



Sport Newfoundland and Labrador 2024 Provincial Annual Awards Finalists Announced

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. John's, NL – Sport Newfoundland and Labrador (SportNL) is excited to unveil the finalists for the Sport NL 2024 Annual Provincial Awards, set to take place on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at the Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland. This prestigious event will honor the outstanding achievements and contributions of athletes, coaches, teams, executives, officials, and volunteers who made a significant impact on the province's sports community in 2024. Each finalist was nominated by their provincial sport organization as the top performer in their respective sport.

"The past year showcased the outstanding talent and dedication of Newfoundland and Labrador's athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers with many earning well-deserved nominations in their respective categories. The finalists chosen by the awards committee truly exemplify excellence in sport," said Sport Newfoundland and Labrador Board President Raeleen Baggs. "I appreciate the challenging task undertaken by the selection committee in identifying these exceptional athletes and sincerely thank them for their commitment to the awards process. Best of luck to all finalists!"

Sport NL received a considerable number of nominations that were submitted by Provincial Sport Organizations over fifteen categories, including five new categories for 2024.

"The overwhelming number of high-quality nominations this year is truly inspiring, especially with the introduction of our new categories, which have provided even more athletes across the province with the opportunity to shine," said Sport Newfoundland and Labrador's Executive Director, Troy Croft. "Earning a nomination is a remarkable achievement, and being selected as a finalist is an even greater honor. I congratulate all this year's finalists on their well-deserved recognition."

The three finalists for each of the 15 award categories were selected, based on voting results, from a committee comprised of individuals from the media and sports community. The finalists for each category are listed below and their biographies are in the backgrounder attached.

Junior Female Athlete of the Year (Margaret Davis Memorial Award)

Grace Hill - Gymnastics

Falon McLoughlan - Volleyball

Brooklyn Wolfrey- Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Circle

Junior Male Athlete of the Year (Joseph P. Mullins Memorial Award)

Gavin Baggs- Para Sport

Sawyer LeBlanc- Athletics

Liam Noble – Ball Hockey

Senior Female Athlete of the Year (Elizabeth Swan Memorial Award)

Kate Bazeley – Athletics

Stef Kean - Powerlifting

Jaida Lee - Baseball

Senior Male Athlete of the Year (Ferd Hayward Memorial Award)

Riley Mercer - Hockey

Colin Walsh - Softball

Chris Weeks – Swimming

Female Coach of the Year

Christina Kendall – Special Olympics

Allison Kirby - Gymnastics

Nikki Musseau – Baseball

Male Coach of the Year (John Drinkwater Memorial Award)

Glenn Goss - Curling

Loyola Power - Softball

Christopher Roberts – Swimming

Rising Star Coach of the Year

Abigail Bridger - Gymnastics

Alex Curtis - Baseball

Simon Shannahan - Hockey

Senior Male Team of the Year (Edward P. Browne Memorial Award)

Galway Hitmen - Softball

Team Gushue – Curling

Senior Female Team of the Year

Holy Cross Nutra Holdings – Soccer
Girls 20U NL Selects Ball Hockey Team- Ball Hockey
MUN Female Track Club – Athletics

Youth Male Team of the Year

Eastern Hitmen U15AA - Hockey
NLU15 Selects - Softball
Team Perry - Curling

Youth Female Team of the Year

14UAA Team NL Black - Baseball
CBS Silhouettes 13-15 – Artistic Swimming
Paradise Girls U15 - Soccer

Senior Official of the Year Award

Dave Buckingham - Baseball
Kiana Laundry- Taekwondo
Danielle Mills - Hockey

Junior Official of the Year Award

Olivia Clarke – Basketball
Adam Currie - Hockey
Shawna-Marie Stuckless - Soccer

Executive of the Year (Graham Snow Memorial Award)

Sean Cadigan - Softball
Colleen Costello - Hockey
Eric Hiscock - Volleyball

Volunteer of the Year (Frank W. Graham Memorial Award)

Jasmine Bromley - Hockey
Clint Clark- Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Circle
Jessica Tibbs – Gymnastics

The finalists represent 16 sports from communities all throughout Newfoundland and Labrador demonstrating the strong talent and leadership that we have within the province's sports community.

To learn more information about this year's Annual Awards Ceremony and to purchase tickets, visit our website [here](#).

For more information:

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About Sport Newfoundland and Labrador:

Sport Newfoundland and Labrador is the professional organization that is central to supporting the development and delivery of organized sport in Newfoundland and Labrador. Representing 55 member organizations, as well as 70,000 individual members, Sport NL is a volunteer-run organization that promotes amateur sport throughout our province – for everyone.

