



SCOTT ABBOTT

With one stroke of his pen, Scott Abbott thrust Brampton squarely into the eyes of the Canadian sporting scene when he purchased an Ontario Hockey League (OHL) franchise in 1996. This occurrence set in motion a series of events that fundamentally laid the groundwork for the building of the Brampton Centre for Sports and Entertainment in 1998. This amazing, state-of-the-art facility is not only home to the OHL's Brampton Battalion, but to the Brampton Thunder Women's Hockey team, and the Brampton Excelsiors Major Lacrosse team. In addition, thousands of youth and adults enjoy the other ice rinks contained within the centre.

As owner of the Ontario Hockey League's "Battalion," Scott had an immediate impact, developing four NHL first-round draft picks in the team's first seven years of existence. This followed his success as original owner of the Metro Junior A Caledon Canadians, whose graduates include NHL players Nick Boynton, Dainius Zubrus and Bates Battaglia.

Scott is a chief financial contributor not only to the Brampton Battalion Hockey team, but also to Brampton's community programs. He is also a highly respected member of the Ontario Hockey League's Board of Governors.

An added claim to fame is Scott's significant contribution to the world of board games. When living in his birthplace of Montreal, Canada, on December 15th, 1979, he became the inventor of what would become the internationally acclaimed "Trivial Pursuit." A fleeting 11 years later, he went on to become a co-owner of the world-ranked "Devil's Pulpit" golf course in Caledon. Upon its opening in 1990, Devil's Pulpit became widely acclaimed as an earth sculpture that broadened traditional notions of golf course design.

Inducted June 8, 2005 to the





WILLIAM "BILL" SWARTZ

Bill began his golf career early in life. At the tender age of 12 he finished 3rd in the Ontario Bantam category, and in his junior years he won several tournaments, in addition to representing Ontario at the Canadian Junior Open. Golf seemed to be Bill's forte, as evidenced at North Carolina State University, where he received a scholarship and played for four years.

In 1982, Bill had Brampton gleaming with pride as he won the Ontario Amateur Championship. In 1984, he won the Canadian Amateur Championship, earning him an exemption to play in the Canadian Open at Glen Abbey. Bill also represented Canada at the World Championships in Hong Kong that year. Bill turned pro and played on the professional tour for two years, during which time he came away with an Ontario PGA Tournament win.

Bill returned to amateur status and placed 2nd in the Ontario Amateur Championships in 1995, 1996 and 1997. He represented Ontario at the Canadian Amateur Championships on the Willingdon Cup team on five occasions and won in 1998, with Bill making a birdie on the first extra hole to secure the win!

Bill was 11 years old when he became a resident of Brampton in 1972. He was Athlete of the Year in his senior year at Brampton Centennial Secondary School. Bill participated in a wide variety of sports, including football, golf, track and field, basketball, baseball and hockey. In 1978, as a pitcher, Bill led his team to an Ontario Baseball Association Championship victory.

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ROBERT B. BARTLETT

Robert Bartlett has been actively involved in Brampton lacrosse, hockey, and show horses since childhood. He became involved with the Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Club Executive in 1967 and diligently served for 33 years as Director, President and Vice President, and continues today as an Honorary Director. In addition, he served as Director of the Brampton Junior "B" Hockey Club, the Ontario Hackney Association, the Canadian Hackney Society, the American Hackney Horse Association and the Brampton Fall Fair.

His numerous lacrosse accomplishments include ten Canadian Championships and seven Canadian Finalists with the Brampton Excelsiors organization. His Canadian Lacrosse Championships include the President's Cup Championship in 1972, Ontario Junior "A" and Mann Cup Championships in 1980, 1992, 1993 and 1998 and a 2002 Mann Cup Championship. His Canadian finalist accomplishments came in Ontario Junior "A" Lacrosse in 1976 and 1994, and with the Excelsiors Major teams in 1975, 1976, 1978, 1999, and 2003. In 1997, he was awarded the Ontario Lacrosse Association's Presidents Award, and one year later in 1998 he was awarded the Brampton Excelsiors Life Membership Award.

