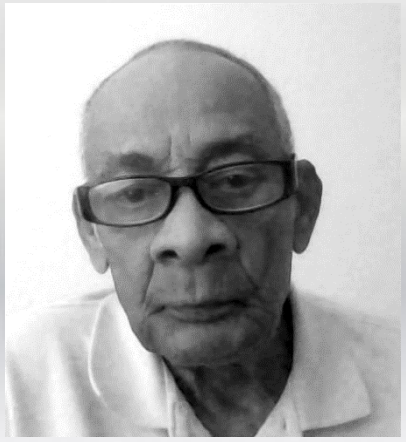
First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Hubert Taffy Crichlow

All Rounder

Inducted in 2011

Excellence in ball sports came easily to 'Taffy' Crichlow. Throughout the 1950s he could be found playing at the highest levels domestically in football, field hockey, cricket, basketball and table tennis. He even took part in track & field. It was an era when specialization in one discipline was not yet required, and many gifted athletes could switch between sports.

Crichlow based himself in Woodbrook, which was a hive of sporting activity emanating from the Youth Centre. There, he made table tennis his priority and, while still a teenager, he defeated the highly rated George Alexander in the 1948 National Championships at the latter stages of the tournament. Three years later, he fulfilled that promise by defeating Carl Williams 21-17, 21-17, 20-22, 11-21, 21-11, to become the National Men's Singles champion.

In 1952, he faced fellow all-rounder, Ralph Legall, in the national final, and defended his crown with a thrilling 21-16, 21-23, 28-26, 21-16 triumph. Crichlow won eight 'A' Division titles between 1953 and 1960. He represented the North and North-East teams in local competition, before becoming the captain of the Trinidad and Tobago Table Tennis team that took part in the Caribbean Championships. Crichlow led from the front, advancing to the semi-finals of the regional competition in 1958 and 1959.

Crichlow also learnt his basketball trade at the Woodbrook Youth Centre. His skills as an attacking forward player soon caught the eye of the Beavers team, before he then moved onto the Braves. Both teams took part in the Basketball Association's First Division, but Taffy keep his grassroot allegiances by also playing for Woodbrook Youth Centre in the Second Division. He was selected for the Trinidad and Tobago national team and took part in tours to Suriname, Martinique, Barbados, and British Guiana between 1957 and 1960.

'Taffy' also turned out for local football club Malvern in the early to mid-1950s, replicating his basketball mindset as an aggressive forward and helping the team to lift the National FA Trophy in 1952 and 1955.

Displaying further all-round prowess, he was more than adept with a cricket bat, scoring 100 for the Youth Centre against Trent, as well as 63 against St. Vincent in Kingstown when Woodbrook Youth Centre toured the island.

For his remarkable abilities across a myriad of sports, Hubert 'Taffy' Crichlow was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame in 2011.