First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Janet Bailey

Netball

Inducted in 1987

She has been described as totally domineering on a netball court, a goalkeeper with a large left hand that blocked many goal shots. Powerfully built, Janet Bailey dedicated her early life to completing her enrolment in the police force while also playing for their netball team but, once she graduated in 1959, she was able to focus fully on her sporting career.

Bailey was part of the Carib Senators netball team formed in 1961, with other star players such as Gloria Pierre, Grace Mauge, Bernice Roach, and Enid Browne. They dominated the Port of Spain League (the de facto national league at the time) winning in 1965-1967 with further titles in 1969-72, 1976.

The first two years of their dominance was perfect training for Bailey taking their play to a bigger stage, namely the world stage. Trinidad and Tobago took part in the inaugural World Netball Championship held in England in 1963, with Bailey undertaking 'keeping duties as part of the team that began with a 58-22 drubbing of Wales, a close 33-28 victory over South Africa, and a 59-11 demolition of Northern Ireland.

They also won against Ceylon, Jamaica, and Scotland, but losses against England, Australia and New Zealand meant that they finished just outside the medals in 4th spot.

Bailey returned to Trinidad and Tobago duties for the regional championships. In 1970, Trinidad and Tobago won the Caribbean championships held in St. Lucia, with Bailey and her teammates defending their title from 1972-1974.

In between, she attended her second World Championships, this time held closer to home in Jamaica. The team finished 4th once again, including a 34-34 draw with the hosts, a 72-24 win against Bahamas, and a 66-14 defeat of Northern Ireland. The team were maintaining the country's place as one of the best teams in the world and came agonizingly close to a final podium place.

Bailey would attend one more world championship, held in New Zealand in 1975. It would be another 4th place, 3 points off the bronze medal position and 5 off the gold medal position held by Australia. The gap was closing, evidenced by a 39-37 loss to England.

Bailey retired soon afterwards, having played an incredible 76 international matches. She continued to serve her sport in an administrative role, eventually rising to become President of the Port of Spain Netball League for two terms.

For her service to netball, her Caribbean championships, domestic league titles and helping to pave the way to Trinidad and Tobago's

netball world championship victory, Janet Bailey was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame in 1987.

Port of Spain Netball League	**1965-1967, 1969-72**
Caribbean Netball Championship	**1970-1974**