2014 Volleyball Alberta Hall of Fame Award

Team

FOG Masters Women

The FOG Masters Women's volleyball team is only 12 years young, but you'd never guess by looking at its medal count. The team has packed so many national and international achievements into its short history that tonight it is making history through induction into the Volleyball Alberta Hall of Fame.

Founded in 2003, the team gives veteran athletes the opportunity to continue their volleyball careers by competing against the best masters players in Canada and the world. As of 2014, the FOG Masters Women have earned 16 gold, 10 silver and six bronze medals. At the national level, the team placed first in the Canadian National Women's 35+ title all five years the competition was held. South of the border, the FOG Women have been a force to be feared at the U.S. National Women's Championships, winning nine gold medals, eight silver medals and six bronze medals between 2005 and 2014 in various age categories. In 2008, the team won the Alberta Volleyball Association Women's Open Championship – the same year it won Silver at the Huntsman World Senior Games.

In other international achievements, the FOG women have two World Championship and two Global Cup championship wins under their belt. According to club organizer George Tokarsky, placing first against "very tough German and Russian teams" at this level is among their greatest accomplishments. The FOG women have medalled three times at the World Masters Games, placing first in the 50+ category in Torino (2013) and claiming two medals on home soil in Edmonton (2005), where they won gold in the 50+ category and silver in the 40+ category. Beyond these successes, it is worthy of mention that many of the team's members also play together for Canada's National Masters 50+ team, which won the Gold medal in the 2009 Global Cup against Russia and the Silver in 2011 against Brazil. In addition to increasing competitive opportunities for veteran players, the FOG Masters Women's team was created to give its Alberta members the chance to rekindle old friendships with women they had played with early in their volleyball careers. Thanks to their winning combination of camaraderie, talent, and the dedication and desire to excel, Alberta has an elite women's club that consistently takes championship titles at the highest level of masters' volleyball.

Players:

Lucie Belanger, Christine Bradstock, Catherine Carter, Hatsue Chow, Suzette Cooke, Valerita Derocco, Joyce Gamborg, Bonnie Hailstone, Monica Hitchcock, Kelly Jacobs, Candace Kane, Suzanne Lauridsen, Karen Lukacs, Tina Lu, Reta Moenike, Denise Myhre, Margaret Negenman, Alyson Ryan, Carol Shore-Maclean, Karin Maessen, Susan Moncks, Kathy Paulsen, Michelle Prince, Susan Cox-Russell, Sherry Saxton, Judy Szepesi, Christine Thorson, Audrey Vandervelden, Brenda Westwood, Linda Mitchell-Young

Coaches:

Hugh Bartlett, Brad Kilb, John Neilson, Greg Ryan, George Tokarsky

