

PRESS RELEASE

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Seven to be Inducted into the Skate Canada Hall of Fame

OTTAWA, ON: Skate Canada announced today that it will welcome seven new honourees to the Skate Canada Hall of Fame.

Sandra Bezic and Dr. Hellmut May will both be inducted in the professional category, Bill Dowding, Wilf Langevin and William Ostapchuk in the builder category, and Wendy Griner and George Meagher in the athlete category.

PROFESSIONAL

Dr. Hellmut May, 89, of Vienna, Austria will be inducted into the Hall of Fame as a professional. May emigrated to Canada in 1954 after a successful skating career in Austria. He won numerous national medals with his home country and represented Austria at the Olympic Winter Games in 1936 and 1948, placing 14th and eighth. May settled in Vancouver, British Columbia and began a coaching career. He coached seven skaters to national titles and had many go on to represent Canada at worlds and Olympics. He was also the first coach of Olympic silver medalist Karen Magnussen. May used his skills as a coach and background as a skater to help develop figure skating in his adopted home. May was also an expert equipment technician and spent many hours fitting skates and adjusting blades for anyone who needed assistance. He embodied his belief in the spirit of sportsmanship and that all skaters must start on an equal playing field.

The exact date and locations of the induction ceremonies will be announced at a later date.