

Stan Kern

1989 Inductee - Athlete



Stan “The Colonel” Kern is recognized as one of the most accomplished and respected pitchers in Canadian fastpitch softball history. His career, which spanned more than 15 years at the elite level, was defined by consistency, dominance on the mound, and success on the national and international stage.

Kern began his softball journey in 1961 in Alberta, playing junior softball with the Rolly View Rockets. That same year, the Rockets captured the Alberta Provincial Junior Championship, an early sign of Kern’s competitive excellence and leadership potential.

From 1964 to 1967, Kern pitched for the Edmonton Playboys Senior A, establishing himself as a premier pitcher in Western Canada. He continued his rise with the Edmonton Beta-Well Riggers from 1968 to 1969, where his performances earned him recognition as a Most Valuable Pitcher at the Canadian Championships, marking him as one of the top pitchers in the country.

Kern joined the Edmonton Sun Life Red Sox from 1970 to 1972, further solidifying his reputation as a dominant force in Senior A fastball. His career reached its pinnacle after moving to British Columbia, where he became a cornerstone of the Victoria Bate Construction Fastball Club from 1973 to 1977.

While in British Columbia, Kern’s excellence on the mound was undeniable. He was named Most Valuable Pitcher in Softball BC in both 1973 and 1975, and in 1975, he was also selected as the All-Star Pitcher at the Canadian Championships. His steady leadership and elite pitching helped propel Victoria Bate Construction — along with Victoria Budget — to Canadian Championship titles in 1975, 1976, and 1977.

In 1976, Kern reached the international stage as a member of the Victoria Bate Construction team that earned World Co-Champion honors, sharing the title with teams from the United States and New Zealand — a rare and historic achievement in the sport.

Over the course of his career, Stan Kern made ten appearances at the Canadian Championships (1966–1969 and 1972–1977), a testament to his longevity and elite-level performance. Known for his composure, precision, and competitive fire, he earned the nickname “The Colonel” — a reflection of both his commanding presence on the mound and his leadership within the sport.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to fastpitch softball, Stan “The Colonel” Kern was inducted into the Softball BC Hall of Fame in 1989. His legacy remains one of excellence, dedication, and championship success, and he continues to be remembered as one of the great pitchers in Canadian softball history.

