victory



### Max Pally and Grayson Laycock Rowing

Nominated by Saskatchewan Rowing  
First Saskatchewan men's rowing pair to  
win gold at the Rowing Canada National  
Championship



### Team Sask 15U Girls Water Polo

Nominated by Water Polo  
Saskatchewan  
Recovered from a four-goal deficit in the  
final five minutes of the game to become  
national champions

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### Past Winners

2020 – Not awarded

2019 – Team Sask 19U Men, Water Polo

2018 – Team Sask 19U Women, Water Polo

2017 – Team Saskatchewan Baseball

2016 – University of Saskatchewan Huskies Women's Basketball Team



## Athlete of the Year Finalists

### Female



#### **Shelby Newkirk**

**Saskatoon · Para Swimming**  
Nominated by Swim Saskatchewan

First-time Paralympian who finished fourth in the S6 100-metre backstroke and set multiple Canadian records at the Games



#### **Keely Shaw**

**Midale · Para Cycling**  
Nominated by Saskatchewan Cycling

Captured Canada's first medal at the Paralympics in the women's C4 Individual Pursuit and also competed in two other events



#### **Savannah Sutherland Borden · Athletics**

Nominated by Saskatchewan Athletics

Won bronze in the women's 400-metre hurdles at the U20 World Athletics Championship with a time of 57.27 seconds, a Saskatchewan record

### Male



#### **Scott Joseph**

**Regina · Athletics**

Nominated by Saskatchewan Athletics

A silver medallist at the Canadian Olympic Trials in long jump and a gold medallist at an international event in Montreal



#### **Rylan Sokul**

**Regina · Football**

Nominated by the Regina Thunder Football Club  
The Prairie Junior Football Conference MVP and Outstanding Offensive Player and Receiver with 621 yards and eight touchdowns



#### **Rylan Wiens**

**Pike Lake · Diving**

Nominated by Dive Sask  
Secured an Olympic berth for Canada with a bronze medal finish at the FINA World Cup and won silver at the Olympic Diving Trials

#### **Past Winners - Female**

2020 – Not awarded  
2019 – Keely Shaw, Midale, Para Cycling  
2018 – Shelby Newkirk, Saskatoon, Para Swimming  
2017 – Marsha Hudey, White City, Speed Skating  
2016 – Brianne Theisen-Eaton, Humboldt, Athletics

#### **Past Winners - Male**

2020 – Not awarded  
2019 – Jarret Kenke, Saskatoon, Kayak  
2018 – Kurt Oatway, Regina, Para Alpine Skiing  
2017 – Alexander Eiswerth, Regina, Athletics  
2016 – Gavin Schmitt, Saskatoon, Volleyball



## Inspire Through Sport Awards



### **Jonathan Mudryk**

**Saskatoon · Special Olympics**

Nominated by Special Olympics Saskatchewan Overcoming challenges both on and off the ball diamond, Jonathan Mudryk inspires through sport with his positive outlook, determination and perseverance, as well as his support and encouragement as a teammate. Jonathan has been faced with many health challenges since birth due to a rare congenital heart defect, for which he has undergone five open heart surgeries as well as about 15 other heart surgeries. Most recently, Jonathan received a liver and heart transplant. None of that has stopped him reaching success in sport, though. Jonathan has played nine years with the Special Olympics Saskatoon Thunderhawks softball team and had an unforgettable moment at the 2018 Canadian Special Olympics Summer Games. Pitching for Team Saskatchewan in the championship game with Saskatchewan up by two with two outs in the final inning, Jonathan caught a pop fly to secure the win and the gold medal for his team. Jonathan is eager to get back to the mound, even working on his throwing arm while he recovered in hospital. Jonathan's outstanding traits were recognized by his Thunderhawks' teammates when he earned the team's Heart and Soul Award and Gold Glove of Love award during his last season.



### **Marj Walton**

**Regina · Swimming**

Nominated by Swim Saskatchewan Displaying leadership, knowledge and passion, Marj Walton inspires through sport with her devotion and increased involvement for swimming in not only Saskatchewan, but across Canada and the world. Marj first began her journey in swimming competing as a youth in Regina and moved into coaching while she lived in Nova Scotia from 1990 to 1998. Upon her return to Regina in 1998, Marj was hired as the Executive Director of Swim Sask, a role she still holds today. Over the last two-and-a-half decades, Marj has continued to get involved in multiple swimming initiatives. She competed along with her mom and sister in the Regina Masters Swim Club from 1998 to 2011, volunteered at countless Saskatchewan, Western and Canada Games, been a member of the National Paralympic Team attending the 2012, 2016 and 2020 Paralympic Summer Games and has her sights set on joining the 2024 team. She's also the Chair of the Swimming Canada Para swimming selection committee. Currently, Marj is working on multiple initiatives to help build new pools in communities across Saskatchewan that not only meet requirements to hold competitive meets but exceeds them.



