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| **Award** | **Winners** | | **Trophy** |
| **SNZ Community, Official, Player and Coach Awards for 2018-2019** | | | |
| **1. Administrator of the Year** | **Stacey Wardell OG** | | **TROPHY** |
| Stacey has been critical in helping Otago Softball Association re-establish itself, both in organisation and in morale. She is a hard-working volunteer who fills multiple roles as an administrator, coach, and manager as well as still finding time to play. Stacey runs committee meetings, rosters volunteers, maintains our social media, live streams games, runs training clinics or deals with disciplinary meetings. She organises travel and accommodation for our junior teams and organised two end of year award ceremonies to celebrate the many achievements of our softball community.  This season she organised a Southern Regional Rookie Sox U13 series that included Otago, Southland, Central Otago, South Canterbury Associations and a Canterbury club and managed the new Waitangi Day Tournament which is a new event in Otago that gives women players more opportunity to play in single gender teams.  Volunteers such as Stacey are crucial to the survival of softball in Otago. Winning this award would be well-deserved recognition for the many hours of hard work turning Otago Softball back on to a better path, both for now and in the future.  *Stacey Wardell is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Administrator of the Year for 2019* | | | |
| **2. Volunteer of the Year** | **Megan Earley AK** | | **TROPHY** |
| Megan Earley’s voluntary service to softball for her Ramblers Club, Auckland Association and New Zealand softball is outstanding  The Ramblers Club have benefited from her involvement on the committee and in official roles such as the U17 Team Scorer, Reserve Team Scorer, U17 Girls Coach, Tee Ball Co-Ordinator and she has umpired junior games  She is the Mount Albert Grammar Junior Boys manager and was the manager of the MAGS Senior Boys Team that won the NZ Secondary School title in Christchurch earlier this year. Megan also coached the Auckland Normal Intermediate Year 7 & 8 school girls’ team.  She is an Auckland Softball Executive Board Member and the Auckland U18 Boys Team Manager (which finished 2nd to Wellington at the inaugural U18 nationals).  Megan is also in her 2nd year of managing the NZ U15 Boys Team.  *Megan Earley is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Volunteer of the Year Award for 2019* | | | |  |
| **Volunteer of the Year** | **Tamati Montgomery CM** | | **Honourable Mention** |
| **Honourable Mention**  Tamati Montgomery was the umpire that saved a 17 year old boys life by performing CPR on him when he collapsed during a softball game earlier this year in South Auckland. It is intended that this incredible act be recognised and a plaque awarded at a regional competition where his whanau and his peers can be present to see him receive the award. | | | |
| **3. Domestic Coach of the Year** | **Nathan Nukunuku AK** | | **TROPHY** |
| Nathan Nukunuku is another Ramblers club member who has had an outstanding season in his role as a head coach of successful teams at elite level.  As coach of the Ramblers Men they were winners of the following tournaments in the 2018/2019 season   * Northern Fastpitch Tournament * Brother Patrick * Dean Schick * Poneke Kilbirnie Tournament * Ramblers Tournament * SNZ National Club Championships   To cap a fine season off Nukunuku coached the Auckland Men’s Fastpitch Team to success at the National Fastpitch Championships held in Christchurch  *Nathan Nukunuku is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Domestic Coach of the Year 2019* | | | |
| **4. Personality of the Year** | **Debbie Townley AK** | | **TROPHY** |
| Debbie Townley is the third Ramblers Club Member to receive an accolade this year.  Debbie is one of those people who always has a smile on her face no matter what situation she is faced with and is always one of the first to put her hand up to lend a hand wherever needed.  She not only volunteers extensively for her Ramblers Club, the Auckland Softball Association and is the NZ Emerging Sox Boys Team Manager, she is also a NZ Scorer and you will see her in this role at many local and national tournaments.  More recently Debbie has taken her hand to sport photography and provides quality community, tournament and softball action photos to anyone interested via Facebook.  *Debbie Townley is a very deserving winner of SNZ Personality of the Year Award for 2019* | | | |
| **5. Scorer of the Year** | **Alison Kensington MW** | | **TROPHY** |
| Alison has worked hard to form and support the Manawatu Scorers Association. She is widely respected and appreciated for all her hard work. She is passionate about the game and it shows in her scoring. Alison scored the final at the NPC. The national scorer’s panel felt that she had had a very good season.  *Alison Kensington is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Scorer of the Year Award for 2019* | | | |
| **6. Umpire of the Year** | **David Fortin CB** | | **TROPHY** |
