



DAVID BROWN

David has been involved in Gymnastics in Nova Scotia since the late 1970's. First as an athlete, then as a coach, club owner, NCCP Master Learning Facilitator, GNS Technical Director and currently as our GNS Coach Development Director. David's coaching career has spanned four decades and has involved athletes from the recreational level all the way up to the World Championships.

As an athlete, David was a member of the Truro Flyers Club before heading off to UNB in Fredericton where he competed in the AUAA in 1982/83. He was the head coach of the Fredericton Eagles from 1983-86 then a coach for the Fredericton Gymnastics Club MAG and T&T. He went on to coach the 1987 New Brunswick Canada Games team while living in Fredericton. Upon returning to Nova Scotia, he was hired by the Colchester YMCA to do the gymnastics programming as well as run their fitness centre and do summer programming. He was head coach at the YMCA from 1989 until 1996.

David coached Martha Purdy at many National Championships, and she was the Senior DMT Champion twice during this time. On the international side, David attended the 1994 T&T World Age Group and World Championships in Portugal where Martha Purdy won a silver medal on DMT. He was also the DMT coach for the Vancouver World T&T Championships in 1996.

After coaching for several years, David decided to take gymnastics to communities that didn't have access to gymnastics programming. He purchased a retired school bus, removed all the seats and refitted with custom made gymnastics equip-

ment to become a "gym in a bus." He took "Tumble Bus" around to Childcare centres and communities in the Halifax, Valley and Fundy areas. He always promoted the Fundamental Movement Skills that gymnastics teaches so well. David coached at the East Hants Gymnastics Club until 2007 when he took the trampoline program separate from the gymnastics program. He opened his own not-for-profit club called "Jump 2 It Trampoline Club" in East Hants in 2007. He operated this small club as a volunteer coach for 15 years where they provided gymnastics T&T and movement education to the community at an affordable cost and gave many young people an opportunity to learn coaching and responsibility. Eventually a new Gymnastics venture was formed that has recently become the East Hants Gymnastics Club. David still volunteer coaches at East Hants Club and sits on their Board of Directors. Many children from the East Hants area continue to benefit from David's knowledge and love of the sport.

David was an instrumental member of the organizing committee for the 1990 Canadian Gymnastics Championships hosted in Halifax and the more recently the Elite Canada Competition that took place in Halifax in 2016 and 2017. He was also a member of Gymnastics Canada's Mission Staff at the 2019 World Gymnaestrada in Austria.

David is a true champion of coach education and Gymnastics for All within our province and as a Master Learning Facilitator in gymnastics and Trampoline, he teaches coaches how to be enthusiastic and caring while imparting the technical knowledge that they all require.

He has been on various Gymnastics Canada committees in the past including the Trampoline Program Committee as chair and the Gym For All Council and he currently sits on Gymnastics Canada's Coach Education Council. David was on GNS Board of Directors for 2 years as the TPC Chair and he worked as GNS's Technical Director from 2016-2021. After retiring for 2 years, we are truly fortunate to have David back at GNS as our part time Coach Development Director.

David has been a presenter at many GNS Symposiums and clinics and is well respected by his peers in the gymnastics and sport community at all levels in Nova Scotia and across the country. He makes everyone who collaborates with him feel valued and he finds the best in everyone. He has worked tirelessly on coach education and club initiation and is a true GNS superhero! Gymnastics Nova Scotia is extremely fortunate and grateful to have David's continuous involvement in our sport!