

# SASK VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME



**Inducted 2015 – OFFICIAL**

## **WEZER BRIDLE**

In Volleyball, Wezer Bridle has done it all, from playing and coaching, to officiating and being an administrator.

Wezer left a great legacy with Sask Volleyball. His influence in the development was exceptional. He initiated programming, coaching certification and officials courses. He exported Mark Tennant and John Neilson to Saskatchewan and their contributions to the sport have been incredible. He showed Saskatchewan officials how to officiate and organize events, especially at Supervolley - what an impact those crazy tournaments had on teams, coaches and officials!!!

In the Early days of Sask Volleyball there were not a lot of leaders out there. Hank Lorenzen and Marlene Hoffman kept it afloat until others got the volleyball bug. A few Volleyball programs were started to develop coaches and players but were really lacking in officiating. Wezer was brought in from Manitoba to do an officials clinic in Saskatoon in September of 1968 and from there he started the officials program in Saskatchewan.

He was the first president of the Manitoba Volleyball Association (MVA), an organization he is credited with forming. The MVA's present constitution and organization are based on Bridle's original plans.

In 1969, in his first year as a coach at the University of Winnipeg, he led the team to win the first Canadian Inter-University Athletic Union (CIAU) title. One of his players, Dennis Nord, an original "Kid", succeeded Bridle as University of Winnipeg coach, and eventually moved on to coach Canada's National Men's Team.

Well-versed in National and International volleyball etiquette, Wezer Bridle was instrumental in forming the Manitoba Volleyball Officials Association. He was a charter member of the Manitoba and Canadian Volleyball Halls of Fame, and the first Life Member of the Manitoba Volleyball Association and the first Lifetime Member of Sask Volleyball (1985).