



2) The IFBA are please to induct **Mr. Jean-Noel Gilbert** to the IFBA Hall of Fame,

Here we present **Jean-Noel's** biography with respect to his broomball history.

## **Jean-Noel Gilbert**

### **“The Toughest Broomball Player Ever” (1963 to 2017)**

Born in the City of Asbestos, Quebec, Canada on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1944

## **Broomball Legacy**

- Jean-Noel was a player, coach, referee, and instructor at different levels (Recreational, Intermediate, Elite and Masters) throughout his 54 years broomball career.
- Started his first year of broomball in Ottawa with the CFB Rockcliffe Base Team with an exhibition game against CFB St Jean in 1963 then joined the CFB Rockcliffe Broomball League for the 1963/64 season.
- Played in several tournaments with the CFB Rockcliffe team (1965-1969) in the Ottawa region mostly outdoor, indoor real ice and a few arenas with artificial ice – without any protective equipment.
- Participated in several tournaments as a board member, organizer and referee for the “Promotion Demers- Lafontaine”, ancestors to the now Canadian Broomball Federations (EOBA/OBA/CBA/etc.).
- Won the biggest open broomball tournament in Ottawa (Ottawa Carnival Centennial Year) – a six days tournament of 51 men’s team - as Captain of the CFB Rockcliffe Team on Sunday, February 5th, 1967.
- Joined the CFS Senneterre Broomball team and played in the Val D’Or Broomball League (1972-1973).
- Posted to Quebec City; joined the CFB Valcartier Base Team from 1975-1978.
- Joined the CFB Kingston Base Team from 1978-1981 where Jean-Noel was the President of the Kingston League, a referee, an instructor, a trainer and of course a player.
- Jean-Noel wrote broomball lesson plans that were used by himself and other instructors/trainers in teaching the art of broomball to younger players (military and civilian).
- Moved to CFB St Hubert and played from 1981-1985 as the Captain of the CFB Montreal Base Team. Participated in several tournaments in the Montreal/Quebec areas (winning 4 of them) and several military Regionals (winning 4 Regionals) and Nationals (winning 2 Nationals).
- Moved back to the Ottawa region again and ran the CFB Ottawa (Rockcliffe) League from 1985-1990. He played in several leagues for a variety of teams (1990-2017).
- Played at the Can-Am Annual Syracuse Broomball Tournaments with several teams (1988-2017).
- Refereed the CFB Rockcliffe Leagues and tournaments (1966-1969), the Kingston Leagues and tournaments (1978-1981), and the Ottawa Region Leagues and tournaments (1990-1993).

## **Playing Summary**

- Participated in several Regional, Provincial, National, and International Competitions and hundreds of tournaments in Canada, Europe, Japan and the USA.
- Jean-Noel participated in approximately 120+ games/practices a year for most of the last 30 years (1986-2016) at different levels (Best year was 128 games).
- Jean-Noel was very fortunate to have been able to play with his son Stephan for many years in the Elite league, many World Championships and several other tournaments (mainly Syracuse, NY).
- Played in the Quebec Senior Broomball League with the Ottawa Nationals (2005-2011) (age 60-66).
- Played his last game at the Russell Arena on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (at the age of 72) in a special 2-hour long, no whistles, play-off game called – “The Jean-Noel Gilbert Iron Man Final Game”; a well-deserved send-off.

## **World Championships**

- Founder of the Ottawa Nationals Broomball Team in 1998 (for the Worlds in Bolzano, Italy) - Became Canadian National Champions soon after team formation, and on several occasions since then.
- Supported the international and national team as a player, coach, trainer and sponsor until 2012.
- Jean-Noel was selected on the first all star team as the Ottawa Nationals Coach for 2000, 2002 and 2004 at the World Broomball Championships.
- Participated in nine (9) World Championships between 1998 and 2014 as a player, coach, trainer, manager and sponsor; won 5 Gold, 2 Silver, 1 Bronze medals, and a fourth place.