Backgrounder

Biographies of 2024 Sport NL Provincial Annual Award Finalists

Junior Female Athlete of the Year (Margaret Davis Memorial Award)

Grace Hill – Gymnastics

Grace Hill's 2024 season concluded with her being named National Champion at the Canadian Gymnastics Championships, solidifying her as a top athlete. Competing as a Level 10 gymnast for the first time, she achieved historic milestones for her province. Grace upgraded all her routines and consistently performed at a high level. She placed third All-Around at International Gymnix, shared the Provincial Champion title, and won third All-Around at the Eastern Canadian Championships, along with a gold on bars. At the Canadian National Championships, she became the first-ever All-Around National Champion in Level 10 from Newfoundland and Labrador, earning an additional gold medal on bars and bronze on beam. Beyond competition, Grace is a dedicated athlete and role model, inspiring teammates with her work ethic.

Falon McLoughlan – Volleyball

Falon has been involved in sports from a young age, starting with ballet and dance before transitioning to soccer, basketball, swimming, and volleyball in grade 7. In 2024, she received the Premier's Athletic Award and the Inaugural Award of Excellence from St. Peter's Junior High. She was a finalist for Female Athlete of the Year and named one of the top four junior female volleyball

players in the province by the NLVA. At 14, Falon joined Team Canada's Women's Volleyball Team as the youngest athlete, helping secure a silver medal at the Pan-American Games in Canoas, Brazil. This qualified her for the 100th Deaflympics in Tokyo, Japan, in November 2025. When she is not competing in volleyball, training or studying she is swimming and volunteering teaching other athletes with disabilities how to swim. Falon has maintained a 99.0 GPA while being 100% committed to her sport and teams.

Brooklyn Wolfrey – Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Circle

Brooklyn competed in her first National Para Badminton Championship in February 2024, winning the Female Para Badminton singles title and earning silver in mixed doubles. Later that month, she competed with Team Indigenous at the NL Winter Games, resulting in their gold medal victory in team competition. As part of her high school team, she helped secure the SSNL 2024 Provincial Badminton Championship and received a Sportsmanship Award. In December, she was invited to join Team Canada's National Para Badminton Team, providing opportunities to compete internationally in 2025. Alongside her athletic achievements, Brooklyn maintains a high academic standing as a straight-A student and plans to attend university in fall 2025. For her efforts in 2024 Brooklyn was recognized with her school's Sportsmanship Award and she received the 2024 Team Gushue Female Athlete Award.

Junior Male Athlete of the Year (Joseph P. Mullins Memorial Award)

Gavin Baggs- Para Sport

Gavin Baggs had an exceptional year in 2024, earning silver in the 1500m at the Track National Championships and gold at the High School Championships and Provincial Championships. In para hockey, he scored the game-winning shootout goal to send his team to the finals at the Para Hockey National Championships with his team winning the silver medal. In swimming, Gavin earned multiple medals at the East Coast Championships and the Newfoundland and Labrador Summer Games and set personal bests at Nationals. His commitment to excellence was further demonstrated by his first international appearance with Team Canada in para hockey, where he scored his first goal in his debut with Team Canada.

Sawyer Leblanc - Athletics

Sawyer LeBlanc won four national titles in 2024, establishing himself as a top U18 Canadian track athlete. He secured gold in the U18 3000m at the Canadian Indoor Track and Field Championships in Montreal, followed by gold in both the 1500m and 3000m at the Canadian National Youth Track and Field Championships in Calgary. He is the only Newfoundlander to win U18 3000m gold at these championships. Sawyer broke two 38-year-old provincial records in the 1500m and 3000m, lowering

the 3000m mark by over 10 seconds. At the Atlantic Canadian Track and Field Championships, he won gold in the 1500m with a record-breaking performance, making him the fastest U18 Atlantic Canadian and the 9th fastest U18 Canadian ever recorded. Next year, Sawyer will continue his career in NCAA Division 1 track and cross country with Bradley University.

Liam Noble – Ball Hockey

Liam Noble began his ball hockey career with West Side United Ball Hockey Club. In 2023, he represented the U17 NL Selects at the Canadian Ball Hockey Association Junior Nationals in St. John's, NL, earning recognition from the Canadian Ball Hockey Association. In 2024, Liam was named to U18 Team Canada and competed at the International Street and Ball Hockey Federation World Championship in Zelina, Slovakia. Team Canada secured gold with a 5-1 victory over the USA, and Liam was named Most Valuable Player. Following his international success, Liam competed at the Canadian Ball Hockey Junior Nationals in Saskatoon with the U19 NL Selects. He led a comeback in the semifinals with three goals, helping secure a spot in the final. The team finished with a silver medal, and Liam was named to the National All-Star team.

