



~2020 Hall of Fame~

Michael Jiranek - Professional, Coach Inductee



Michael Jiranek was a national and international competitor for the former Czechoslovakia until he was 21 years old, when a knee injury forced him into retirement. Michael arrived in Canada in the late 1960's. He coached part-time while attending University, and soon after that began coaching full-time.

Throughout his career, Michael Jiranek earned an excellent reputation as a coach of provincial, divisional, national and international figure skaters. He was highly regarded for the confidence, calmness, and love of skating that he instilled in his skaters.

Kurt Browning and Lisa Sargeant are among the many skaters that he coached. Both skaters won Canadian national senior titles in 1990 making him the first Canadian coach in twenty-one years to achieve the distinction. He also guided Kurt to three of his four world titles; 1989, 1990, and 1991.

Michael's coaching career spanned over 40 years and he retired in 2015. He was inducted into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame in 1995. He was the recipient of the 1989 Alberta Coaching Recognition Award; 1990 Alberta Coach of the Year; 1990 Amateur Sports Awards Coach of the Year; and 1989 to 1992 Longines-Wittnauer Coaching Excellence Awards. In 2003, he was inducted as a Builder into the Skate Canada Hall of Fame.

Congratulations, Michael on your achievements in coaching. You have truly made a lasting impact on skating in our Section and we are proud to honor you with our Section Hall of Fame induction.