

HENRY NELSON – BIOGRAPHY

Henry immigrated to Canada from England in 1957. He spent 50 years volunteering his time for the betterment of soccer in both Durham Region and in the province of Ontario. Henry's journey through Durham Region's many soccer organizations began in 1968 when he became the Promotions Director for the Ajax and Pickering Soccer Association. In 1971, he became the Secretary of the Ajax Warriors Soccer Club and in 1972 he added Match Secretary of the Durham Girls Soccer League to his list of responsibilities. Henry served as the President of the Ajax Warriors Soccer Club between 1990 -1992, and President of the Ajax United Soccer Club from 1993 to present. He was also the President of the Durham Girls Soccer League since being elected in 1979 and was the current President of the Durham Soccer League. From the time that the Central Girls Soccer League was formed in 1995, Henry was a member of their Board of Directors and was Chairman of their League. Henry's love of the game began as a player and can be traced back to his youth when he played with the South London Selects. Beginning in 1969, Henry coached many recreational and competitive teams and in 1978 earned his level two coaching certificate. The Town of Ajax awarded Henry the 1974 Sports and Recreation Award, and the 2011 Senior of the Year Award. In addition, for 3 years between 1981 and 1984 he added the Ajax Warriors Soccer Club Presidents Award to his collection of hardware. In 1999 the Durham Region Soccer Association presented Henry with the John Barnes Award which recognizes the Association's "Volunteer of the Year". In addition, he also received the Ontario Soccer Centre Circle Meritorious Award and more recently in 2013 he was awarded with the province of Ontario's Syl Apps Volunteer Achievement Award. The Durham Region Soccer Association and the Clubs Henry has been associated with can surely boast of their successful programs and strong leadership thanks to the many years that Henry Nelson devoted to the sport.