Senior Female Athlete of the Year (Elizabeth Swan Memorial Award)

Kate Bazeley – Athletics

Kate Bazeley is a senior women's long-distance runner with a history of top performances. In 2024, she won her eighth title at the Tely 10-mile Road Race, ranking among the most successful female athletes in the event's history. She also claimed victory at the Provincial Marathon Championship, setting a new course record. On the national stage, Kate finished third at the Vancouver Half Marathon with a time of 1:14:33 and placed sixth at the Canadian Marathon Championships during the Toronto Waterfront Marathon, Canada's premier marathon event. She also won the Provincial Cross-Country Running Championship and was named to Team Canada for the World Cross Country Championships. Beyond competition, Kate is a coach, mother of three, and a leader in the running community. Her accomplishments at the provincial, national, and international levels highlight her impact in long-distance running.

Stef Kean – Powerlifting

Stef Kean is a competitive powerlifter who has excelled at regional, national, and international levels. At the 2024 CPU Regionals, she secured first place in the 52kg class and set the National Record for Equipped Total. Stef also competed at the Commonwealth Championships, where she claimed first

place in the Equipped division. During this competition, she set the Open World Deadlift Record and earned gold medals in squat, bench press, deadlift, and overall total. Her performance earned her the title of Best Overall Equipped Lifter. Recognized for her strength and consistency, Stef continues to establish herself as a top competitor in the sport.

Jaida Lee – Baseball

Jaida Lee was selected as a member of Baseball Canada's Senior Women's National Team which competed in the 2024 Women's World Cup held in Thunder Bay, Ontario. At this event, Jaida pitched Team Canada to a win in the round robin against Venezuela, going five shutout innings, allowing just one hit and three walks while striking out four batters. Jaida and the rest of her Team Canada teammates won a bronze medal at the tournament.

Senior Male Athlete of the Year (Ferd Hayward Memorial Award)

Riley Mercer – Hockey

Riley Mercer is a goaltender for the Drummondville Voltigeurs in the QMJHL, known for his standout performances in both the regular season and playoffs. In his first season as the Voltigeurs' starter in 2023-24, Riley posted a 2.83 GAA, .905 SV%, and a 31-13-4 record in 49 games. However, it was in the playoffs that he truly shined, recording a 1.89 GAA and .934 SV% in 19 games to lead Drummondville to the QMJHL championship. His stellar play earned the team a spot in the Memorial Cup Championship and earned him a place on the NHL's Minnesota Wild prospect roster. Riley continued his impressive performance into the 2024-25 season, posting a 20-9-3 record with a 2.33 GAA and .933 SV%. With top 10 finishes in both Save Percentage and Goals Against Average across the league, Riley's future as a goaltender looks promising.

Colin Walsh – Softball

Colin Walsh had a successful year in 2024, achieving notable accomplishments at the local, provincial, and national levels in softball. At the local level, he led 3 Cheers Pub Miller Lite to championships in both the Regular Season (17-5 record) and Playoffs (6-0 record) of the St. John's Senior Men's Fastpitch League. He earned awards for Pitching Wins (10), Most Strikeouts (154), All-League Team selection (Pitcher), and Player of the Month honors (August and September). On the provincial level, Colin was named Tournament MVP as he guided 3 Cheers Pub Miller Lite to the Senior Men's Fastpitch Provincial Championship (4-0 record). At the national level, he helped NL1 Galway Hitmen win Gold at the Men's Canadian Fastpitch Championship (9-0 record) and was named Top Player of the Championship Round. In December 2024, Colin was named to the Softball

Canada 2025 Men's National Team Athlete Pool and was recognized as the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Senior Male Player of the Year.

Chris Weeks – Swimming

Chris Weeks is a highly accomplished swimmer from Memorial University who had an exceptional 2024 season. He received multiple accolades at the Memorial University Seahawks Athletic Awards, including Male Athlete of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and the John Drinkwater Trophy for MVP in swimming. Throughout the year, Chris set seven provincial records, both in short and long-course events, including the 50m free, 100m free, and 50m fly. At the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) competition, he won all his events and qualified for the University National Championships, becoming the only Memorial swimmer to do so. He also broke three AUS records at the Kemp-Fry Invitational. At the AUS Championships, he claimed four individual gold medals and was named AUS Male Swimmer of the Year. Chris represented Canada at the U Sports Swimming National Championships, winning gold in the 50 fly and silver in the 100 free. He also qualified for the 2025 FISU World University Games and the Paris 2024 Olympic Trials.

Female Coach of the Year

Christina Kendall – Special Olympics

In 2024, Christina Kendall showcased exceptional dedication to Special Olympics Newfoundland and Labrador. As an associate coach for Team NL's provincial snowshoeing team, she helped prepare athletes for the National Winter Games in Calgary, where all team members earned medals. Christina also coached snowshoeing in Gander and swimming at a local club meet in May. Beyond coaching, she held leadership roles as the Executive Member of the Bay St. George Club, Treasurer and Communications Officer, and Secretary of the Provincial RLC. Her outstanding contributions were recognized when she was named Special Olympics Canada's Coach of the Year.

