

Richard Rhodes

2011 Inductee - Special Recognition Category



The cities of Trail, Castlegar and surrounding communities have certainly benefitted from the contributions of Brian Pipes and Richard Rhodes to the betterment of Softball.

In 1985, four sports-minded people who wanted a more competitive softball league – Richard Rhodes, Karla Gardiner, Liz Lord and Brian Pipes started the Lower Columbia Girls' Softball League. The teams in this league for girls aged 8 to 16 were Trail, Warfield, Genelle, Montrose, Fruitvale and Salmo. Later 17 to 18-year olds were included. From 1985 to 2003, teams coached by Brian and Richard have medalled in eight Provincial Championships. When you consider the size of the athlete pool in the communities this is no mean feat.



In 1989, the BC Summer Games were held in Surrey and the gentlemen led the team to a silver medal. From 2005 to the present, the community's players have been provided with opportunities to improve their game by attending Pitching Clinics, Softball Development Camps, Coaches Clinics and Development Camps for BC Summer Games teams.

Both of Richard's daughters attended Division II schools in Kansas on softball scholarships and competed in Softball Canada Canadian Championships for Team Alberta in 1996. In 2004, Richard received the 'Village of Montrose Citizenship Award. The Community Sport Hero Awards are a celebration of volunteers who have contributed eight or more years to sport and Richard was presented with the Sport BC Community Sport hero Award in 2008. In 2010, he was recognized as the District 10 Minor Softball Volunteer of the Year.