

## **Suzanne Dunn Captains Award**



**Named in honour of Suzanne (Sue) Dunn who was a Player in the WHL from 2004 - 2023. On November 13, 2023, two months before her 70th birthday, Sue passed after a spirited battle with leukemia. Sue was best known for her awesome stories, wonderful singing, especially if there was karaoke, an encyclopedia's worth of knowledge and love of life, people, music, and sports. Her passion, never ending positivity and the example she set of being an empowering captain and teammate will never be forgotten.**

**Nominated by the players and presented to the Captain/s that best displays passion, positivity, leadership, and empowers their players with knowledge and love of the game.**

### **Recipients**

**2026- Danielle Favaro & Mel Leonard**

**2025- Tammy Culina & Kaylee Hunter**

**2024- Barb Bringelson & Daniella Parrotti**

## **Nominations 2026**

### **SUPERIOR VISION CARE:**

Captains Tammy Culina and Kaylee Hunter exemplify everything a Hockey Captain's Award represents. Through their consistent leadership, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to their team, they set the standard both on and off the ice. Tammy and Kaylee lead by example—motivating teammates, fostering respect, and maintaining a positive, inclusive team culture even in high-pressure moments. Their dedication, sportsmanship, and ability to bring out the best in others make them outstanding ambassadors for the game and truly deserving of this recognition.

Sarah R and Kathy

Tammy Culina and Kaylee Hunter - SVC Beer League

These captains are so down to earth and are very welcoming! They are motivating and promote having fun above all. They are overly accommodating working around their teammates other commitments/ unforeseen injuries, and always maintain the most positive attitude! They are both truly beautiful people!

Thanks!

Karli

### **JAYTEQ:**

Our captains for Jayteq, Rachelle and Lindsay, bring passion and spirit and embody the WHL mission to emphasize fun, friendship and respect. They are always super-organized and manage the behind the scenes work very well so all we need to do is show up and have peace of mind knowing everything is taken care of! They go the extra mile to make sure everyone is heard and any needs are addressed. Great captains have made for a great season!

Thanks!

Christine

### **NORTHEN INSURANCE:**

I would like to nominate Barb Bringleston and Daniella Parrotti for the Sue Dunn Captains Award. Although they received this honor in its inaugural year, they are certainly deserving of it again.

These two women consistently bring an incredible positive attitude and boundless energy, both on and off the ice. From their enthusiastic cheers on the bench, to the fun in the dressing room, to our hilarious team chats and polls on Facebook Messenger, it's clear that their focus is always on creating a supportive, inclusive environment for everyone. For them, it has never been about winning. It's about having fun, learning, and playing a game we all love! Thanks, Theresa

### **TAP ROOM:**

-We would like to nominate Melissa Leonard and Danielle Favaro from The Tap Room for the Women's Beer League Captain's Award. They both demonstrate amazing leadership, sportsmanship, and dedication both on and off the ice. But let's be honest, without them our team would still be trying to figure out what time the game "actually starts" and what rink we play at.

Mel does everything: sets lines, wrangles the group chat, reminds us of where we're playing, and somehow still has the energy to skate hard every shift (and for multiple games in a row). She leads by example, whether that means backchecking like a champ or laughing off a missed open net (some of us have been there more than others). She makes sure everyone feels included, supported, and comfortable being themselves—no matter their skill level, position, or ability to remember which way we're going this period. She has mastered the impossible balance of beer league hockey: keeping things competitive while remembering we all have jobs tomorrow.

Danielle, win or lose, brings great vibes, solid sportsmanship, and just the right amount of chirping. She supports her teammates through good shifts and very questionable ones and always keeps the mood positive. She leads by example every single week, whether it's hustling on the ice, laughing off a bad bounce, or reminding us all why we play beer league in the first place—to have fun.

They both keep things competitive without ever losing sight of the fact that this is beer league hockey—mistakes happen, laughs are mandatory, and post-game camaraderie matters just as much as the scoreboard. Our team wouldn't be the same without their dedication!!

Cheers,

Lisa Littleton/Kathy Berdux



-I'd like to submit a heartfelt nomination for the Captain's Award for our Tap Room captains, Mel and Danielle.

Mel and Danielle embody everything this award represents. Their knowledge of hockey is evident in how they guide, support, and uplift our team both on and off the ice. They lead with positivity and encouragement, creating an environment where everyone feels included, valued, and motivated to grow.

What truly sets them apart is the atmosphere they foster — one rooted in community, friendship, and togetherness. Whether we're celebrating a win or facing a tough loss, their message is always the same: we succeed as a team and we learn as a team. There is never blame or negativity when things don't go as expected — only support, perspective, and a focus on moving forward together.

Mel and Danielle make the Tap Room more than just a team; they make it a supportive hockey family. For their leadership, sportsmanship, and unwavering commitment to team spirit, I can't think of more deserving recipients of the Captain's Award.

Thank you for considering this nomination.

Stephanie

-Looking at nominating Danielle Favaro and Mel Leonard for the captain award.

From the first time I played, Danielle and Mel have welcomed me to the Tap Room team and have encouraged me as a player. Mel and Danielle always put having fun above winning but that is what makes playing with them such a privilege and so much fun. They captain their team with confidence, respect, and encouragement for everyone who is there and have a kindness that is evident in how all the players speak of them even if they aren't playing on the Tap Room team. Mel will always go above and beyond even if it means playing 3 games in one day. I believe that they deserve this award because once you have played with them you are part of a family and it is an amazing team to play with.