Allison Kirby – Gymnastics

Allison Kirby is a highly accomplished gymnastics coach who has made significant contributions to the sport at both provincial and national levels. As the Head Coach of Cygnus Gymnastics, she guided athletes to outstanding results, including seven medals at the 2024 Canadian National Championships. Her gymnasts won 23 medals at the L'International Gymnix, 53 medals at the

Atlantic Championships, and 14 medals at the Eastern Canadian Championships. Additionally, her athletes achieved top honors, with one winning Gymnastics NL Athlete of the Year and another nominated for Sport NL Athlete of the Year. Allison's coaching success extends beyond competition results. She emphasizes athlete development and long-term success, utilizing her Master's degree in Sport and Exercise Psychology to implement progressive training methodologies. She also mentors aspiring coaches and plays an active role in advancing the sport in Newfoundland and Labrador. Allison's leadership and commitment earned her Gymnastics NL Coach of the Year recognition in 2024.

Nikki Musseau – Baseball

Nikki Musseau is a remarkable baseball coach who enjoyed a successful 2024 season. As Head Coach of Baseball NL's 14U AA Team Black, she led the team to a 4-1 record and a championship victory at the Baseball Atlantic 14U AA Championships in Summerside, PEI. She also represented St. John's/North as an Assistant Coach at the 2024 NL Summer Games, where her team earned a silver medal. Nikki is a mentor for young female baseball coaches in the province, guiding a coaching staff of coaches under 21 and sharing her success at the 14U AA Championships. Additionally, she is actively involved in the SJMBA Female Program, promoting key initiatives and supporting the growth of the sport. As an Assistant Coach for St. John's Minor Baseball's 12U AA team, Nikki helped players improve significantly in just a few months through focused practice and competition schedules.

Male Coach of the Year (John Drinkwater Memorial Award)

Glenn Goss – Curling

Glenn Goss has been a coach in curling since 2006, leading several high-profile teams in Newfoundland and Labrador. For the past two years, he has coached Team Simon Perry, guiding the young team to significant success. In 2024, Team Perry won the Newfoundland and Labrador U18 Men's Curling Championship and went on to become the U18 National Men's Curling Champions at the Curling Canada U18 Championships. After an early loss at nationals, Glenn refocused the team, and they went undefeated for the rest of the event. In addition to their national success, Glenn also coached Team Perry to victory in the 2024 Rick Roswell Classic, an adult curling competition. The team's impressive run continued into 2025 with a win at the AUS Men's Curling Championship. Glenn's fair and professional coaching style has been instrumental in Team Perry's accomplishments over the past two years.

Loyola Power – Softball

Loyola Power had a successful 2024 season in softball, leading 3 Cheers Pub Miller Lite to first place finishes in both the St. John's Senior Men's Fastpitch League Regular Season (17-5 record) and Playoffs (6-0 record). His team earned 17 awards, including 6 All-Star Selections, 5 Statistical Awards, 2 MVP Awards, 3 Player of the Month Awards, and 1 Top Batter Award. At the Provincial level, Loyola guided the team to a 4-0 record and the Senior Men's Fastpitch Provincial Championship. On the national stage, he led NL Murno Mariners to a gold medal at the 2024 U23 Men's Canadian Fastpitch Championship in Kitchener, ON, with a 6-2 record. His athletes earned two awards: Top Player of the Championship Round and All-Star Team Selection (Utility). Loyola was named the 2024 Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Adult Division Coach of the Year.

Christopher Roberts – Swimming

Christopher Roberts has been a coach for top swimmers in Newfoundland and Labrador for 12 years, mentoring athletes who have reached the highest levels in the sport. In 2024, his swimmers set 15 provincial records, with many representing the senior provincial team. Notably, he has coached Chris Weeks for six years, guiding him to gold and silver medals at the Canadian Swimming Championships, setting a Canadian U Sports record in the 50m fly, and qualifying for the FISU Games in Germany in 2025. Christopher also led the Memorial University SeaHawks to third place in the AUS, with the men's relays breaking all three provincial relay records. In total, nine of his swimmers qualified for Easterns, and five swimmers qualified for the Olympic Trials, with one swimmer, Amelia Smith, making finals. Additionally, five of his swimmers qualified for the prestigious Ontario Junior International meet, the most from any Newfoundland and Labrador team.

Rising Star Coach of the Year

Abigail Bridger – Gymnastics

Abigail Bridger has quickly become a key figure in Newfoundland and Labrador's gymnastics community, excelling as a coach in both competitive and recreational programs. In 2024, she coached athletes who competed at events such as the Blizzard Invitational, Snowbowl Invitational, Dream Big Invitational, and the Provincial Championships. Abigail also leads Cygnus' preschool camp, working alongside the Recreational Director to deliver a safe and engaging experience for young gymnasts. She received the "Rookie Coach of the Year" award, selected by her peers for her contributions to the program. Abigail also volunteers with Special Olympics, teaching rhythmic gymnastics, and serves as Co-Captain of the Gonzaga Cheerleading Team, which won Provincials.

