

APPLICATION FORM

To Name Streets, Parks & Civic Properties

Please complete the attached application form for all new name submissions and requests for re-naming a street, park, or other civic properties.

Name: GWEN CHARMAN

Address: BRABANT COURT

City/Town: SASKATOON

Province: SK Postal Code: S7J

Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

New Name Submission

Re-naming Request

Requested Name(s) (please print)

KELLY BOWERS

Requested Use of Name

Street

Park

Municipal Facility

Neighbourhood

Other

Any of the Above

Suburban Development Areas

If this is a request for re-naming an existing location, please indicate the current name:

PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS PART OF YOUR APPLICATION

(Indicate which items are attached to the application form)

1. **Background Information** (Reason for request)
2. **Short Biography** (Given name, date of birth/death, place of birth, contributions, awards, achievements, or other relevant information)

Do you wish to speak to the Naming Advisory Committee? YES NO

Please send the completed application form to:

City of Saskatoon Naming Advisory Committee
Community Services Department, Planning & Development Branch
222-3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK
S7K 0J5

APPLICATION TO NAME STREETS, PARKS, & CIVIC PROPERTIES, CITY OF SASKATOON
NOMINEE: KELLY BOWERS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The reason for the request to add "Kelly Bowers" to the Names Master List is in recognition of his long and outstanding contribution to the City of Saskatoon through leadership in sports organizations. Over 50 years, Kelly recruited thousands of people - **at every age** - to participate or volunteer in community sporting organizations - **at every level of ability** - and managed or coached their successful participation. His energy and enthusiasm were contagious.

BIOGRAPHY - KELLY BOWERS

Bowers was born in Lethbridge, Alberta on March 27, 1949 and passed away September 17, 2019. Bowers and his family moved to Saskatoon soon after his birth and he lived his life in Saskatoon. As a youngster, Kelly developed a love of sports that would endure and flourish through his life, and impact so many others.

He graduated from the University of Saskatchewan and started his teaching career at Bedford Road Collegiate. He also taught at Mount Royal Collegiate, and was the Athletic Director for the Saskatoon Public School Division. He did his Master's Degree in San Diego in 1985.

It's nearly impossible to capture all of Bowers' volunteer leadership roles in Saskatoon sports, but the highlights include Saskatoon Minor Football, the Riverside Tennis Club, the Huskies, the Hilltops, and commissioner of the Kinsmen Junior Football League.

"The former high school teacher was a referee and a coach for any sport that needed him. He also fell in love with the Bedford Road Invitational Tournament — BRIT— when it first tipped off in 1968. He officiated games at that initial BRIT, and watched it grow into one of Western Canada's best basketball tourneys. He volunteered at every BRIT, right from No. 1, and refereed in the 50th annual — making a nice little circle." (Saskatoon Star Phoenix)

At various times in his life he coached swimming, diving, water polo, tennis, lifeguard, baseball and slo-pitch. His life-long focus was on coaching football, basketball and wrestling.

- Bowers worked 33 city high school track meets.
- He was an accomplished basketball referee for high school and recreational leagues.
- He did stadium announcing for Hilltops, U of S Huskies football, Valkyries Women's football, and high school football games.
- Bowers served as colour commentator for the radio broadcasts of the U of S Huskies football for many years.
- As offensive coordinator for the Saskatoon Hilltops (Canadian Junior Football League) for 12 years, Bowers was part of national championships teams in 1991 and 1996.

Bowers was still volunteer Commissioner of the Kinsmen Junior Football League (players under 14 years and under 12 years) for the most recent 12 years of his life. The League serves Saskatoon and surrounding area. He was most concerned with player safety and removing barriers to participation.

Awards:

- Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame, as Builder who spent 50 years coaching, officiating and volunteering at all levels (2011)
- Kinsmen Sportsman of the Year (2001)
- Saskatchewan High School Athletic Association Award of merit (2007) upon his retirement as an educator
- Investors Group Volunteer Award (2008) from Football Saskatchewan for his long service to football in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan
- Saskatoon Championship High School Football Trophy named Kelly Bowers Cup (2019)

From the Saskatoon Star Phoenix:

Brian Towriss, the legendary former U of S football coach, said Bowers will be missed.

“Kelly’s infectious enthusiasm, work ethic and endless energy left a huge positive impact on the football community and the lives of so many young men and women in Saskatoon,” Towriss wrote. “May his voice and memory echo at (Gordie Howe) Bowl for all time.”

In a post to BRIT’s official Facebook page, Bowers was remembered as someone who “touched the lives of many young people with his passion and dedication to sport and encouraging students to get involved.

“We mourn the loss of a great man. His endless energy and positive attitude will be missed. There’s a massive hole that no one else can fill, and the hallways of Bedford Road will be a little bit quieter.”

Kelly Bowers was a significant contributor to the Saskatoon community, along with his wife Sandy and their family.