Currently, Robert resides in Brampton with his wife Birgit. He has two children, Robert and Kristine. Son, Robert, has followed in his father's footsteps and has served as an Executive member of the Brampton Excelsiors since 1994.

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JIM MILLER

Jim was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and the ex Coalminer and Army Staff Sergeant immigrated to Canada in 1959 where he settled in New Toronto. It took less than a year after arriving in Canada before his love of soccer had him involved as a player, Coach, League Secretary, Registrar and Vice-President of the Lakeshore Men's Industrial Soccer League. He moved to Bramalea in 1962 and soon realized the need for boys soccer. In late 1967 he was one member of a small group that organized the Chinguacousy Minor Soccer Club.

True to form, Jim became a multi-tasking marvel, taking on the responsibilities of President, Coach, Manager and Director of the Chinguacousy Minor Soccer Club from 1968 until 1982. He also founded and served as President of the Chinguacousy United Football Club, which had as many as three competitive men's teams until 1996.

In 1968 Jim co-founded the Bramalea Boxing Club (originally the Chinguacousy Boxing Club) with Dick Lawson, which operated out of Victoria Park Arena. Jim also served on the Ontario Minor Soccer Association as the Central Director for one year, and served as President/Member of the Brampton Soccer Funding Association for ten years, 1984-1993.

Having dedicated so much time and effort to the organization of minor soccer in Brampton, Jim now finds his greatest pleasure in watching the youngsters play the game. Jim and his wife Peggy, have 5 children, 15 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

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PATRICK HUSBANDS

Born on May 22nd, 1973 and hailing from Bridgetown, Barbados, Patrick was the youngest rider to win the prestigious Cockspur Cup in his hometown at the age of 16. He has never looked back since that win. His was a “horse family”, with his father and two brothers all being riders. Patrick was 21 when his brother, Simon, who was already riding at the Woodbine Race Track, convinced him to leave his native home and join him in Canada.

After arriving in Canada, getting to ride, let alone race, was not an easy task. He was given the opportunity in Fort Erie, and with the odds stacked against him Patrick emerged victorious. This was the start of an amazing career.

In Patrick’s 1994 rookie season he recorded an astounding 22 wins at Woodbine. In 1995 he won 50 races and in 1998, Patrick posted career highs in virtually every category, winning his first two Woodbine Stakes. In 2001, he became the first rider in Canadian riding history to complete the natural hat trick, winning back-to-back-to-back Sovereign Awards.

Between 1994 and 2002 he recorded an absolutely astonishing 971 first place wins, 49 of which were Stakes wins. In 2003, the then four-time Sovereign Award-winning jockey won Canada’s most famous mile and one-quarter classic horse race, The Queen’s Plate.

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GARY WALKER

Gary Walker is a team leader with a proven track record of excellence. He was a team member of three National Mann Cup Championships and Captain of the Major Excelsiors for three years. An elite offensive player who was highly respected by other players and the community, he continues to give back to the game, having coached at many levels. He has received the Revis Bennett Memorial Award for Coaching Excellence. Amongst his numerous accomplishments is an Ivy League Scholarship for Field Lacrosse from Brown University.

In 1983, Gary was awarded the National Achievement Award of Excellence in Amateur Sports, and was the Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA) Junior "A" MVP. In his 10 years with the OLA Junior "A" and "Majors" teams, he recorded an astounding 771 points. He was selected as an OLA Junior "A" All Star in 1983, 1984 and 1985 and was Captain of the Excelsiors each of the three years. In 1991, he played with the Guelph Power and won the National Lacrosse League Championship. In 1993, Gary was a "Canada 125" Medal winner. In 1996 he was honoured as a Brampton Excelsior Life Member. In 1998, his team won the Ontario Ball Hockey Championship and he was named the Provincial MVP.

Gary, or "Walks" as he is called on occasion, has been described as a man of small stature, but one with an absolutely enormous heart. Gary, having been born and raised in Brampton, still resides here with his wife Roslyn, and two children, Lindsey and Jason.

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