

# **Jim Barclay to be inducted into St. George's Golf and Country Club Hall of Fame**

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TORONTO – St. George's Golf and Country Club is pleased to announce the induction of Jim Barclay into the St. George's Golf and Country Club Hall of Fame earlier this month.

Mr. Barclay, who joined St. George's G&CC in 1980, the same year he moved to Toronto from Montreal, is being inducted in the Builder category for his contributions to the game of golf in Canada.

"Jim's passion for the game rubs off on all who meet him," says Don Hunter, Chairman of St. George's G&CC. "Through his dedication to the game he has strengthened our Club and golf across this country. We are honoured that Jim has called St. George's home for more than 30 years."

As the country's pre-eminent golf historian, Jim spent three decades researching and chronicling the history of golf in Canada and around the world for numerous magazines, as well as authoring four must-have books when it comes to golf in Canada.

Mr. Barclay's 626-page book *Golf in Canada: A History*, which he dedicated to his wife Helen and their favourite threesome in 1992, is considered his crowning achievement in Canadian golf. He started work on the book in 1986 and 5,000 copies were published in 1992 with an introduction from Marlene Stewart Streit.

"Jim Barclay's *Golf in Canada* is the must read resource for anybody interested in Canadian golf history. It's been my primary go-to resource for information on the game in Canada for years. It's also well-written. Mr. Barclay knows how to tell a story, and he's told a deeply-researched one in his seminal work," says author and Canadian Golf Hall of Fame member Lorne Rubenstein.

Jim's desire has always been to set the record straight. His other notable works include; *Canadian Professional Golfers "The Scottish Invasion of 1881-1933; The Toronto Terror "The Life and Works of Stanley Thompson Golf Course Architect and St. George's Golf and Country Club – Celebrating 75 Years*, published in 2004.

Mr. Barclay served as volunteer curator of the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame and Museum for several years and was responsible for the Canadian Golf Foundation from 1983-86. He was

inducted into the Ontario Golf Hall of Fame in 2006 and the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame in 2008. He also received The Dick Grimm Award from the Golf Journalists Association of Canada in 2010. The award is given from time to time as warranted to an individual who has made a significant lifetime contribution to Canadian golf.

His indices (index) to the Canadian Golfer, Canadian Sport Monthly, among other publications have made it possible to successfully reference the history of clubs and tournaments throughout Canada, specifically during the years between the wars.

At the time of his induction into the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame, Marlene Stewart Streit, a World Golf Hall of Fame member said, that Jim's accomplishment, in crafting Golf in Canada, rivaled the accomplishments of any professional golfer in the country's history. He may not have won the Masters, as Mike Weir did in 2003, or taken the Canadian Open, as Pat Fletcher did in 1954. However, by writing the definitive history of the game in this country, his accomplishment is, in many ways, very comparable, she said.

Mr. Barclay was born on October 29, 1923, in Glasgow Scotland. The son of George and Elsie, he became an engineer, eventually commencing work with the British Petroleum Company in 1946. That job allowed him to see the world, leading to his arrival in Canada in 1965 and his eventual retirement in 1983.

His club affiliations over the years are quite remarkable: Abadan Golf Club, Iran (1947-1951); Clondeboyne, Northern Ireland (1949-1968); Little Aden, Yemen (1954-1964); Kanawaki Golf Club, Quebec (1968-1980) and finally St. Georges G&CC from 1980 to present.

Jim, who lives not four minutes from the Club, served on St. George's Board of Directors from 2002 to 2005, and was unanimously approved by the Board as a Life Member in 2005.

Other members of the St. George's Golf and Country Club Hall of Fame include: Robert Home Smith, Aileen & Jack Salter, Ernie Macnaughton, Grace Sears Currer, Fern Irwin, Steve Hayles and Team Middaugh (Wayne Middaugh, Graeme McCarrel, Ian Tetley and Scott Bailey) – all of whom were inducted in 2004; and Mildred Harris, A. G. (Bud) Masterton and Charles S. Watson were inducted in 2006.

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