



ONTARIO BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

CLASS OF 2026



INDUCTEES

DAVE SMART

BOB MAYDO

CHANTAL VALLÉE

MARK JONES



DAVE SMART

Dave Smart is widely regarded as one of the most influential coaches in Canadian basketball history and the architect of modern university basketball excellence. As head coach and program builder at Carleton University, Smart transformed a small program into a national dynasty, establishing a sustained winning culture built on defensive intensity, preparation, discipline and team-first principles.

His teams dominated U SPORTS competition for nearly two decades, winning 13 U SPORTS National Basketball Championships. Beyond the trophies, Smart created a pathway for Canadian players to develop at home and advance to professional and international levels. Carleton produced numerous Canadian professional and national-team players, inspiring generations of athletes.

Smart's influence also extended through his coaching tree. Assistants and former players went on to lead university programs, professional teams and national-team staffs, multiplying his impact across the country. His clinics, speaking and consultation further elevated coaching standards at multiple levels.

Smart's legacy extends beyond championships: he built enduring systems, developed people and demonstrated that elite, sustainable basketball excellence could be achieved in Canada.





ROBERT 'BOB' MAYDO

For 46 years, Bob Maydo stood at the heart of Toronto high school basketball. He taught and coached at Bathurst Heights, Emery Collegiate Institute, Westview and Newtonbrook, shaping both the game and culture around it.

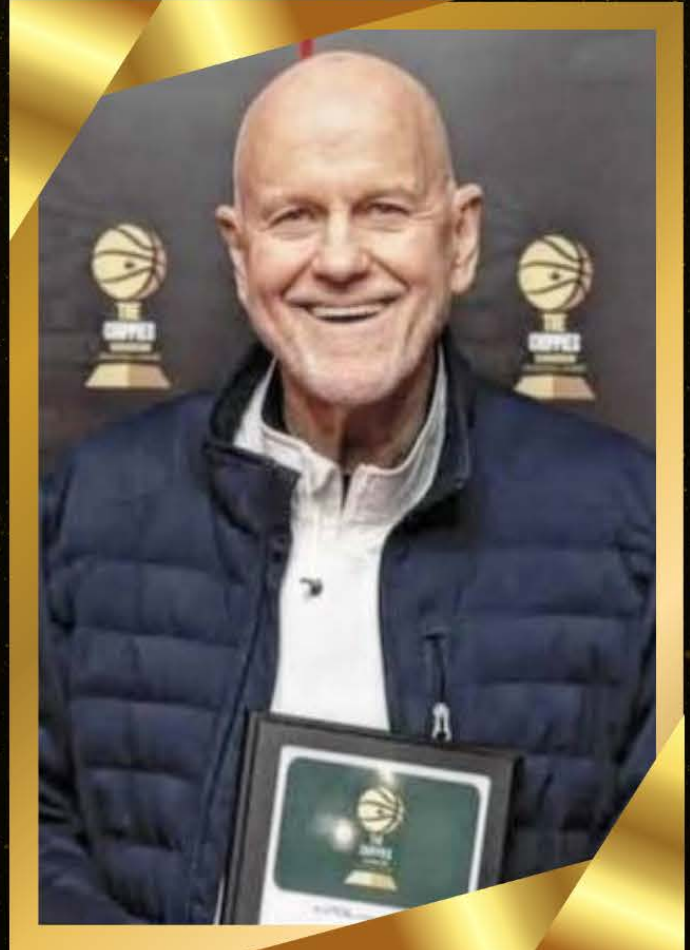
His prescence was unmistakable. His influence, enduring. Bob developed programs, built teams, and inspired generations of players and leaders. His name carried weight in every gym. In the Ontario Basketball community, he wasn't just respected, he was a legend.

For all his accomplishments, Bob's greatest legacy was never found on a scoreboard or beneath a banner. It was his students and community he brought together. His legacy was built from his selflessness and consistency.

He showed up day after day, year after year, for those who needed someone in their corner. Giving his time, his patience, and his belief without noise, without credit, and without conditions.

Bob's legacy endures in the people he believed in, the values he modelled, and the standard he set for what it means to lead with integrity and care.

His memory lives on, on basketball courts across Toronto and in the hearsds of the countless lives he touched.





CHANTAL VALLÉE

Chantal Vallée is one of the most accomplished coaches in Canadian basketball history and a trailblazer for women in sport. During more than 20 years as a head coach, she has built a legacy defined by championship success, leadership and a commitment to developing people.

Since taking over the University of Windsor Lancers women's basketball program in 2005, Vallée has led her teams to more than 22 championship titles, including four OUA championships and an unprecedented five consecutive U SPORTS national championships from 2011 to 2015. She has also earned more than 20 Coach of the Year honours at the divisional, provincial and national levels.

In 2018, Vallée made history as Head Coach and General Manager of the Hamilton Honey Badgers (CEBL), becoming the first woman to hold both roles with a men's professional basketball team. She also spent ten seasons coaching with Canada Basketball and has worked for more than a decade as a CBC/Radio-Canada basketball analyst, covering major international competitions and three Olympic Games.

Her contributions have earned recognition beyond basketball, including the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, an ATHENA Leadership Award, and recognition among Canada's most influential women in sport.

She continues to champion women in coaching, leadership and professional sport.





MARK JONES

Mark Jones is one of Canada's most accomplished and recognizable sports broadcasters, with a career spanning more than four decades across basketball and other major sports.

Born in Toronto, Jones is a York University graduate and former Yeomen basketball standout who helped lead the team to three OUAA championships and two silver medals. A prolific guard, he earned conference all-star honours in 1984, 1985 and 1986 before beginning his broadcasting career with TSN in 1986.

Jones joined ESPN in 1990 and has since built an international reputation as a versatile and highly respected play-by-play announcer. Over his distinguished television career, he has called countless NBA regular-season and playoff games, as well as major events in the WNBA, college basketball and college football.

Known for his energetic delivery, distinctive voice, preparation and insightful storytelling, Jones has become a familiar presence on some of North America's biggest sports broadcasts.

His longevity and success have made him an important figure in Canadian sports media and an inspiration to the next generation of broadcasters.

