First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Annette Hart

Hockey

Inducted in 2000

Sporting genes run deep for this fleet-footed left winger. Her father, Ivor Hart, was part of the very first batch of sportspersons inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame in 1984. But, while Ivor was a standout football goalkeeper, his daughter, Anette, exceled at the other end of the field as an attacking hockey player.

Her introduction to the sport was two-fold. Firstly, she took up the sport while attending Bishop Anstey High School, and secondly, she lived on Long Circular Road opposite the Police Barrack's hockey ground. The Bishop's team was good enough to play in the women's B Division, providing Hart with a high standard of exposure. She had the added benefit of being able to cross the road from her home to further hone her skills.

The school placed Hart in various positions – center-forward, center-half – but it was soon evident that left-wing was where she best performed. There was no shortage of clubs interested in securing her talent and Hart opted for the Mico Rangers upon leaving school.



Mico became a force in local hockey, but Hart soon switched allegiance to the Blue Streaks club, joining forces with many national players such as Myrna and Brenda Chow, Marilyn Acoo and Lucille Tom Quong. With memorable battles between Mico and the Blue Streaks, the quality of Trinidad and Tobago women's hockey team grew, with Hart earning her national selection in 1960.

She was a stalwart of the national squad throughout the early 1960s, with the team taking part in the triangular tournaments that existed in the region. Her goalscoring prowess meant that the opposition often sought to mark her out of the game, with little success. On one occasion she put two goals past Guyana at Sabina Park in quick time: the 12th and 25th minutes.

In 1963, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica were the two representatives from the Caribbean to attend the 8th International Federation of Women's Hockey Associations Conference (IFWHA) in Baltimore, the forerunner to the Hockey World Cup. With Trinidad and Tobago choosing to play the 'W' formation, they required a strong player with the necessary distribution skills for the center-half position. They found her, in Anette Hart.

Throughout the competition she rose to the occasion, as the team gave a good account of Trinidad and Tobago hockey by defeating France and Switzerland, drawing with Argentina but suffering losses to England, Wales and a multi-national team.

Hart continued to play for Trinidad and Tobago until 1966, by which time she was appointed national vice-captain. However, in 1967, she migrated

to Canada where she joined the Toronto Beavers Hockey Club. By 1969 she was selected for the Ontario provincial team, followed by selection for the Canadian national team one year later. She would go on to play for Canada in the 10th IFWHA conference held in Auckland in 1971, displaying the same skill that made her a standout for Trinidad and Tobago.

In the year 2000, Anette Hart was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame.