First Citizens Sports Foundation

# HALL OF FAME



## Marcus Minshall (Posthumous)

**All Rounder**

**Inducted in 2023**

In 1951, Burt Lancaster played the title role in *Jim Thorpe – All-American*, the biographical film that focussed on the life of the Native American who was considered to be one of the greatest multi-sportsmen of the 20th century, with two track and field gold medals won at the 1912 Olympic Games, plus careers in professional football and baseball, plus basketball.

Trinidad and Tobago's answer to Thorpe may very well be Marcus Minshall who, even in an era in which multi-sports athletes at the top level were common in Trinidad and Tobago, managed to top all-comers with his exploits on the cricket, football and rugby fields – plus other arenas – over the course of the 1950s and 1960s. He represented Trinidad and Tobago in the three aforementioned sports along with basketball and water polo. With regards to cricket, the wicketkeeper and top-order batsman played for this country between 1959 and 1961.

He scored 338 runs in nine first-class affairs in total for Trinidad and Tobago and North Trinidad. In club cricket, he was part of a formidable Queen's Park team that was loaded with West Indies and Trinidad and Tobago regulars, including Willie Rodriguez, Joey Carew, Bryan and Charlie Davis.

Minshall, a goalkeeper, joined the likes of Rodriguez, Alvin Corneal, Andy Aleong and others in earning football caps for Trinidad and Tobago to go along with those of the cricket variety. Meanwhile, he played for Shamrock and Casuals, where he was also a member of the field hockey team.

Nowadays even the most casual of modern-day sports fans may be familiar with the Marcus Minshall Cup, the TTRFU's primary knockout competition. However, there is much, much more to the name that is on the tournament trophy, as Minshall was not only a regular on the Trinidad and Tobago rugby squad, he also played for two of the country's stalwart teams – Caribs and Northern.

Incredibly active, Minshall stood out as a boxer at one point in his youthful years, before transitioning through other individual sports: tennis, rifle shooting, golf, table tennis, swimming, darts, bridge, and snooker – for which he was champion at the Clydesdale Club for four years in a row.

Born in British Guiana in 1932, Minshall attended Queen's Royal College (QRC) where, not surprisingly, he captained both the cricket and football teams. He passed from Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1970 as a multi-sport legend who managed to be a master of many trades.

Marcus Minshall was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame in 2023.