



DON SMYTH HALL OF FAME COACH

Don began his volleyball coaching career at Victoria High School in 1958 where he led the Boys and Girls teams to three combined provincial championships during his tenure. He would later move to become head coach of the University of Victoria Vikes and Vikettes, coaching both the Men's and Women's teams simultaneously.

Don's success at the high school and university levels were starting to get noticed when he was named Coach of Team BC at the first ever 1967 Canada Games in Quebec City. Under his guidance, Team BC went on to win the gold medal without dropping a set. Soon after, Don would make history by becoming the first head coach of the National women's team at the 1967 Pan Am Games. He also coached them at the inaugural 1969 NORCECA championships in Mexico. Known for his calm demenaor, Don was instrumental in organizing and negotiating a world class cross-Canada volleyball tour between Russia and the United States.

He was also asked to coach at the popular Winfield Volleyball camp and came up with innovative and unique training methods when coaching his teams including ballet for jumping, breathing techniques from Martial Arts for relaxing before serving and gymnastics for agility.

Don's contributions to volleyball go beyond coaching as he would received his national level officiating certification and administrate in various capacities including becoming the first elected President of the Canadian Volleyball Association (now Volleyball Canada).



Canadian Championship Next Goal for UVic's B.C. Titlists

Seven of University of Victoria's volleyball team are shown here with coach Don Smyth during practice session yesterday. From left are Charlie Granewall, Robert Ireland, Arthur Chin, Bob

Vosburgh, Smyth, John Pennington, Derek Reimer and John Phillips, missing team members are Rick Baker and Alan Graves.—(Jim Ryan)