She is also a talented rower, competing in the Royal St. John's Regatta, and has been part of the winning crew for two consecutive years. Abigail continuously enhances her coaching skills by attending clinics and completing NCCP courses, fostering a collaborative and growth-oriented environment for both athletes and coaches.

Alex Curtis – Baseball

Alex Curtis is a dedicated baseball coach in Newfoundland and Labrador, known for his commitment to helping players reach their maximum potential. In 2024, he served as the Head Coach for the St. John's Minor Baseball 13U AAA team, leading them to a provincial championship at the Baseball NL Provincials. As a result of their success, Alex also coached the Newfoundland Representative team at the 13U AAA Atlantics. In addition to his head coaching role, Alex contributed as an Assistant Coach for the 13U Provincial team, traveling to Ontario in August for further competition. His passion for the game and his ability to nurture young talent make him a key figure in the baseball coaching community and a coach to watch for years to come.

Simon Shannahan – Hockey

Simon Shannahan has been an integral part of Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador's High-Performance Program, contributing to various capacities including social media management, equipment coordination, and coaching support. In 2024, he was heavily involved with the Male AAA stream, dedicating significant time and effort to developing players. Simon served as an Assistant/Junior Coach for both the U13AAA Eastern Rangers and U13AAA Eastern Knights. Under his guidance, the Eastern Rangers won the 2024 PEI Spud Invitational Tournament and the DJHL League Playdowns. His coaching contributions also helped the Eastern Knights finish in 1st place in league standings. Additionally, Simon was a Junior Coach for the Holy Heart of Mary High School Hockey Team. As part of the 2024 Male U15 Team NL High Performance Program, he supported the team in winning a bronze medal at the Atlantic Challenge Cup. Simon's passion and dedication continue to make a positive impact in the province's hockey community.

Senior Male Team of the Year (Edward P. Browne Memorial Award)

Galway Hitmen – Softball

The Galway Hitmen clinched the 2024 Men's Canadian Fastpitch Championship in Saskatoon, finishing with a perfect 9-0 record and outscoring opponents 77-17. The team posted an impressive .339 batting average (87-for-257) and a 2.10 earned run average (15 earned runs in 50 innings pitched). Individually, Brad Ezekiel earned MVP honors in the preliminary round, while Colin

Walsh was named MVP in the championship round. Three players earned All-Star selections: Blair Ezekiel (Infielder), Nick Shailes (Infielder), and Jordan Pomeroy (Outfielder). This victory marked the Galway Hitmen's 9th Men's Canadian Fastpitch Championship title.

Team Gushue – Curling

Team Gushue continues to be one of the world's elite curling teams. In 2024, Team Gushue was successful in winning their third consecutive Tim Horton's Brier. It was their sixth national championship, a Canadian record. Team Gushue had a strong performance at the World Men's Curling Championship finishing second overall. Team Gushue advocates for the sport of curling and inspires others to be their best. Their work ethic and commitment to the sport is second to none. Team Gushue is adored by their fans and continues to be role models for the younger generation of curlers hoping to follow in their footsteps.

Senior Female Team of the Year

Holy Cross Nutra Holdings – Soccer

Holy Cross Nutra Holdings continued to dominate senior women's soccer in 2024, finishing first in the regular season and securing their ninth straight provincial title. The team, two-time defending national champions (2022 and 2023), reached the national tournament aiming for a third consecutive title. However, after a penalty kick loss in the playoffs, they placed fourth. The team's consistent success has raised the standard of local women's soccer, as they have won the provincial Jubilee Trophy title for nine consecutive years. As they look ahead to 2025, Holy Cross Nutra Holdings is preparing for an NL-hosted Jubilee Trophy and Challenge Cup Nationals. Their continued excellence in the league earned them the 2024 NLSA Senior Team of the Year award. With a strong foundation and dedication, the team remains a force in Canadian women's soccer.

Girls U20 NL Selects Ball Hockey Team- Ball Hockey

The Girls U20 NL Selects team has made history by winning the Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) Championship for three consecutive years (2022-2024), a feat never before achieved in any female junior division. Comprised of 20 athletes from across Newfoundland and Labrador, the team has remained undefeated with a record of 16-0-3, outscoring opponents 59-16. In 2023, eight players from the NL Selects roster represented Team Canada U21 and won the ISBHF World Championship. Seven players from the 2024 roster have also been selected for the 2025 World Championship in Poprad, Slovakia. The team's dominance was showcased in their three-peat titles in Saskatoon (2024), St. John's (2023), and Winnipeg (2022). Their exceptional performance has

included multiple MVPs and All-Star selections, cementing their status as one of the most dominant teams in CBHA history.

