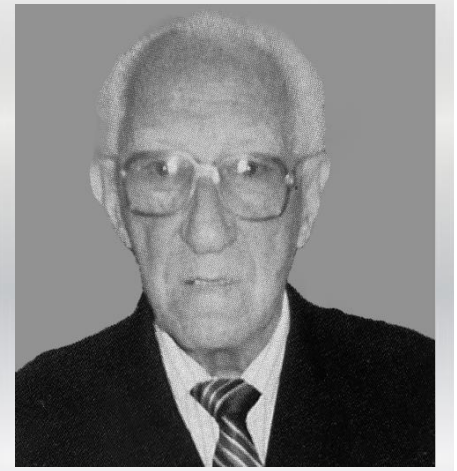
First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Lionel St Aubyn

Administrator

Inducted in 1995

An outstanding pioneer for the game of lawn tennis, and one who possessed a wide vision for the sport to cross boundaries and challenge its traditions, Lionel St. Aubyn was instrumental in growing its popularity.

Born in British Guiana, St. Aubyn came to Trinidad at a young age having already developed a love for tennis but equally aware that it was a game played by the privileged sector of society. St. Aubyn's view was that the enjoyment that he received from tennis should be enjoyed by everyone in society. Entering the administrative side of the sport through the Northern Lawn Tennis Association, from the 1940s onwards he sought to increase tennis' popularity by holding more competitions across public courts and making them open to everyone, not just the tennis clubs.

His mission was aided by the proliferation of local tennis stars that attracted new fans to the sport – the likes of Cuthbert Thavenot, Harold Nothnagel, Alice Cambridge and Jin Hean Ho.

Tennis became a vibrant sport and one that spread its appeal across Trinidad and also in Tobago. During local tournaments the sport was headline news. By 1950 Trinidad and Tobago was taking part in the regionally based Brandon Trophy, and by 1954 the Davis Cup. This progress was made possible by the sheer hard work and enthusiasm of officials such as St. Aubyn, who did so through volunteerism and love for the game. St. Aubyn also became an accomplished match referee.

By 1962 he was elected Vice President of the Lawn Tennis Association, a post that he would hold for 25 years. In 1987 he would ascend to the position of President, a role that he kept for four years. He carried out his work regionally as well as locally, emphasized by his position as Secretary of the Commonwealth Caribbean Lawn Tennis Association for 11 years, which was recognized when he was honoured by being elected Life Vice-President in 1989.

St. Aubyn's sterling work for tennis was so resounding that the awards kept being bestowed upon him. In 1985 the International Tennis Federation presented him with an award for services to the game. Also, in 1989, the Port of Spain City Council honoured him for his contribution to sport during their 75th Anniversary celebrations. National awards came his way as well. In 1974 he was awarded the Hummingbird Gold Medal for services to sport, and in 1990 he was awarded the Chaconia Medal (Silver), for services to literature. In both instances, the awards recognized his promotion in each field.

For sports to grow, especially in the early to mid-20th century, they required the selfless efforts of individuals who also possess the necessary nous to execute their vision. Lionel St. Aubyn was one such individual,

and in 1995 he was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame.