

MERLE SHORT SERVICE AWARD

NOMINEE: *SANDRA EVANS*

ASSOCIATION: *SUNSHINE*

YEAR AWARDED: 2010



STATEMENT OF ACHIEVEMENTS:



	CLUB – St Albans Youth Club / Avondale Heights / Hiway/ Blue Jays	ASSOCIATION - Sunshine	VICTORIA / AUSTRALIA / OTHER
<u>Player</u>	Juniors through to A Grade, men and women Currently playing in Division 1 in the Brimbank League at SSA	1973 – 1991 and 2000 Various age groups, male and female	1977 Victorian U16 Girls
<u>Team Official</u>	Club scorer Club coach	Ass Coach and Coach 1979 – today From U14's to A men and Women Representative teams Manager	1994 Ass Coach Westars Women's Fastpitch Team 1994 Vic U19W Ass coach 2003 - present Friendship series teams

			2004 U19 Australian team Development coach
			2006 - 2008 Vic U19M Specialist coach
			U19 Aus team (NZ tour) Ass Coach
			2007 Vic U19M Ass Coach
			2008 Aus U19M World Championships
			2009 Vic U19M Ass Coach
			2010 Vic U17 boys Coach

SUPPORTING STATEMENT:

Sunshine has pleasure in submitting Sandra Evans as a nominee for a Merle Short service award. We feel that she is a very deserving recipient who has dedicated the better part of nearly 4 decades to the game of softball.

Her involvement in softball began at an early age and was a family affair. Mum Betty and dad Kerry (McGuire) were very active in the early days of Sunshine Softball Association so it was a given that their children would end up involved in the sport.

It is no wonder that Sandra has achieved what she has in the sport of softball when her family connections include:

- A mother who was an international umpire and secretary of Sunshine for a very long time
- A father who was an Association coach and administrator
- A sister who was a junior Victorian representative
- A brother who was an Association representative
- A husband who is an international umpire and an Association representative,
- A daughter who is a national umpire and an Association representative,
- A son who was a Victorian representative, and
- A son in law who was a Victorian representative

Sandra has the drive and determination to succeed at whatever she does and has applied these traits to both her playing and coaching careers. As a player she represented Victoria in the U16's and was a regular in the Sunshine Open Women's team. As for coaching, she loves the challenge of taking a group of people with raw skills and fine tuning them into exceptional softballers.

Throughout the years her love and passion for the game has seen her:

- be actively involved in all areas of the game as a player, coach, official, team manager, and administrator
- provide all new participants (especially children), with the basic skills to enable them to progress and develop as softballers
- instil passion and enjoyment for the game in the numerous children and adults that she has coached
- make herself available to assist the Association in whatever capacity was needed
- coach junior and senior club teams (male and female)
- coach or manage many Sunshine representative teams throughout the years
- spend many hours helping her son to become one of Victoria's leading male pitchers and assist him in being selected in the Australian U19 Men squad
- take pride in the achievements of all the players that she has coached (both juniors and seniors), especially those who went on to represent:
 - Australia in International tournaments
 - Victoria at the National Championships,

- club teams in National Fastpitch competitions; or
- Sunshine at the Victorian championships
- be granted a Life Membership to the Sunshine Softball Association
- gain accreditation in Coaching including:
 - Level 5 NCAS - softball
 - International Diploma of Coaching
 - SAQ Trainer: Certificate in training Speed, Agility and Quickness
 - Level 2 First aid

For all the success she has experienced as a player and coach, this season has allowed her to rediscover the fun side of softball as she has grasped the opportunity to play alongside her daughter in the local competition. She is once again enjoying playing the game that has been a major part of her life!

