



145 Pacific Ave
Winnipeg, Manitoba
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(204) 925-5774
INFO@WMBA.CA

BRUCE RUSSELL COACH OF THE YEAR 2025 NOMINATION FORM

The Winnipeg Minor Basketball Association (WMBA) presents the Bruce Russell Coach of the Year award in recognition and celebration of the outstanding contribution of a WMBA basketball coach.

The recipient of this award is an individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, dedication as a coach for the WMBA and has made an impact on their registered team in the WMBA as well as their community.

The award recognizes a coach who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to Fair Play, shows exemplary commitment to the team, serves as a model for other coaches to emulate and demonstrates concern for players outside the game. Prior to the selection committee seeing the nominations, all names and club references are removed to eliminate any biases in making the decision. In all, 5 WMBA coaches were nominated for the award – all very deserving in their own right for the recognition.

The Bruce Russell Memorial Coaches Award has been established by the Winnipeg Minor Basketball Association in partnership with Waverley Heights Community Centre to recognize Bruce Russell's outstanding commitment to his role as a basketball coach and his unbridled enthusiasm for the philosophy of the league. Regrettably, Bruce passed away as a result of cancer in April 2001. Bruce had a tremendous passion for the game of basketball. He played the game for over 20 years, first at the high school level for St. Paul's and Dakota, and then annually in the Greater Winnipeg Men's basketball League. A very good player in his own right, Bruce's true calling was coaching. Bruce took up coaching duties in the 1999 WMBA season for the 8&9 Coed Waverley Heights Warriors, a team his daughter played on. Bruce's patience, experience and attention to practice drills helped the team learn the fundamentals of the game. His commitment to fair play made sure all the kids participated and had a positive experience playing in the WMBA. Although they lost more games than they won that season, it was evident the kids had fun and the coach had tasted true success when he said, "I love the feeling you get when you see the kids play."

A good coach is positive, enthusiastic, supportive, trusting, focused, goal-oriented, knowledgeable, observant, respectful, patient and a clear communicator.

-International Olympic Committee

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY MAY 16th, 2025

The Coach of the Year Award will be presented by a member of the Bruce Russell family at the WMBA's annual general meeting to be held on June 24th, 2025.



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Application Form

The application form includes two sections, one for nominee and nominator contact information, and the other for the nominator to describe how the nominee meets the award eligibility criteria provided above.

For the nominee to be considered please complete both sections.

Part 1

NOMINEE:

Full Name:		
Home Address:		
City/Town:	Prov./Terr.:	Postal Code:
Phone:	Email:	

NOMINATOR*:

***CANNOT BE A RELATIVE TO THE NOMINEE**

Full Name:		
Home Address:		
City/Town:	Prov./Terr.:	Postal Code:
Phone:	Email:	
Relation to the Nominee:		



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Part 2

Please provide the details to the following:

How long has the nominee been involved with the WMBA?

How involved was the nominee with hosting practices and in the growth of their team as a coach?

Describe the nominee's commitment to the FAIR PLAY philosophy of the WMBA.



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Describe the nominee's commitment to their team (or individual) and the sport of basketball.

Describe how the nominee is a positive role model and mentor for other coaches.



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Please provide specific examples of the coach's contributions to the team that justify this recognition.

Optional: Feel free to share any additional information or stories that you believe are relevant to the nomination.

Thank you for taking the time to recognize and celebrate the achievements of these deserving WMBA coaches.

Your nomination plays a crucial role in acknowledging their contributions and inspiring others to strive for greatness in coaching.