



SUSAN AUCH

olympic medalist

It was December 1975 when a young Susan Auch first raced around Winnipeg's Sargent Park Speed Skating Oval, now re-named the Susan Auch Speed Skating Oval.

Dividing her time between short track and long track speed skating, Susan qualified for the National Short Track team in 1985. After three World Championships, she qualified for the 1988 Olympic team where she won a bronze medal with the 3000m relay team.

In September 1988 Susan hung up her short track blades and joined the National Long Track team at the Calgary Olympic Oval where she went on to win over 30 international medals at World Championships and World Cup Events.

In 1994 Susan fulfilled a dream by winning a silver medal at the Lillehammer Winter Olympics in the women's 500m long track event and was recognized as Canada Female Athlete of the year for 1995. In 1998, after recovering from major knee surgery, Susan made Canadian history by winning her second consecutive Olympic silver medal in women's speed skating. After a brief retirement, Susan returned to competitive speed skating and raced her fifth and final Olympic races in Salt Lake.

Susan originally got involved in sports to help combat the effects of severe asthma. She has endorsed this by being a spokesperson for the Asthma Society of Canada and for the Flight for Life program for the Canadian Lung Association.

Susan is committed not only to her sport but also to the value of amateur sport for young Canadians. While a member of the founding Board for Athlete's Can, Susan became involved with youth programs such as the Olympic Youth Academy, the Spirit of Sport Wall Tour, the YMCA Partners with Youth Program and the YMWCA in the United States and is an Athlete Ambassador for Right to Play.

After receiving the prestigious Bruce Kidd award for Athlete Leadership in 1999, Susan joined the Canada Games Sport Council Sport Committee, the Board of the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women in Sport and Physical Activity and the Canadian Olympic Association's Team Selection Committee and as a member of the steering committee for the Olympic Excellence Series.

In 2010 Susan was recognized for her accomplishments in sport by being inducted into the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame and in 2015 was inducted to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

Since retiring from skating, Susan has built a successful career as a speaker, as the Broker of Podium Real Estate Services in Manitoba and Alberta and remains involved with sport as a director on the Board of Speed Skating Canada since 2008 and as President since 2016. and as a member of the Education and Outreach Committee with the Canadian Olympic Committee.

Susan is a proud mother of three active girls and in 2011 returned home to Winnipeg to raise her children and open her business in her hometown. She has since become an active member of the Manitoba community most recently joining the Manitoba Children's Museum Honorary Board of Directors and currently sits on its honorary board, and has become involved with 60minutekids.club.com and Winnipeg Harvest.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- 2002 500m, 1000m **Olympic Games** Salt Lake City
- 1998 silver 500m **Olympic Games**, Nagano
Silver 500m World Sprint Championships
Silver 500m World Cup overall
- 1996 Bronze 500m World Sprint Championships
- 1995 Silver 500m World Sprint Championships
Gold 500m World Cup Final
Silver 500m World Cup Overall
- 1994 Silver 500m **Olympic Games**, Lillehammer
Bronze 500m World Cup Overall
- 1993 Bronze 500m World Cup Overall
- 1992 6th 500m **Olympic Games**, Albertville
- 1988 Bronze 3000m relay **Olympic Games**, Calgary-Short
- 2016 Current President and SSC Board Member 2008-2016
- 2010 inducted into the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame
- 2015 inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame
- COC Olympic Excellence Series 2004-2005
- Speed Skating Canada High Performance Committee 2003-2008
- Canada Games Sport Committee member 1998-2001
- COA Team Selection Committee member 1998-2002
- Athlete's Can Board member 1994-1998
- CAAWS Board member 1998-2001
- 1999 Bruce Kidd Award For Athlete Leadership
- 1998 Manitoba Order of the Buffalo Hunt
- 1998 inducted into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame
- 2003 inducted into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame
- 1995 Canadian Press Female Athlete of the Year