MUN Female Track Club – Athletics

The Female MUN Athletics Club team had a standout performance at the 2024 AUS Championships, securing third place out of nine competing universities. The team won seven medals, showcasing exceptional talent across multiple events. Erin McGettigan claimed gold in the pole vault, tying the AUS record. Shae LeDevehat earned silver in both the pentathlon and shot put, while Brianna Fortune also won silver in the pole vault. Claire Langille brought home a bronze in the 300m. The 4x200m and 4x400m relay teams both earned bronze medals. This strong showing marks one of the club's best performances in recent years.

Youth Male Team of the Year

Eastern Hitmen U15 AA – Hockey

The 2023-2024 season for the Eastern Hitmen was a historic one. This U15 AAA team achieved a record of 44 wins, 4 losses, and 4 ties. The Hitmen made a significant impact by winning the Ice Jam, marking the first time an NL-based team claimed this title. The overall record for the team in 2024 was 44 wins, 4 losses and 4 ties. The players, from across the Eastern Region, trained and competed together with a shared goal. Many of the players have continued success and are hopefuls for the 2025 QMJHL Draft.

NL U15 Selects – Softball

The NL1 U15 Selects Softball Team earned a Bronze Medal at the 2024 U15 Male Canadian Fastpitch Championship in St-Leonard-d'Aston, QC. The team finished the 11-team tournament with a 5-5 record. They posted a .242 batting average (80-for-330) and a 4.10 earned run average (41 earned runs in 70 innings pitched). As the 8th seed, the team made a playoff run, winning three straight games before falling in the semi-final. While no individual awards were given, the team prioritized collective success. Their performance was a strong showing, and the future of softball looks promising for this group.

Team Perry – Curling

Team Perry had a highly successful 2024 season. They went undefeated at the Newfoundland and Labrador U18 Provincials in December 2023 and their skip, Simon Perry, represented Canada at the 2024 Youth Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, with his mixed doubles partner, Cailey Locke. At the 2024 U18 Nationals, they rebounded from an initial loss to win 8 straight games, claiming NL's first Under 18 National Championship. In February, they won silver at the U20 Provincials and also competed in the Rock Rowsell Memorial Bonspiel, where they defeated the reigning Newfoundland and Labrador Tankard Champion in the final. The team represented Newfoundland and Labrador at the U18 National Boys Championships in Ottawa, finishing 8-1 to win their first National title. Simon Perry was awarded the Fair Play Award. In December, they won the Rick Rowsell Memorial Bonspiel, defeating last year's Newfoundland and Labrador Brier team in the final.

Youth Female Team of the Year

14U AA Team NL Black – Baseball

The Baseball NL 14U AA Girls Team Black is a provincial team made up of 15 athletes from across Newfoundland and Labrador. Competing at the Baseball Atlantic 14U AA Championships, Team Black finished with a 4-1 record, outscoring their opponents 39-15. The team triumphed in the Championship game, defeating Nova Scotia 7-2 to capture the Baseball Atlantic 14U AA Championship.

CBS Silhouettes 13-15 Team – Artistic Swimming

The CBS Silhouettes 13-15 Team had a standout 2024 season. They won the 13-15 age category at the Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Championship and took first place at the 2024 Atlantic Regional Championship, defeating teams from four provinces. At the Atlantic competition, three swimmers finished on the podium in figures, placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in two age categories, contributing to their championship score. All six swimmers were contenders for TeamNL competing in the 2025 Canada-Games, with four successfully named to the team. At the 2024 LTAD figure meet, they excelled, with swimmers placing 1st, 2nd, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th in two age categories. Two swimmers were nominated for CBS Junior Athlete of the Year, with one winning, and two swimmers were nominated for CBS Team of the Year (duet) at the CBS Municipal Awards.

Paradise Girls U15 – Soccer

The Paradise Girls U15 team had a standout 2024 season, capturing their first-ever provincial GU15 PYL title. They finished the regular season with an 11-4 record, securing second place and a goal difference of +33. In the semi-finals, they defeated Mount Pearl 2-1, advancing to the championship

game where they won 1-0 against St. John's to claim the title. The team then represented the province at the Toyota National Championships in Quinte West, Ontario, finishing seventh overall. Their impressive performance throughout the season earned them the NLSA 2024 Youth Team of the Year award.