| David Fortin is a fine example of a dedicated and committed umpire who has done the mahi to get the treats. David was on the WBSC / Oceania Rulebook and Casebook review panel and holds current ISF L7 and SNZ umpires accreditation. He has umpired at numerous local and national tournaments this year. David was invited to be part of the SNZ Canadian Exchange programme and officiated at the Canada Cup (Women) and the TAB Challenge Cup in North Harbour. David recently officiated at his 3rd World Championship Event at the WBSC U19 Junior Women’s World Championship in Irvine, California.  *David Fortin is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Umpire of the Year Award for 2019* | | | |
| **7. National Coach of the Year** | **Darryl Marino HV** | | **TROPHY** |
| Darryl Marino first entered the national coaching pathway in 2007 when he was an assistant coach at Development and Junior Black Sox level. His first foray at elite level with the Black Sox was in 2016 when he went to Argentina as assistant coach. But it is as Head Coach of the 2018 Black Sox team that won the Intercontinental Cup in Prague in September last year that Darryl Marino is being recognised for at these awards. Darryl is a quiet and dedicated coach who has shown successful leadership capability in not only softball but also in Rugby League.  *Darryl Marino is a very deserving winner of the SNZ National Coach of the Year for 2019* | | | |
| **The 2018-2019 Player of the Year Awards are determined by national coaches and will appear in the following year’s annual report.** | | | |
| **8. Women’s Emerging Player of the Year** | **Mikayla Lewin HV** | | **TROPHY** |
| Hutt Valleys Mikayla Lewin performed admirably for the Junior White Sox Team at the Canada Cup in July 2018. She was scouted for the Chipola College Indians in Florida who then went on to win their 3rd NJCAA Division One National Title where she finished with a healthy batting average of .400.  *Mikayla Lewin is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Women’s Emerging Player of the Year for 2019* | | | |
| **9. Men’s Emerging Player of the Year** | **Seth Gibson AK** | | **TROPHY** |
| Auckland’s Seth Gibson is a quality 1st Base and a handy relief pitcher. He was selected for the NZ Black Sox B Team in the TAB Challenge Cup in North Harbour but it was at the 2018 WBSC Junior Men’s World Championship in Prince Albert, Canada where he shone with outstanding offensive and defensive play. The Junior Black Sox finished in 3rd place at the world champs.  *Seth Gibson is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Men’s Emerging Player of the Year for 2019* | | | |
| **10. Women’s Pitcher of the Year** | **Jennifer Feret-Brear AK** | | **TROPHY** |
| Jennifer Feret-Brear pitched for the NZ White Sox Team at the 2018 Canada Cup, the 2018 WBSC World Championships in Japan and the 2019 Asia Pacific Cup in Australia. She had consistent performances throughout and was one out away from pitching a no hitter at a World Championship against the Philippines. It was at the Canada Cup where her all round ability shone through as she was selected for the Canada Cup All Star team at the completion of the tournament.  *Jennifer Feret-Brear is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Women’s Pitcher of the Year for 2019* | | | |
| **11. Men’s Pitcher of the Year** | **Daniel Chapman AK** | | **TROPHY** |
| Daniel Chapman has grown immensely on the mound over the last couple of years. He was in the Gold Medal Black Sox Team at the Intercontinental Cup in Prague and was in the Black Sox TAB Challenge Cup Team in North Harbour. He has matured into a legitimate international quality pitcher that has the potential to dominate World Softball for the next decade. He is an easy going guy that works hard and is a good team mate.  *Daniel Chapman is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Men’s Pitcher of the Year for 2019* | | | |
| **12. Women’s Player of the Year** | **Lara Andrews HV** | | **TROPHY** |
| Hutt Valleys Lara Andrews has had another outstanding international and domestic season for the 2nd year in a row. She represented the NZ White Sox Team at the 2018 Canada Cup, the 2018 WBSC Women’s World Championships in Japan and the 2019 Asia Pacific Cup in Australia where she maintained a very high standard of play on defence and hit consistently well with a .380 batting average at world champs. Lara also captained the Hutt Valley Women’s Team to their 2nd successive title at the National Fastpitch Championships where she was also named top batter of the tournament.  *Lara Andrews is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Women’s Player of the Year for 2019* | | | |
| **13. Men’s Player of the year** | **Cole Evans** | | **TROPHY** |
| Auckland’s Cole Evans was destined for stardom from a young age, having dominated all age group levels on his way to making and establishing himself in the NZ Black Sox team. He has set the standard nationally for the last 4 years on how shortstop should be played. His game and situational awareness has enhanced his natural talent to take away many hits from opposition teams and making his pitchers job easier. He is a fierce competitor on the diamond and a well-mannered young man off it. His outstanding performances for the Black Sox in Prague and at the TAB Challenge Cup in North Harbour were complementary to his Auckland successes as National Fastpitch Champions and with Ramblers Open Club Champions where he was named MVP of the tournament.  *Cole Evans is a very deserving winner of the SNZ Men’s Player of the Year for 2019* | | | |
