

David B. Waddell: (1916 –

Originally from Victoria, B.C. David obtained his education at Victoria College, the University of British Columbia and the University of Toronto. He spent over 65 years as a player, coach, official, organizer, administrator and researcher.

While his early years were spent in Victoria and Vancouver, he moved to Toronto for five years before returning to British Columbia for another eight-year stint. It wasn't until 1953 that David returned to Ontario and settled in Ottawa first and for the last twenty Years, the town of Ancaster.

David's coaching career started in the mid-30's. Over the years, he coached badminton players and teams at Victoria College, University College, University of B.C., University of Ottawa, Carleton University and McMaster University. David was the first professional coach at the Strathgowan Badminton Club in Toronto, and he also coached in the Church League as well as the Oakville Club. He organized the first junior programme in Canada in the Kootenay and Okanagan Valley's of B.C.. He organized and chaired the National Junior Development Programme for four years, and introduced doubles and team championships into the National Junior Championships. David introduced three age groups into Ontario junior badminton, and coached Ontario team juniors preparing for national championships. He wrote the technical section of the Canadian Level I Technical Manual and authored the Level II manual.

He is the only coach in the world who has researched the physiology, flexibility, reaction and movement of elite badminton players, and has conducted extensive studies in the mechanics of stroke production of Canadian and international elite players. He has given presentations at Commonwealth and International Conferences in various parts of the world and has authored or co-authored, with his wife Dr. Barbara Gowitzke, over two dozen scientific papers.

He was the only North American coach to present papers in Malmo Sweden in 1977 and was recognized as an official lecturer by the Conference Committee. In 1978, he presented papers at the International Congress of Sports Sciences in Edmonton and, with his wife Barbara, he was in charge of technical filming at the badminton venue of the Commonwealth Games. David has been a keynote speaker at many symposia and international conferences in Canada, United States, and overseas.

He has given a great many workshops and presentations to coaches all over the world. In addition to Canada, these include Scotland, Finland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, New Zealand, Australia, Greece, Sweden, Jamaica, and the United States.

David was also a pioneer in improving officiating in Canada. In the 1950's he cooperated with the late Lt. Col. H.I. Evans, then honorary Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Badminton Association, in refining the document "Recommendations for Umpires" that was adopted by the International Badminton Federation and became the international guide to officiating. As a national official, he has trained hundreds of Regional and Provincial level officials and has functioned as Umpire and Referee at many

International, National, and Provincial Championships. He designed a simplified score sheet for umpires that was widely used.

In the administrative area, David has organized clubs and associations in several areas of Canada. Including the Kootany and Okinagan Valley Association and the Ottawa District Association. He served as President of many clubs and associations and wrote the constitution and By-laws of these associations. He reorganized the defunct Ottawa District Badminton Association (ODBA) in the mid-fifties and also resuscitated the Ontario Badminton Association (OBA). He served as President of ODBA for six years, and OBA for four years. He also served as president of the Hamilton and District Badminton Association.

As President of the Ontario Badminton Association in 1970, David introduced programme, planning priority setting and budgeting.

He conceived, and edited for several years the first provincial; “newspaper” on badminton in Canada, Ontario’s “Feather Preenings”. He organized the first continuing summer tournament in Canada at the Recreation Association (RA) Club.

David’s current (2000) major project is unique in the world and constitutes the first real effort to modify badminton to meet the needs of children of five to 12 years of age. In this, concept “Badminton Adapted for Children”, the entire game is modified. The programme is designed to be used in elementary schools as well as clubs and even “at home”

He is an invited lecturer in the programme of the 18th International Symposium of the International Society of Biomechanics in Sports to be held in Hong Kong, China, in June of this year. David will present a workshop on “Badminton for Children” as well as an invited paper concerned with biomechanics applied to power strokes. He has been a sport consultant for over 30 years with his own company “Bryson Sport Consultants”.

He is a member of many organizations, including the Ontario Coaches and Officials Association, Badminton Canada Coaches Association, Coaching Association of Canada. Also, he is a Director of the International Society of Biomechanics in Sports.

David is the recipient of many honours as follows: Honourary Big Block for badminton, University of British Columbia, 1941; Ottawa Recreation Association (RA) Sportsman of the Year, 1972; Ottawa Sportsman of the Year, 1972; Life Member of the RA Badminton Club, Ottawa District renamed their “Open” championships the “Dave Waddell Open”; Special Achievement Award for Badminton, Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, 1983; Appreciation Award Western Ontario Badminton Association 1983; Meritorious Service Award, International Badminton Federation 1988, Keith Hollands Award – for outstanding service to badminton in Ontario 1989; Friend of Distinction award, McMaster University 1992; inducted into the RA Hall of Fame as a builder 1992; elected an honorary Vice-President of the Ontario Badminton Association 1993; Life Member International Society of Biomechanics in Sports 1997.

In other accomplishments in badminton David conceived and developed methods for efficient tournament operation and control including “play board” and play chits; designed and produced a mobile play board and a magnetic play board for clubs; designed a portable lighting system for exhibition badminton matches; designed the facility, including the lighting for the RA Badminton Club in Ottawa, The courts are considered to be the best in Canada.