

Canadian Scottish Athletic Federation Hall of Fame

The Hall of fame recognizes the contributions of individuals who have made a significant contribution to Heavy Events in Canada.

2006 : JIM SEARS

1948 to 1952, grade 9 to 12 did sports like rugby, basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, track and field. I continued competing in them in their seasons until my 45th year when my arthritis got real bad and when I stopped I didn't have anymore pain.

In 1953, attended the Antigonish Highland Games the first time and competed, although not very well in shot, discus, hammer, however through some encouragement, I tried the caber and won the event and establishing a new field record. Thus began a lengthy career in Antigonish and other centers throughout the Maritimes. As I gained experience in throwing all these events I began to win a lot of championships. The caber however, was my favorite and finally in 1960 I established a record which was never equaled. In those days, the caber was thrown and measured in feet and inches and it had to to turn. It was measured by the judge from the last forward step to the end of the pole. In 1979, at the

International Year of the Clans, the regular events as they were competed in, in Scotland were adopted in eastern Canada and regular track and field events for senior men were discontinued, thus my record has remained on the books. From that time the events were called "the ancient scottish events". I remained active from then until 1997 at which time because of having to compete against much younger athletes, as there wasn't a master's class my injuries caused me to finally give up. I was in my 45th year of competition and almost 55 yrs old, although for several years I was tailing off and only doing odd games. I was inducted into the Pictou County Sports Heritage Hall of Fame in 1990 and the CSAF Hall of Fame in 2006. Even though I wasn't doing active competition, I did coaching, building the sport and commentating. Even that function is getting less and I only do this whenever their regular announcer doesn't show up. 2006 was the last time in New Glasgow. All in all with everything added together, it's been close to fifty-five years being involved in something I truly love. I had established some records but most are obliterated now, mostly I just enjoyed the competitions, meeting old friends and making new ones and travelling to places outside of Nova Scotia and the maritime provinces, like Quebec, Ontario, Alberta, Arizona, Virginia, New York, Mass , Vermont and Maine but the biggest thrill of all was being able to compete in the Scottish championships in Crieff as of 10 athletes in 1988 and a lesser games called Glenisla. And with David Webster as the organizer, I was assistant judge with the great Bill Anderson who, only recently was world champion in hammer tossing and most of the other events, at Rothimurchas Meadow in Aviemore, Scotland.