| **Softball NZ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS** | | | |
| **14. Distinguished Service Award** | **Walton Walker TR** | | **FRAMED CERTIFICATE** |
| Walton Walker has had a long and illustrious career in softball from his early beginnings as a player in Gisborne in 1969 to now in 2019. He moved to Wellington for a number of years and then back home to his iwi and tangata whenua in Tairawhiti.  Walton has been instrumental in reviving softball in the Eastland region. His drive, passion and enthusiasm for the game has seen a number of changes including a name change for the association from Bay of Plenty to Tairawhiti to better reflect the region; the introduction of a funded Development Officer role; and hosting of numerous regional tournaments and more recently the Central Region U13 Tournament, North Island U15 Boys and the North Island Division 2 Secondary School Champs.  Walton is the “go to man” for all things to do with the tournaments. His organisation is outstanding, and the large number of volunteer’s present is a testament to Walton’s ability to draw people in. At the last secondary school tournament hosted in Gisborne there were 4 fully fenced diamonds in place. A feat that many major associations struggle to complete.  The relatively new dirt diamond at Waikirikiri Park in Gisborne came about from the persistence of Walton and his committee. Then to add to the occasion the Black Sox were hosted by the Tairawhiti Softball Association to run a weekend training camp at the new facility. The links made to the local community were fantastic.  Walton has also been proactive with coach, officials and player development bringing in expertise from outside of the region to support and grow more coaches and officials and to run pitching clinics.  Softball has thrived in Tairawhiti under Walton Walker’s leadership and was recognised with a Sport NZ National Award for best Community Impact Award in 2015 titled “Softball strikes back in Tairawhiti”  Tairawhiti Softball Association is in a constant state of development as their young men and women leave the region to seek work or play softball in other regions to enhance their chances of national selection. However, Walton doesn’t hold them back, in fact encouraging them to pursue their, and our passion of softball in other places.  Softball is fortunate to have someone like Walton Walker in the game. Everything he does is to benefit individuals, teams and the Association.  *There is no more deserving recipient of a Distinguished Service Award than Walton Walker.* | | | |
| **15. Distinguished Service Award** | **Trevor Smith NH** | | **FRAMED CERTIFICATE** |
| Trevor joined North Harbour Softball after a long and distinguished career with Southland Softball Association (where I believe he is a Life Member). He first got involved in North Harbour Softball (in 2011) when we advertised for Board members for 2013 World Softball Championships.  Trevor quickly got involved in project managing building of all the infrastructure for the 2013 World Championships. At that time Trevor was National Project Manager for Allied Concrete, and he committed all of his spare time (and more) to North Harbour Softball. We would not have developed the stadium, floodlights and scoreboard without the expertise that Trevor bought to the project.  Trevor was on the Board of 2013 Softball Limited and applied his skills, along with those of others, to delivering a highly successfully world championship event.  In 2013, following the World Championship, Trevor then went onto the Board of North Harbour Softball. He took on the role of President in 2016 and retires this year after 3 years in the job.  Trevor gives an extraordinary amount of time to projects at the park, overseeing all of the grounds including developing storage facilities and a portable bar and garden area for events. He manages all of the maintenance of the facilities as well as fulfilling the role of club liaison and Chair of the Rosedale Sports Trust which jointly owns the clubroom facility with Albany Football Club.  Trevor’s contribution to North Harbour Softball is inestimable. We simply would not be where we are today without the contribution that he has made and continues to make.  *Trevor is a very deserving recipient of a SNZ Distinguished Service Award.* | | | |
| **16. Distinguished Service Award** | **Raewyn Clarke WN** | | **FRAMED CERTIFICATE** |
