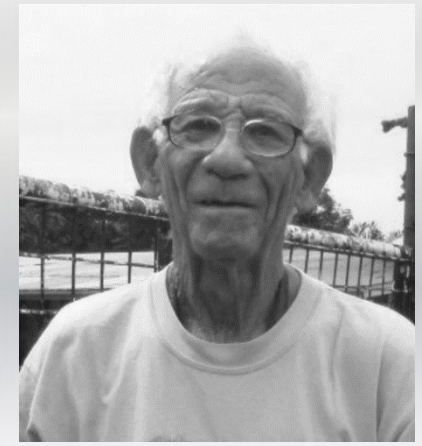
First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Ian Nivet (Posthumous)

Cycling

Inducted in 2023

Like Angelo Dundee and Muhammed Ali, or Helmut Schoen with West Germany, behind every iconic sports hero or great group of athletes there is an inspirational coach. The Roger Gibbon-led band of hotshot cyclists could count on Ian Nivet, who played a chief role in their success from 1966 to 1971.

Nivet oversaw Gibbon's bronze medal performance in the 1-kilometre Time Trial at the 1967 UCI Track World Championships in Amsterdam. This came a few weeks after Nivet coached Gibbon to two titles at the Pan American Games in Winnipeg – the Time Trial and the Match Sprint. Nivet was manager and coach at both the 1966 and 1970 Commonwealth Games in Kingston and Edinburgh, respectively. In Kingston, Gibbon captured gold medals in the Time Trial and the Sprint.

Four years later in Edinburgh, Nivet provided inspiration at trackside when Leslie King claimed the silver medal in the Time Trial and got bronze in the Sprint, while Vernon Stauble also placed third in the 10 miles scratch race.

Other events of note for Nivet: the 1970 World Championships in Leicester; the 1971 Pan Am Games in Cali, where King won the gold medal in the Match Sprint and took home the Time Trial silver medal; the 1966 Central American and Caribbean Games in San Juan, the scene of Gibbon's triumphs in the Time Trial and Match Sprint; the 1970 Central American & Caribbean (CAC) Games in Panama City, where Nivet was on hand for King's gold in the Sprint and silver in the Time Trial.

A multi-talented athlete in cycling, football and field hockey at Fatima College, Nivet was 19-years old when he won the intermediate title at the national cycling championships in 1948. Over the next two years, he would play first class football and hockey for Notre Dame. A founder of Pedal Boys Bike Club and later the Ian Nivet Riding School, he became heavily focussed on development and he can be credited for encouraging the involvement of women at the top level.

Nivet remained involved in the national scheme after his successful tenure as Trinidad and Tobago team coach: in 1988 he could be found at the Pepsi Easter International Cycling Grand Prix, staged within the Queen's Park Oval, posing with his latest charges – including another icon, Gene Samuel – on the medal podium and helping another generation to glory.

Ian Nivet was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame in 2023.