



MICHAEL BUTLER

Badminton/Athlete · Inducted 2001

For twenty-one years Saint John's Mike Butler dominated the sport of badminton, winning some 82 championships, and he did so without national acclaim or a full-time coach, but with the support and devotion of his wife and best friend, Rolyne. For five consecutive years, he was Canada's men's singles champion and for ten years a member of our national team. He and his partner represented Canada at the 1988 Olympic Games as participants in the demonstration sport of mixed doubles. That doubles partner, Vancouver's Claire Backhouse-Sharpe, said this: "there is no athlete I respect more than Mike. The tougher the challenge, the brighter was the twinkle in his eyes and the fire in his heart. Saint John has a Canadian treasure in Mike Butler."

Career Highlights:

- Competed in badminton from 1973-1994.
- Canada's National Team coach 2013-present.
- NB Canada Games Coach 2015.
- Won 36 New Brunswick; 24 Maritime; 17 Canadian and 11 Pan American championships.
- Won 5 consecutive Canadian men's singles championships (1983-87).
- At 1987 Canadian Championships, he won the men's singles, men doubles, and mixed doubles championships, registering a "triple crown".
- Competed at Commonwealth Games, 1986 & 1990, won silver medals at both Games in team event.
- Competed at Devlin Cup, (vs. United States), 1983; Thomas Cup (similar to Davis Cup in tennis) 1984 & 1988; World Championships, 4 times.
- NB Athlete of the Year (1983-86).
- Selected by City of Saint John to the "Group of Five", in 1989, as the city's outstanding sports figure.

Hometown: Saint John

Web page: <https://www.nbsportshalloffame.com/honoured-members/michael-mike-butler>

Tips for teachers: Michael speaks English and prefers to present in the gym. He requires a badminton net and room for a badminton demonstration if possible. He has a USB and CD with a short video about the NB Sports Hall of Fame and would like a table to display his artifacts. The video is also available on line at [youtube.com/watch?v=3sq8KHLc-4w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sq8KHLc-4w)



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