Senior Official of the Year Award

Dave Buckingham – Baseball

Dave Buckingham has been a cornerstone of baseball umpiring for nearly 50 years, officiating at every level, from local to international. In 2024, he continued to contribute to the growth of the sport by leading multiple clinics in the St. John's-Metro area, helping young umpires improve their skills. Known for his fairness and commitment to the game, Dave strives to give his best performance every time he steps onto the field. In 2024, he returned to umpire at the 18U National Championship in St. John's, his first assignment at this level since 2013. He earned a semifinal plate and gold medal first base assignment, proving his continued excellence. Dave's passion for umpiring and dedication to fostering the next generation of officials make him a respected figure in baseball across the country. His influence and leadership continue to shape the future of the sport in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Kiana Laundry – Taekwondo

Kiana Laundry has been an active and dedicated member of the Taekwondo community. In 2024, she participated in multiple tournaments and national championships across Canada, earning the title of "Best Female Referee" at two events. She is Newfoundland's highest-certified active referee and is working towards becoming the province's first International Referee. Kiana is completing her final year in Biochemistry at Memorial University while preparing for medical school interviews. Her involvement in local events, seminars, and volunteer opportunities highlights her commitment to the sport. She has played a key role in developing and educating the referee program and fostering relationships with coaches, athletes, and fellow referees. Kiana's contributions continue to have a lasting impact on Taekwondo in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Danielle Mills – Hockey

Danielle Mills has been an invaluable member of the Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador officiating program for over 24 years, excelling as an official, instructor, supervisor, and mentor. As the lead of the Female Officiating Program, she has played a pivotal role in its growth, mentoring both male and female officials across the province. Danielle's influence extends beyond the rink, as she coordinates

clinics, supervises young officials, and works on Hockey Canada Task teams to develop programs for women and girls in hockey. In 2024, she made history as the first female official to referee a senior game in the province. Danielle is known for her composure, professionalism, and deep rule knowledge, earning the respect of players, coaches, and fellow officials alike. Her dedication to the officiating community, combined with her commitment to fostering new talent, has made her an essential figure in the development of hockey officiating at the local, provincial, and national levels.

Junior Official of the Year Award

Olivia Clarke – Basketball

Olivia Clarke has been an exceptional basketball official for seven years, working at all levels, from Jr. High to men's leagues. In 2024 at 18 years of age, she officiated the U15 Girls Nationals and was selected for the 2025 Canada Games in St. John's. Olivia's impressive achievements include officiating the 2A Boys Provincials final and the NLBA Hall of Fame Cup men's final. A committed official, Olivia has attended several top camps across Canada, including the Nova Scotia Camp of Excellence, Next Level Women's Camp, OCAA Elite Camp, and Canada West Camp. In addition to her officiating skills, Olivia is a mentor for aspiring female officials and has led an all-female referee clinic. As an advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion, Olivia serves on the Canadian Basketball Officials Commission Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee. At just 18, she has achieved NOCP 3B certification, exemplifying her dedication and leadership in the officiating community.

Adam Currie – Hockey

Adam Currie had a standout 2024 season, building on his recognition as Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador's "Most Promising Official" in 2023. Adam has officiated at multiple prestigious events, including the NL Winter Games, where he earned a Gold Medal Game assignment, and various Provincial Championship tournaments. He attended Hockey Canada's Officials Program of Excellence (OPOE) camps in both 2023 and 2024, before being selected for the Atlantic Challenge Cup (ACC) in October 2024. A Level 3 official, Adam has officiated at various levels, including the St. John's Junior Hockey League and Avalon East Senior Hockey League. Known for his excellent rule knowledge, communication, and sportsmanship, Adam maintains positive relationships with players, coaches, and colleagues. He also volunteers as the assigner/scheduler for Clarenville Minor Hockey, demonstrating his commitment to giving back to his community. Adam's progression reflects his dedication to continuous improvement and passion for hockey officiating.

Shawna-Marie Stuckless – Soccer

Shawna-Marie Stuckless, an 18-year-old soccer official, has quickly become a valued member of the Western Newfoundland soccer community. Despite her age, she demonstrates great confidence in her decisions, even during senior men's games. Shawna-Marie officiates across a range of leagues, from U11 youth to senior and Premier Youth League games in Corner Brook. She has officiated at the 2023 and 2024 U13/U14 Atlantic Championships and served as Assistant Referee for NL Cup quarter-final and semi-final games. Always eager to take on assignments, Shawna-Marie often steps in to fill gaps when referees are needed in the Corner Brook area. She is committed to developing her officiating skills and has benefited from mentorship opportunities, including during the 2024 Atlantic Championships in Gander. Shawna-Marie looks forward to obtaining her Regional Level certificate as the next step in her officiating journey.

