

SHERRI CLARKE
PLAYER



**CANADIAN SHUFFLEBOARD
CONGRESS
HALL OF FAME
INDUCTION CEREMONY**

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NOMINATED BY:
Saskatchewan Shuffleboard Association

Sherri wasn't planning on giving out her birthdate, as only her family & a select few friends know when she was born, but it was here in Regina!! Sherri has 3 children daughters Autumn & Breann & son Chase who all live in Regina & are her best cheerleaders.

Sherri's interest in shuffleboard began when she had to track her Mom (Donna Puff) down at any given bar while Donna was playing board. So the story begins in 1976 when friends Karen Kammerer (who she went to school & worked with) & Chris Berg started playing at the Kings Hotel. For a period of about 6 months they went to the Kings to practice during their 1½ lunch (only soft drinks were had) & then head back after work (only ale was had) & play board & danced till the wee hours every night, they were young & foolish; but they had to hone their skills on an "awful" board, so they could play with the big boys (on a "nice" board) with the likes of Art Evans, who eventually took the 3 young ones under his wing.

Her first year 1976 saw her winning the Provincial Ladies Singles title & attending her first Canadians in Victoria, BC & then back again the next year 1977, in Saint John, New Brunswick where Anita Runge told Sherri, she was going to ship her back home to Regina in a box for playing so poorly.

In the beginning of her shuffleboard career she was part of a "family team" her Mom Donna, stepfather Don Puff, her brother Mark & his wife Gwen Clarke & her sister Judy Strassburger "when not asked for her ID", as Sherri says "brought a whole new meaning to family board game night"!

Shuffleboard in Saskatchewan has its wild weather to deal with, but on Tuesday nights, no snow, sleet or "ale" prevented any shuffleboard player going out & throwing some rocks in league & back then, they played a 9 game format with a mandatory (at least) 2 hour party after a night of board. Sherri does remember getting 7 points off of Eleanore (Heinrichs) Baker (the first ever Canadian Ladies Singles & Doubles winner & a tough player) in an "League All Stars Game" being held in Sedley (where Eleanore lived), but Eleanore conveniently denies this ever happened.

You think playing Provincials on a long weekend is gruelling, Sherri recalls for a few years there were so many players in Regina, Provincial's began on a Tuesday & went through till Sunday. At some point during Sherri's shuffleboard career, she began playing barefoot, she found it was more comfortable than wearing shoes, which obviously helped her win all those Provincial titles, but as she says "didn't help her win more titles at Canadians". Of course she had to start wearing shoes when laws came in preventing her running around a bar, club or banquet hall barefoot!! She tried to tell everyone she would take responsibility if she cut herself, but, that didn't work.

Sherri has won an impressive 36 Provincial titles; 16 Ladies Singles, 12 Ladies Doubles & 8 Mixed Doubles events & has won 7 Canadian titles; 3 Ladies Singles, 3 Ladies Doubles & 1 Mixed Doubles events. 5 of those Ladies Doubles Provincial wins was played with her sister Judy Strassburger (the pretty one) & they won the Canadian Ladies Doubles title in 1997 held in Victoria, BC. But alas Judy begged Liz Patrick to please be Sherri's partner in 2010 & Sherri & Liz won their first Ladies Doubles Provincials together to play at the 2010 Calgary Canadians where they placed 2nd in Ladies Doubles & have been partners since. This year 2014 Sherri is participating in the 50th Anniversary of the Canadian Shuffleboard Championships in the Ladies Singles event being held in her home city of Regina.

Sherri the consummate player even participated in the 1990 Provincials while she was pregnant with daughter Breann & won the Ladies Singles event, but Breann decided to make an appearance & prevented her Mom from attending the Canadians in Saint John, New Brunswick. This of course means Sherri never gets to celebrate Breann's birthday except every 7 years...so this year she can party with her daughter?

Sherri has held positions on the SSA Executive & the Canadian Executive & has always been an understanding partner for rookie players in League, Tournaments & Provincials & a loyal supporter of the SSA over her long shuffleboard career.

Sherri has many friends from coast to coast, along with many wild & crazy stories (she does not want printed) from the numerous Canadians she has attended, even her current partner Liz has a secret she has never divulged; but "What Happens at Canadians... Stays at Canadians"!!

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Mixed Doubles: 1978 Sherri Clarke & Bill Yung
1979 Sherri Clarke & Bill Yung
1980 Sherri Clarke & Bob Dusterbeck
1983 Sherri Clarke & Cal Read
1985 Sherri Clarke & Cal Read
1987 Sherri Clarke & Cal Read
1989 Sherri Clarke & Cal Read
1992 Sherri Clarke & Cal Read
- Ladies Singles: 1976, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1986, 1987,
1988, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 2000,
2001, 2002
- Ladies Doubles: 1980 Sherri Clarke & Karen Petrowitsch
1981 Sherri Clarke & Karen Petrowitsch
1985 Sherri Clarke & Karen (Petrowitsch)
- Kammerer
- 1995 Sherri Clarke & Judy Strassburger
1997 Sherri Clarke & Judy Strassburger
1998 Sherri Clarke & Judy Strassburger
1999 Sherri Clarke & Judy Strassburger
2000 Sherri Clarke & Judy Strassburger
2002 Sherri Clarke & Charlene Lucas
2006 Sherri Clarke & Judy Strassburger
2010 Sherri Clarke & Liz Patrick

CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Mixed Doubles: 1980 Sherri Clarke & Bob Dusterbeck
- Ladies Singles: 1992, 1995, 2002
- Ladies Doubles: 1985 Sherri Clarke & Karen Kammerer
1997 Sherri Clarke & Judy Strassburger
2002 Sherri Clarke & Charlene Lucas

