

PEI SOCCER - AWARD WINNERS 2021

'Alan Godfrey' Volunteer of the Year



DJ Welton

Club: Kensington &
Area SC



Presented by: Kirk
McAleer(L) – PEI Soccer

DJ Welton has been a driving force at the Club for many years but particularly the last eight - two as vice-president and the last six as president. He was even doing double duty on occasion as club youth director and has also patrolled the sidelines as a coach.

An outstanding volunteer, DJ has guided the club executive in the right direction over the last number of years and in particular, like all member club presidents, through a couple of tough years while dealing with covid. But, covid did not deter the club as they forged ahead with their plans for a new club house. After a lot of hard work over the last number of years and some painting and clean-up, the club house was completed at the end of the season in 2021.

Thanks to DJ leadership, there is a lot to look forward to for all members of the Kensington & Area soccer club and the 2022 season will kick-off with a grand opening of their new club house.

Coach of the Year



Greg Furlong

**Club: Sherwood-Parkdale
Rangers SC**



Presented by: Lori Lund(L) – PEI Soccer
Vice-President

During the summer, Greg Furlong led the Sherwood-Parkdale Rangers to the regular season title in the very competitive Under 18 Boys Premier Division with an 8 – 3 and 3 record.

The tactics to play with possession and keeping the ball provided for a great soccer match to any spectator. Coaching at this age group always presents it challenges but it was easy to see that the philosophy of respect was instilled first and foremost not only with opponents but among each other.

With a whole summer to develop his players and system, the coach guided the team to the Provincial Cup Championship with a 2 – 0 victory in the final.

After the summer he continued to coach alongside head coach Jonathan Vos as an assistant coach with the Holland College Hurricane Men’s Team. The Canes finished second in the conference and lost on penalty kicks in the final to miss out on the opportunity to attend the nationals.

Greg also assists with the Canada Games Training Team and is a Canada Soccer C-License certified coach.

Junior Female Player of the Year



Ria Johnston

**Club: Winsloe-Charlottetown
Royals FC**



Presented by: Lori Lund(L) – PEI Soccer Vice-President

Winsloe-Charlottetown Royals' Ria Johnston is the winner of the Junior Player of the Year for a second straight year. Preparation was well underway in 2021 for an appearance at the Canada Games and that preparation continues today as the Games were postponed until August 2022. The goal for 2022 remains the same and that is to be a key leader on the pitch for the Island Team. Her strength, endurance and athleticism coupled with her understanding of the game allows the coach the flexibility to play her in different positions on the field.

Those qualities have proven very beneficial and have only enhanced in the last two years by playing in the senior women's premier division.

Incredibly talented with a great soccer I.Q., Ria has a very bright soccer career ahead of her and we look forward to following her and her teammates at the Canada Games.

Junior Male Player of the Year



Riad Jaha

**Club: Sherwood-Parkdale
Rangers SC**



Riad is a third time winner of this award following another year of growth in his development. In 2018, he was selected to the Whitecaps Youth team to play in a tournament in Madrid, Spain.

In 2019 he was invited permanently to join the Whitecaps Academy squad in Vancouver.

And in 2021 he was the winner of the Under 18 Premier Youth League and Playoff Championships with the Rangers Under 18 Boys Premier Team. In the Fall, Riad made the UPEI Panthers soccer team and excelled in his defensive role in his rookie season.

A good varsity season earned him an invitation to the Halifax Wanderers Showcase event as one of the future prospects in the region.

Player of the Year – Female Division



Lauren Clark

Club: Stratford SC



Presented by: Lori Lund(L) – PEI Soccer Vice-President

Lauren has been a top player at every level and in 2021 she was rewarded for the hard work with an AUS second team all-star. She scored 3 goals during the season and wore the armband as captain of the UPEI Panthers in her fourth year. One of those goals, a TSN Highlight of the Night worthy free kick from over 25 yards out. She can be relied on to score a few goals, called on to take the corner kicks and set pieces but is also tasked with shutting down the most dangerous midfield playmakers in the league.

During the summer league she was part of the Stratford Varsity squad that claimed the regular season title and playoff championship in the Womens Premier Division.

Lauren was also a former Canada Games player in 2017 and she is now giving back and is an apprentice coach with the Canada Games Girls Team.

Player of the Year – Male Division



Ibrahima Sanoh

Club: Winsloe-Charlottetown
Royals FC



The winner puts his name on this award for the fourth time.

Ibrahima Sanoh has been a dominant player at the senior level for a number of years which included a season with the Halifax Wanderers of the Canadian Premier League. In 2021 he led his TSI FC Team to a cup double scoring 12 goals during the regular season and scoring a brace in the final of the playoffs to lead his team to the cup win.

In the Fall Indoor League, he led the league with 24 goals. The second cup in 2021 for the TSI FC team did not look good when the team went down early in the final but Ibra, as he known on the pitch, changed the momentum of the game with a couple of key goals to keep his team in the game. When the game was over, he had scored 6 goals to lead his team to an 8-5 victory.

With a passion for the game, Ibra continues to train hard to stay at the top of his game and is a player that is very hard to stop from scoring goals.

