First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Lance Murray

C.M.T

Administrator

Inducted in 1995

He has been described as one of the greatest contributors to sport – both local and regional – for over a 70-year period. Lance Murray is most remembered for the administrative roles in which he excelled, but he was also an articulate commentator, expert coach, formidable footballer, and talented cricketer.

Murray grew up in Tacarigua, with a natural love for ball sports, playing football and cricket in the Orange Grove Savannah (now Trincity). He played in the centre-half position for Shamrock (also called the 'Café Boys' due to their clubhouse's proximity to a café in Belmont) in the 1940s, in the Port of Spain League. His game was based on short passing to get behind defences and, though he retired from the game in the early 1950s, Shamrock convinced him to make a comeback in 1955, with immediate effect including a 4-1 over Queens Royal College (QRC) for which Murray was the main contributor.

He played as a leg spinner for the Queen's Park Cricket Club (QPCC), which earned him a place on the Trinidad and Tobago team for three first-class matches between 1956-1960. He made a high score of 47 not out, and achieved best bowling figures of 4 for 70.

During his latter playing career Murray also coached football at Fatima College, mentoring players such as Joey Carew and Alvin Corneal. With an interest in public service that was maintained throughout his lifetime, Murray became heavily involved with the Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board (TTCB), serving as an administrator. During his early tenure, the TTCB focused on growing the sport through youth cricket competition and formalized many rules and regulations within the governance of the sport. He was later part of a two-and-a-half-year government commission of enquiry into the game of cricket, set up to make recommendations for constitutional amendments.

Murray rose to become involved with the West Indies Cricket Board (now Cricket West Indies), becoming a long serving Director, as the men's team was building towards its global dominance of the 1970s onwards. He was the regular West Indian representative at International Cricket Council conferences, contributing to the game's global growth, the expansion of member nations, and format changes. He served on numerous sporting committees nationally and for his club, QPCC. He also became a radio commentator, specifically for cricket and football, where he taught many aspiring analysts the ins and outs of radio broadcasting and delivery.

For his tireless work, Lance Murray was awarded the Public Service Medal of Merit Gold in 1981. In 1992 he was awarded the Chaconia Gold Medal for services to sport administration, and in 1995 he was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame.