

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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Sask Sport Inc. honours excellence at the Saskatchewan Sport Awards

Sask Sport Inc. honoured the province's top athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers at the 2016 Saskatchewan Sport Awards at TCU Place this evening. The Saskatchewan Sport Awards is a program designed to celebrate outstanding athletic achievements and the people who contribute to the success of the amateur sport system.

The 2016 recipients are:

- **Youth-Male Athlete of the Year:** Graeme Fish, Moose Jaw, Speed Skating
- **Youth-Female Athlete of the Year:** Samantha Ryan, Saskatoon, Para-Swimming
- **Male Athlete of the Year:** Gavin Schmitt, Saskatoon, Volleyball
- **Female Athlete of the Year:** Brianna Theisen-Eaton, Humboldt, Athletics
- **Team of the Year:** University of Saskatchewan Huskies Women's Basketball Team, Saskatoon
- **Master Athlete of the Year:** Carl Waterer, Saskatoon, Swimming
- **Volunteer Award:** Bernadette McIntyre, Regina, Curling
- **Volunteer Award:** Carla Laevens, Leader, Skating
- **Coach of the Year:** Lisa Thomaidis, Saskatoon, Basketball
- **Male Coach Dedication Award:** Jason Schneider, Saskatoon, Golf
- **Female Coach Dedication Award:** Lynn Seguin, Saskatoon, Fencing
- **Male Official Award:** Rocky Nickel, Moose Jaw, Baseball
- **Female Official Award:** Chantal Boudreau, Regina, Soccer

"We are honoured to bring the sports community together and celebrate the achievements of our outstanding athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers," said Tavia Laliberte, Chair of Sask Sport Inc. "The award recipients represented Saskatchewan on national and international stages, served as positive role models and helped develop the next generation of athletes."

The other finalists in each Athlete of the Year category were:

- **Youth-Male Athlete of the Year:** Brian Palaschuk, Regina, Swim; Rylan Wiens, Pike Lake, Diving
- **Youth-Female Athlete of the Year:** Gabrielle Sanson, Moose Jaw, Speed Skating; Julee Stewart, Regina, Baton Twirling
- **Male Athlete of the Year:** Logan Campbell, Saskatoon, Sailing; William Dutton, Humboldt, Speed Skating
- **Female Athlete of the Year:** Jillian Gallays, St. Brieux, Wrestling; Marsha Hudey, White City, Speed Skating
- **Team of the Year:** Sundown Optimist Buffalo Gals Team Calambre, Regina, Baton Twirling; Team Saskatchewan Baseball, Saskatoon
- **Master Athlete of the Year:** Douglas McLaren, Fort Qu'Appelle, Athletics, Edith MacHattie, Saskatoon, Canoe Kayak

Further information on the Saskatchewan Sport Awards and the award recipients can be found online at <http://www.sasksport.sk.ca/SportAwards>. Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Saskatchewan-Sport-Awards/303074246406166> or on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/Sasksportawards>.

Special thanks to Global TV, our production partner for the Saskatchewan Sports Awards.

Saskatchewan Lotteries is the main fundraiser for amateur sport in Saskatchewan supporting over 300,000 registered participants.

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