| Raewyn has made a lifetime contribution to the game of softball, participating as a player, coach, manager, or administrator, and providing direction at a governance level. She is selfless, making personal commitment in terms of time and resources for no other reason but to promote growth of softball. She is well regarded throughout the softball community, nationally and regionally. People look to Raewyn for leadership and guidance. She possesses institutional knowledge and history of our sport and has well entrenched relationships stemming from her time as an administrator at Softball New Zealand, through to supporting newcomers to the sport.  Raewyn is a strategic thinker, seeking out opportunities that takes the sport in a positive direction, influencing others to foresee what is possible. She has been working tirelessly to rebuild the Island Bay Softball Club, consolidating relationships alongside the Island Bay Soccer Club, Wellington City Council and Capital Baseball to secure the future of the club. She is known for her hospitality, supporting others outside of the Wellington region including smaller Associations such as Gisborne. No job is too small for Raewyn, whether she is presenting at ceremonies, or working behind the scenes in the kitchen, behind a bar or cleaning up after an event.  Raewyn has also contributed many years in the coaching and management roles for junior and senior club teams, or Wellington representative teams.  Over many years, Raewyn has supported **Softball NZ** and the **WSA** in various capacities:   * **Board member** for **Softball NZ**, chair of the Honours Committee; * On the **WSA Executive Committee**, representing Wellington at Intercity meetings, Central region meetings and at Softball New Zealand; * **Development and growth** of sport, through supporting the Junior Advisory Board, coaching and managing junior teams, coordinating development programs and supporting the aspirations of people within the community to pursue coach development and representative opportunities; * **Administrative functions** including draw management, representative program, reviewing policies, communicating with stakeholders and media; * **Advocating** with other community organisations including councils, funders and sponsors and in recent times supporting youth (across the region) to pursue opportunities offered through iwi scholarships and university/overseas pathways; * **National Tournaments & Event management** working closely with Softball NZ, National Umpires and Scorers, and coordinating the WSA 75th anniversary; * **Coaching** at all levels from tiny tots, juniors and senior teams, and **management** of representative teams; and * Utilising her extensive **relationships and networks** across the broader sporting community to secure opportunities for softball.   Raewyn is always the first to acknowledge others but for now, the softball community should acknowledge Raewyn for her ongoing commitment to our sport. It is people like Raewyn that keep our sport moving forward.  *Raewyn is a very deserving recipient of a SNZ Distinguished Service Award* | | | |
| **Softball NZ HALL OF FAME** | | | |
| **17. SNZ Hall of Fame Award** | **Kim Dermott CB** | | **PLAQUE** |
| A loyal and talented Canterbury representative for many years, Kim Dermott first played in New Zealand colours when she was selected for the Junior White Sox Team to play at the ISF U19 Junior Women’s World Championships in Adelaide, Australia. She had a fantastic training ethic, was a versatile player in the infield and then the outfield and was very strong hitter.  Kim went onto play in four Open Women’s World Championships between 1994 (St Johns, Newfoundland) 1998 (Shizuoka, Japan) 2002 (Saskatoon, Canada) and 2006 (Beijing, China) over a 12 year period when world championships were held on a four year cycle.  Dermott was a member of the only New Zealand Women’s Team to play at an Olympic Softball Event in 2000 in Sydney, Australia. She also went onto play in three Olympic Qualifiers in 1995, 1999 and 2007.  Her tenure in national teams spanned an incredible 16 years. Congratulations to NZ Player Number 55 Kim Dermott who was also awarded a test cap for playing in 51 tests.  *It is an absolute honour this evening to induct Kim Dermott into Softball New Zealand’s Hall of Fame* | | | |
| **18. SNZ Hall of Fame Award** | **Melanie Hulme CB** | | **PLAQUE** |
| Melanie Hulme is a former Auckland player who eventually finished her domestic playing career in Canterbury. She was a standout player for both Auckland and Canterbury representative teams in her favoured position of 3rd base.  Hulme debuted in the Junior White Sox team and attended the ISF U19 Junior Women’s World Championships in Illinois, USA.  She played in three Open Women’s World Championships in 1998 in Shizuoka City, Japan, 2002 in Saskatoon, Canada and 2006 in Beijing China. Like Dermott, Melanie Hulme played in the only NZ Women’s Team to attend the 2000 Olympics in Sydney Australia. She was also part or three Olympic Qualifying Tournaments in 1999, 2003 and 2007.  Hulme was regarded as a key member of the White Sox Team. She was an excellent team leader and role model for all team members through her superb training commitment & preparation for all of the international events.  Her tenacity, resilience & mental toughness were a trade-mark for all team members to emulate.  Congratulations to NZ Player Number 183 Melanie Hulme.  *Please join me as I congratulate Melanie Hulme on her induction into Softball New Zealand’s Hall of Fame.* | | | |
| **19. SNZ Hall of Fame Award** | **Grant McCarroll HV** | | **PLAQUE** |