## Coach Dedication Awards



**Astrid Baecker**  
Regina · Soccer

Nominated by Saskatchewan Soccer Association

Experiencing the sport of soccer from a young age and in a multitude of roles, Astrid Baecker has spent the last nearly 30 years making her mark as a coach. Astrid coaches all levels of soccer in Regina, from grassroots players who are first trying the sport to high-performance athletes with the University of Regina Cougars women's soccer team, which she was named interim Co-Head Coach in 2021. Beginning in the early 90's Astrid started taking National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) courses and has continued to seek out new opportunities and grow as a coach, through workshops, courses, mentorships and more. In 2013, Astrid made history as the first female coach from Saskatchewan to earn the Canadian Soccer Association B-License. Through her years of coaching, Astrid has been recognized many times, including the 2013 Saskatchewan Soccer Association (SSA) Grassroots Coach of the Year and the 2014 SSA Youth Coach of the Year.



**Erin McCormick**  
Osler · Para Dressage

Nominated by Melanie Rempel and supported by the Saskatchewan Horse Federation

Transitioning from a therapeutic coach to a sport coach, Erin McCormick has helped Para dressage to flourish in Saskatchewan. Erin first earned her coaching certification in her role as a therapeutic coach, where she used horse riding — specifically the dressage discipline — to assist people who had intellectual and physical disabilities with their therapy. During that time, Erin discovered that many of her clients had the skill levels required to compete in Para dressage and took on the mantle of sport coach as she expanded her therapy services in a new direction. In 2015, Erin coached Saskatchewan's first athlete in Para dressage and has continued to bring new athletes into the fold since. Eleven participants competed in events in 2021, including one athlete who is attempting to make the 2024 Canadian Paralympic team. Through it all, Erin has taken part in multiple workshops and courses as she continues to learn how to grow as a coach for athletes with different disabilities and on the opposite side has hosted many seminars to instruct others on Para dressage in an effort to grow the sport.



## Volunteer Dedication Awards



### Jocelyne Moe

#### Humboldt · Weightlifting

Nominated by Ken Trofimuk and supported by the Saskatchewan Weightlifting Association Volunteering her time as an official, coach and board member for nearly 40 years, Jocelyne Moe has made a lasting impact on the Saskatchewan Weightlifting Association (SWA). First volunteering her time in the sport of weightlifting because of the involvement of her three children, Jocelyne spent over two decades on the SWA's Board of Directors. She began officiating the sport locally in 1998 and has since officiated at competitions provincially, nationally and internationally, including the 2014 Commonwealth Games, 2015 Pan American Games and the 2017 Junior World Championships. Jocelyne is one of two active female officials in Canada with international certification. Jocelyne is also a Level II certified coach and coached in Humboldt from 2000 to 2009. For her years of involvement, Jocelyne received a Saskatchewan Weightlifting Association Service Award in 2021.



### Megan Penno

#### Regina · Special Olympics

Nominated by Special Olympics Saskatchewan Introducing new programming and accounting methods in her more than 10 years with Special Olympics Regina, Megan Penno has made changes that will allow the organization to continue to grow in the future. Megan created a competitive basketball league, which she also coaches in, that increases in participants each year and teaches athletes multiple new skills that can be used on and off the court. Megan has also taken her coaching talents to the provincial level, coaching Saskatchewan's basketball team at the Canadian Special Olympics Summer Games in 2014 and Regina's bowling team at the Saskatchewan Special Olympics Summer Games in 2017. Behind the scenes, Megan has been the Chairperson of the Games Committee for the last two Provincial Special Olympics Winter Games and assisted Special Olympics Regina with marketing and fundraising. Megan was recognized for her service with the 2020 Special Olympics Saskatchewan Volunteer of the Year award.



## Volunteer Dedication Award



**Jamie Schneider**  
Regina - Curling

Nominated by Lorraine Schneider and supported by CURLSASK

Using knowledge and experience gained from his own playing career, Jamie Schneider has dedicated his time to growing the University of Regina curling program over the last decade. Jamie helped develop the first men's and women's junior and senior divisions for the club in 2012 and has continued to coach multiple teams over the years at Canada West and U SPORTS competitions. In 2014, he also took on the added responsibility of coaching the U SPORTS national team at multiple

World University Games. Outside of his work with the University teams, Jamie was also an alternate-player and coach for Regina's Team Adam Casey at the 2017 Brier, was a coach with the Canadian junior women's team in 2019 and is willing to lend a hand to anyone interested in improving their curling skills.

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