



BARB & DENIS MURDOCH HALL OF FAME BUILDER

Denis began his volleyball career as a coach in 1972, when was asked to coach the **Fulton Junior Secondary girls team in Vernon**. He attended a volleyball coaching camp in the Okanagan led by Moo Par, the Women's National Team Head Coach. Murdoch translated that knowledge by leading Fulton to three of the next five Okanagan Valley championships. Shortly after, Denis alongside wife Barb started the Vernon Volleyball Club in 1975, and included players from Revelstoke to Princeton.

Murdoch would move on to teach at Vernon Senior Secondary in 1980, where he switched to coaching boy's volleyball for three seasons, including a pair of trips to the provincial finals, including a third place finish. The Murdoch's – known as Mr. and Mrs. Volleyball in the Okanagan– grew the club program to three levels and 12 teams. They both shared a passion for volleyball and each had their strengths – Denis would coach and Barb would take care of the rest - manage, keep stats, organize and billet.

They hosted the Canadian national women's team in 1987 with former player Sharon Shaigec of Vernon playing for Canada in a series of games with West Germany. Murdoch retired from coaching volleyball in 1997, but returned to the game in 2002 and spent five more years as an assistant coach at the school and club level. After retirement, he and Barb would become officials and were recruited to assist with running the Provincial High School Championship in 2016.

Denis was awarded a lifetime membership by Volleyball BC in 2018 and both were awarded the Tim Horton's Leadership in Sport Award in 2019 for their outstanding contributions to volleyball.