| Grant Mc Carroll’s lifelong love of the game started as a 7-year-old at the Tawa Softball club. When the family moved the Burnside Softball club helped his transition to Christchurch. He played all his junior softball at Burnside, playing alongside Murray Britt and Brett Williams with the three becoming lifelong friends.    Senior softball was played for Merivale, and Christchurch United, the latter with the introduction of the National League. He rounded out his club softball with the Cardinals club in the Hutt Valley when his career took him to Wellington. He represented Canterbury at seven National Provincial Tournaments and the New Zealand Combined Services at a further two.    Upon joining the Army in 1986 he made an immediate impact as a player, and additionally as a coach and administrator. His contribution to Army and New Zealand Combined Services Softball has been recognised with the following awards:   * New Zealand Army Colour – Excellence in Sport; and * New Zealand Defence Force – Excellence in Sport – where he was the second person to receive this honour.   On the international front:   * He was a non-travelling reserve for the inaugural New Zealand U19 team, coached by Dale Eagar and captained by Mark Sorenson in 1985; and * He managed the Black Sox from 1998 to 2006 and again in 2014 and 2015.   He managed the team when they won two World Titles in 2000 in East London, South Africa and 2004 in Christchurch, and a silver medal in 2015 in Saskatoon, Canada.    Other accolades include:   * Being named the Upper Hutt Sport Administrator of the Year in 2004; and * Being awarded the Wellington Sport Administrator of the year in 2004.     He has continued to share his love of the game with the kids that he has coached over the last 10 years at the Totara Park Softball Club and the Hutt Valley teams that he has taken to Regional and National tournaments.  He has added, and continues to add, to the legacy of our amazing sport at club, provincial and international levels through the positive impact he has on others.    Of course none of this would have been possible without the people he has met along the way – in particular his wife and their two boys.    *Please join me as I congratulate Grant McCarroll on his induction into Softball New Zealand’s Hall of Fame.* | | | |
| **20. SNZ Hall of Fame Award** | **Ed Isaac NH** | | **PLAQUE** |
| Ed Isaac was a well-respected and intelligent umpire who umpired at all levels nationally, and internationally. He earned a reputation as an extremely professional, well presented and physically fit umpire with an in-depth knowledge of the game that was evident in way he umpired.  He started as a Canterbury umpire and earned his badge at the 1982-83 Rothmans Men’s Tournament on the North Shore and received his ISF certification in 1985. Since that time, he has racked up an impressive array of appointments nationally and internationally. He served as NZ Softball’s Deputy Chief Umpire from 1990 through to 1996 and earned recognition with a Life Membership of the North Harbour Umpires Association.  He was NZ Softball Umpire to four ISF World Championships including umpiring in one final (the only final in which NZ was not a participant). He has officiated at nine other international men’s and women’s tournaments (including being awarded eight finals) and was named by the ISF with one other New Zealander as one of the top 20 international umpires of the 20th century.  He has officiated at more than 215 international games and officiated in the national league for 10 years.  His softball contribution extends to playing, coaching and administration and he has earned many accolades through his contribution to Navy softball in all of these capacities. He was:   * player-coach of the Navy Softball team from 1968 to 1980 * captain and coach of the NZ Combined Services team * an administrator of Navy Softball for 26 years * the inaugural convenor of the North Harbour Junior Advisory Board and an inaugural member of the NZ Junior Advisory Board.   He was made a Life Member of the Navy Softball Club in recognition of his significant contribution.  His military leadership has also been recognised with his being awarded an MBE in 1997 and the Chief of Defence Force Commendation in 2002.  *Please join me as I congratulate Ed Isaac on his induction into Softball New Zealand’s Hall of Fame.* | | | |
| **21. Softball New Zealand Test Cap Recipient**  **Test caps are awarded when any senior Black or White Sox team plays a full international game.**  **Caps are presented at 2 milestones; 100 caps or 50 caps**  **(Plaques & Caps/Visors awarded)** | | | |
| **50+ Test Caps** | **Jane Earnshaw CB** | **Cap & Plaque** | |
| Jane Earnshaw Player Number 96 earned 55 test caps between 1982 and 1995. This included three world championships in 1982 where the NZ White Sox Team were placed 1st in Taiwan, 3rd in 1986 in Auckland, New Zealand and 2nd in 1990 in Illinois USA. Jane Earnshaw was inducted in 2001 into the Softball New Zealand Hall of Fame and in 2007 the International Softball Hall of Fame. The 1982 Women’s Gold Medal Team are also in the NZ Sport Hall of Fame in Dunedin | | | |
| **Softball NZ Premier Award as selected from the finalists in the Community, Officials, Player & Coach Awards.**  **Softballer of the Year for 2018 – 2019** | | | |
| **22. Softballer of the Year** | **Lara Andrews HV** | | **TROPHY** |