

SASK VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME



Inducted 2017 – PLAYER

EILEEN KRAMCHYNSKY NELSON

Eileen came out of Saskatoon to become a strong player for Canada in women's volleyball, joining the National Junior team for two years, the National Senior team for seven years and wearing Canada's colours at seven international games. Eileen was born in Saskatoon and developed a keen interest in sports while she was growing up. Eileen played volleyball, basketball and participated in track and field at St. Edward's Elementary School. She played on E. D. Feehan's volleyball team which won the city titles in 1981 and 1983, and played a vital role in helping the team capture the 4A Provincial titles in 1981 and 1983.

She played Team Sask Volleyball in the 1983 Canada Winter Games and at the age of 17, was selected to play for Canada's National Junior team. During the 1983-84 season, she was named Female Athlete of the Year by Sask Sport and nominated for Athlete of the Millennium. Eileen joined the Canadian Senior volleyball team at the age of 18 and among her first international tournaments was the World University Games in 1985, the World Championships in 1986 and the World University Games in 1987. Canada finished fifth at the 1987 Pan-American Games. The Canadians also played in a tournament in Holland in 1991. Eileen was a leading Canadian light in the game against Cuba at the Goodwill Games in 1991. Although Canada finished in seventh place, they had their moments of success during the tournament. While competing in the World Student Games at Cuba in 1991, she was introduced to the Cuban president Fidel Castro. Sliced in between her roles with Canada's national team, Eileen played professional volleyball in Stuttgart, West Germany, in 1988-89 and in Salzburg, Austria in 1989-90 and again in 1990-91.

Eileen has received multiple All-Stars and MVPs at the International level. With volleyball, she traveled to over 50 countries and competed in over 250 matches world-wide, 2 World Championships, 3 Olympic Qualifying tournaments, 2 World Universiade Games and 2 European Cup Championships and was inducted into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.