Executive of the Year (Graham Snow Memorial Award)

Sean Cadigan – Softball

Sean Cadigan has been involved in Minor Softball for the past eight years (2017-2024). He contributes to grassroots development through the Timbits Program and his work with Timbits Softball with Softball Canada. In 2024, Softball NL Minor Membership Registration reached 3,318 (1,957 males, 1,361 females), with the highest female registration in eight years. In addition to his role as Minor Director, Sean serves on the Softball NL Coaching Committee, Finance Committee, High Performance Program Committee, Host Committees for National and Eastern Canadian Championships, and the Performance Plan Project Sport Excellence Committee. He also coaches at the Minor level, winning a Gold Medal at the U15 Female Fastpitch Provincial with Outer Cove, a Silver Medal at the NL Summer Games with St. John's North (Outer Cove), and representing the province at the U15 Female Canadian Fastpitch Championship with the U15 Female NL Selects.

Colleen Costello – Hockey

Colleen Costello has been a cornerstone of the Central West Senior Hockey League, dedicating countless hours to ensure the success of the Stephenville Lightning. Since leading the team's revival in 2023, Colleen's leadership and organizational skills have been essential in managing logistics, including travel, accommodations, and fundraising, all while fostering a strong team culture. Her commitment extends beyond the rink, with Colleen and her team making significant donations to local organizations like the SPCA, Stephenville Food Bank, and minor hockey. She has also prioritized supporting players and their families, organizing family weekends to ensure a sense of community. Colleen's dedication to Senior Hockey and her ability to overcome logistical challenges, particularly with getting players from Labrador to participate in training camps, speaks to her exceptional

leadership. Her passion for the game and the community makes her an invaluable asset to the Stephenville Lightning and the greater Bay St. George area.

Eric Hiscock – Volleyball

Eric Hiscock has been a dedicated leader in volleyball for over three decades, serving as the President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Volleyball Association (NLVA) for an impressive 24 years. He founded the Islanders Volleyball Club on Bell Island, significantly growing the sport in the region, with many players advancing to provincial and university teams. Eric's leadership continued as he became the longest-serving president of any Volleyball Provincial Sports Organization in Canada. He has also coached at the Jr. High, High School, Provincial, and Senior levels, and served as the Manager for Team NL at the 2005 Canada Games. Eric's contributions extend beyond coaching, with involvement in various roles at both provincial and national events, including the NL Games and Canada Games. In 2024, Eric was inducted into the NLVA Hall of Fame, honoring his exceptional service, which also includes receiving multiple provincial awards for his dedication to volleyball.

Volunteer of the Year (Frank W. Graham Memorial Award)

Jasmine Bromley – Hockey

Jasmine Bromley has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication as a volunteer with the Churchill Falls Minor Hockey Association, particularly in organizing and executing the U11 Big Land Cup and U11J Provincial Tournament. As U11 Director, she coordinated accommodations, transportation, and event logistics for teams traveling to Churchill Falls, ensuring smooth operations despite the town's limited resources. Jasmine also arranged various team-building activities, including team lunches, a team presentation, and personalized gifts for players, helping foster a strong sense of community. Her efforts extended to organizing a banquet for over 200 people and coordinating activities like swimming, a glow dance, and curling for the families. Jasmine went above and beyond by offering personal support to players, coaches, and families throughout the tournament. Her innovative planning and commitment to the players and their families were instrumental in making the 2024 U11J Provincial Tournament a resounding success, earning her the Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador 2024 Brian Wakelin Executive of the Year Award.

Clint Clark – Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Circle

Clint Clark is a dedicated volunteer known for his unwavering commitment to his community. Whether its coaching, event organizing, or assisting with local programs, Clint always steps up to

help. He has volunteered as a coach for Team Indigenous at the NL Winter and Summer Games, as well as with the Lake Melville Xtreme Minor Hockey Association and the Lake Melville Soccer and Minor Baseball Clubs. Clint also plays an active role in local sports, working as a referee for soccer and hockey tournaments, and serving as an official at the Labrador Winter Games and Northern Games. He has volunteered as a first aid worker for events like the Trapline Marathon and the Labrador Winter Games, even biking 42km to assist runners in need. Clint's selfless dedication extends beyond sports; he is a true volunteer at heart, sharing his knowledge with his son, Carter, and continually contributing to the betterment of his community.

Jessica Tibbs - Gymnastics

Jessica Tibbs was named the 2024 Gymnastics Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer of the Year for her exceptional contributions to the Glovertown Eagles Gymnastics Club. After the club closed during COVID, Jessica stepped in to revitalize it, taking on multiple volunteer roles, including Head Coach, Club Director, and Fundraiser. Within four weeks, she completed her C1 training in St. John's at her own expense, and the club resumed both recreational and competitive programs. Jessica dedicated 20 hours per week to coaching, setting up and taking down equipment, and managing administration. She also researched and updated policies and purchased materials, all at her own cost. In early 2024, she launched a successful fundraising campaign to purchase a new vault table and trampoline board. Additionally, Jessica organized the "Get Back Up Again" year-end show, celebrating the club's successful return and the achievements of its athletes.