Thanks

Natalie

-I am writing to nominate Mel Leonard and Daniel Favaro, captains of Tap Room. I have played in the league for a lot of years, with some coming and going for lots of reasons and some injuries. I played in a tournament with them a few years ago and had such a good experience that I was thinking of coming back; and then they reached out and asked me to join the league again. I did, and a few years later I'm still here and have not in any of my years with the WHL had as much fun as I do with Mel and Dani as captains.

They create a family out of a group of women who might only have hockey in common. The focus is entirely on fun and laughter which takes pressure off of everyone and the result is a good time win or lose. And usually, less pressure means playing better. No one is worried they will take a risk and end up making a mistake (myself included when I play the puck—I'm sure everyone holds their breath when I attempt to do that). They support the team on and off the ice, from organizing fundraisers to gifting those in need (for team members and other WHL team members). They have created a family of hockey players who support and care for each other

on and off the ice, when things are great or when tragedy strikes. This is true leadership and I am honoured to be included as one of their team members.

With appreciation,  
Amanda

- Hopefully this is fine, but I would like to nominate the tap room captains Mel and Danielle. This was my first season in beer league and they have made it an unforgettable experience for me! Our team has such a fun atmosphere and it's because of them I look forward to playing hockey every week.

They are very deserving of the award, two amazing gals.

Thanks,  
Kaitlin Denny

### **AES:**

I nominate Robert Ruff, she always demonstrates kindness & compassion when most needed! When I get down on myself for a goal getting scored on me, she skates up to me at her earliest chance and instantly pulls me back onto a better head space! When I have questions, she takes the time to give me her full attention & explain it making sure it makes sense to me! She provided thoughtful team gifts for the Christmas party & then again for Christmas! Her position as a caption comes so naturally, positive vibes & amazing dance moves!

Hailey

-Please see below for my Captains Award nomination for Emily Cormier and Roberta Ruff  
Emily and Roberta have been my captains now for a number of years. I have seen them both grow as captains, hockey players, and as individuals. They show up every game with a smile on their face no matter what is going on in their life. They work tirelessly to make sure every player on the team is heard and feels comfortable. Emily is always asking about favourite movies, songs, and shows. Roberta is always ensuring that everyone knows they are doing a kick ass job every single game, no matter the score. The two of them bring together a team that wants to work hard for them. They show tremendous class when dealing with on and off ice situations and never let drama enter our changeroom. They are two incredibly deserving individuals who have made my life better on and off the ice.

Gab Nicholson

### **MORTGAGE ARCHITECTS:**

- I'd like to nominate Sydney and Pam from Mortgage Architect for Captains award:  
"Syd and Pam have represented get leadership as Captains of the MA Llama's. From the start of the season, they have always lead our team as fun, positive and supportive leaders for all their players. Their confidence of teammates to try new positions has been phenomenal! With many players who have never played forward or defence positions giving it a try! Win or lose, these captains have always made beer league hockey such a fun and safe place to participate in on and off the ice. No drama, just Llama's 🐪"

Jessica Ray

-Hi Heidi! I am pleased to nominate Mortgage Architects co-captains, Sydney Langford and Pam Jaerhling, for the Beer League Sue Dunn Captains Award.

Thanks,  
Sheree

- I would like to nominate Sydney and Pam for the Sue Dunn Captain Award.  
I have had the pleasure of playing alongside Sydney and Pam for the past three years, and they are truly two of the most welcoming individuals. They consistently create an environment where

everyone feels included, valued, and supported. Their positive energy is contagious, and they make it clear that while we are there to compete, we are also there to have fun and enjoy the game we all love.

They lead by example, encouraging others to step outside their comfort zones, try different positions, and continue developing their skills. They are always open to suggestions, flexible in their approach, and supportive of new ideas. Their willingness to share their knowledge and uplift others strengthens both individual players and our team as a whole.

I am incredibly grateful to play with such an amazing group of women, and I cannot think of two better individuals to represent this award!

Jenna Van Hoek

**BELISLE:**

-I nominate Chasity Sinclair for the Captain Award. She hasn't been able to play for the last few months and that hasn't stopped her from showing up, cheering us on, working the doors, finding players to replace missing players and providing our team positive feedback after every win and loss. She is the prime example of what captaincy should be!

Haley Laframboise

**IGNITION:**

-My vote is for Becca and Lexi,  
Two of the BEST that surpass the REST,  
Always smiling and always supporting,  
They give it their all and every game is a win -  
as we have the most fun in the beer league!!!!

Thanks,  
Patti

**PAINT & DÉCOR:**

-I'd like to nominate Amelia and Joyce from Paint and Decor Concepts for the Sue Dunn Captains award. They demonstrate their leadership by always having a positive attitude and are dedicated to bringing out the best in every teammate on the ice. Thank you, Amelia, Joyce and Teri, for a great year and always ensuring we had fun and a full team each game, even with the

challenges of injuries, illness and the lives of WHL players   
A.J.

**SPARK REHAB:**

-I would like to nominate Dom and Anna. Despite busy family and work schedules, and being down 3 players for half the season, they always made sure we had the proper pickups and knew our line assignments. They fostered a positive and fun atmosphere all season and Dom's graphics and awards made everyone feel special and included.

"Spark it up!"



