

Kevin Sutherland

2013 Inductee - Athlete of Distinction Category

Kevin Sutherland spent his fastpitch career on the mound. Over the years, Kevin was one of the top pitchers in BC and Western Canada. Over his forty plus years in ball, he has plied his trade in BC, Alberta, Australia and New Zealand.



Kevin's ball career started when he was nine playing Little League in the Slocan Valley. This was the era of Andy Biliski in Trail and no one dared try to compete with his program, fastball for boys was not thought of at that time. Kevin played baseball until age 20 when he switched to fastpitch joining the Nelson Men's Fastball League, where he pitched for the Savoy Suds.

He and Eli Soukeroff formed their own team, the Valley Combines, and played in the Nelson league for another six years before moving the team to the Senior 'B' GROW league. In his second year in the GROW League Kevin pitched in the All-Star game and went on to win the league batting title with a 400 average. After two years in the GROW League Kevin moved to the Victoria Royals in Senior 'A'. From this point Kevin's career took him around the world.

Kevin's career has been rich and rewarding to himself, the teams and the players of BC. From 1980-2009 Kevin has had many successes both locally and internationally. He has received many gold, silver and bronze medals as both a player and coach. Highlights include winning top pitcher at the 1982 Senior C Provincials in Prince George where he pitched 23 innings and had 37 strikeouts. In 1985, he coached Victoria Payless to a league championship and a bronze medal at Provincials. As a Senior A player, he pitched a no-hitter against Page Brake/Salt Lake City. In International play, Kevin received Top Pitcher at the 1985 New Zealand Taredale/Hawkers Bay County event and also received a gold medal. At the 1985 New Zealand All-Star Nationals he received a bronze medal and ran pitching clinics for youth. In 1988, Kevin coordinated an instructional pitching video for the SW Australia fastpitch association.

In 2005 Kevin attended the World Masters Games and received the Top Pitcher award. He also pitched in the silver and gold medal games. The following year, in 2006, he led his team (Andre's Masters) to the Western Canadian Masters Men's Fastpitch Championship. He pitched a 7-3 victory over Norland Dental Masters in the first game of

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the championship. During the playoffs, he pitched an extraordinary 19 ½ consecutive innings, in a single day across three games. Kevin earned his team silver at the Western Canadian Masters Men's Fastpitch Championship. He was deservedly named MVP of the Elimination Round at that tournament.

Softball BC is proud to induct Kevin Sutherland into the Hall of Fame under the Athlete of Distinction Category.

Career Highlights

- 1982 – Top Pitcher Senior C Provincials
- 1985 – Top Pitcher at the New Zealand Taredale/Hawkers Bay County Tournament
- 1985 – New Zealand Taredale/Hawkers Bay County Tournament Gold Medalist
- 1985 – New Zealand All-Star Nationals Bronze Medalist
- 2005 – Top Pitcher at the World Masters Games
- 2006 – Western Canadian Masters Men's Fastpitch Championship Silver Medalist
- 2006 – Western Canadian Masters MVP Award Recipient
- 2013 – Inducted into the Softball BC Hall of Fame