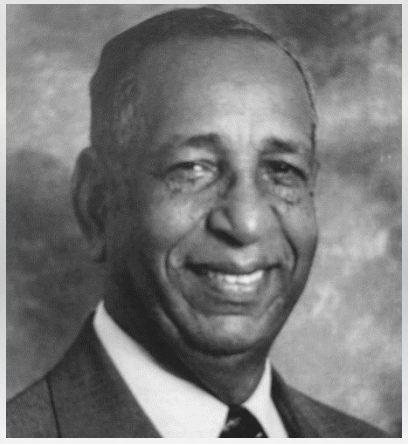
First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Mervyn Williams T.C.

C.M.T. (Posthumous)

Administrator

Inducted in 2004

As a competitor, he was involved in multiple sports, so it is little wonder that as a sports administrator, Commodore Mervyn Williams would serve in multiple roles including one that governed multiple sports.

In his youth, Williams competed in rowing (the single and double sculls), boxing and yachting. In the latter, he gained first-hand experience of national team representation and games participation when he took part in the 1962 CAC Games held in Jamaica. Five years later, he flew the red, white and black once again at the Yachting World Championship in Canada.

His involvement with water sports in particular led to his first administrative role as Secretary of the West Indian Yachting Association (now defunct). His experience there allowed him to become the Vice-President of the Trinidad and Tobago Yachting Association in the mid-1970s.

Williams' place as a member of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Forces – he would later become the Chief Defence of Staff from 1976 to 1979 – meant that he also applied his organizational nous to the National Rifle Association, rising quickly to become President.

With so much experience from a myriad of sporting organizations, Williams was the perfect candidate for the role when he was appointed President of the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee (TTOC) in 1981.

Under his stewardship, Trinidad and Tobago sent large contingents to the 1982 Central American & Caribbean (CAC) Games in Havana, the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, the 1983 Pan Am Games in Caracas, and a 28-member team to the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984. He was there to guide negotiations and participate in decision-making, when Trinidad and Tobago eventually chose to boycott the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh – an unprecedented action by the nation.

Williams oversaw the country's participation at the 1987 Pan Am Games and the 1988 Olympics. The following year he had to demit office, having served the maximum term, but in true fashion, remained in the position of immediate past President until 1997. While fulfilling that advisory role, he became responsible for the formation of the Trinidad and Tobago Gymnastics Association (which morphed into the Gymnastics Federation in 2010) in 1991 and ensured that the new entity received government recognition in 1993.

His was a life of selfless service to sport to ensure the continuance of Trinidad and Tobago being able to perform on the biggest stages, and to

help future sports people do the same. For his dedication in all spheres of life, Commodore Mervyn Williams was honoured with the Public Service Medal of Merit Silver in 1970, the Public Service Medal of Merit Gold in 1978, the Trinity Cross in 1980 and was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame in 2004.