Team of the Year



This team had an outstanding season winning two trophies.

They dominated the regular season with eleven wins, one tie and only one loss. The dominating play continued into the playoffs where the team only conceded one goal in the three games.

They won the cup with a 2-0 victory after securing a quarterfinal win 4 - 0 and a semi-final win 6 - 1.

The team also entered the Eastern Eagles Soccer Club tournament and went undefeated in round robin play.

In the final they defeated the Fredericton District Soccer Club from New Brunswick by a score of 2-1.

The team is well balanced from the defence to the strikers and play at a fast pace which results have shown, produce lots of goals while still taking care of the defensive aspects.

The team is coached by Connor Crozier, managed by Kim Munro.



Referee of the Year – co-winner



Gray Zurheide

Presented by Jim Chandler(L) – PEI Soccer Board

Certification level: District

If you've been at a soccer field this past season there is a good chance you've seen Gray Zurheide in the middle of the pitch. Gray has quickly become one of the most active officials on PEI and is developing into one of our most experienced referees. Gray regularly manages the most challenging levels of soccer in the province which is a testament to his fair and consistent officiating.

This past fall, Gray's performances earned him the privilege of officiating in Holland College and UPEI games as both a referee and assistant referee. Both provide challenging environments which Gray handled with professionalism and competence.

Referee of the Year – co-winner



Hailey Terstege

Presented by Jim Chandler(L) – PEI Soccer Board

Certification level: District

Hailey has been officiating soccer on PEI for years. Beginning as a youth referee, Hailey continues to build a strong foundation in refereeing and is developing into a dependable, competent senior official. A consistent figure, Hailey will be found most nights of the week in the middle or on the line, working at any level of soccer. Through commitment and participation in all activities, Hailey continues to improve in skill and confidence. Her involvement in the sport provides the assignor with someone they can depend on at all times. Hailey has had the opportunity to participate in University and College soccer and with continued growth it is the expectation that this will continue long into the future.

Junior Referee of the Year



Liam Boswall

Club: Eliot River Ramblers SC



Certification level: District

In 2021, Liam Boswall demonstrated confidence and ability beyond what might be expected of a young referee. He is quickly adapting to the role of official and also steps into many games as an assistant referee at all levels.

Willing to learn, Liam took great strides throughout the season to become a consistent, dependable Assistant Referee who was called on to participate in many matches. His progression earned him a number of assignments to key playoff matches at the Under 15 Premier level. Many of our senior officials who had the opportunity to work a game with Liam this season had great positive feedback on the young official's performance, confidence and dedication.

We are looking forward to seeing what the future brings for this year's Junior Referee of the Year, Liam Boswall.

NEW - Referee of the Year



Aidin
Mousavian

Presented by:
Jim Chandler(L)
PEI Soccer Board
Member

“In recognition of dedication and exemplary performance as a first year referee”

In soccer officiating the Spirit of the Game is often a key phrase used when discussing how or why referees do what they do. This year’s recipient of New Referee of the Year, Aidin Mousavian, demonstrates what it means to act out of respect for the game of soccer and the people involved. Eager to learn, Aidin spent the summer absorbing information to improve and took every opportunity to develop into a stronger, more competent official. In one particular game while challenged with abuse, Aidin maintained a composed, confident persona, speaking out against those who chose to act out of malice and anger. Why - To protect the integrity of the game and the young players involved. A new official who showed well beyond their years in what it means to be sporting.

More than the strength described above, Aidin worked in each match to improve. Having been mentored by senior officials throughout the year, Aidin demonstrated consistent growth in line with what would be expected of a new referee.

Lowell Stewart Memorial Award



The award recognizes soccer skill development, dedication to soccer, sportsmanship and support within a club and community.

Kaitlyn Smith

Club: Summerside United SC



Kaitlyn is a member of the Summerside United soccer club and plays on the Under 18 premier team. She has also been a member of provincial soccer teams over the past years and continues to develop her skills and on the field is known as a very hard worker and loves the game of soccer. During the Fall she plays on the Three Oaks High School soccer team that has won the school title in the last two years and also plays for the school softball team.

But, this award is about more than on-field accomplishments and Kaitlyn excels off the field as much as she does on the field.

Kaitlyn volunteers with soccer registration, the club's soccer tournaments, at games and participates in club fundraisers.

She also took the referee course last year and referees a U9 game every week and also does youth games.

Kaitlyn also gives back to the club by coaching in the mini soccer programs to help develop the next generations of players. And to make sure she makes the program fun and safe for all players, she completed the VIP coach training through Sport PEI which focuses on providing a SAFE SPORT environment.

Away from the field and club she still finds time to also give back to her community. She is a member of the Youth Who Care Board at the Prince County hospital foundation. She is a member of the Summerside and Kensington skating clubs and is a NCCP trained regional skating coach and has volunteered at various skating competitions in many roles. She is a member of the school Leadership Program and has helped organize the Relay for Life.

Kaitlyn is a true example of what the Lowell Stewart award stands for and is a very worthy winner of the award for 2021.