



Hall of Fame

Gary Moe

Inducted: October 18, 2015

Growing up on a farm some 20 miles south of Eau Claire, WI, Gary Moe would work with his father on building small jumps in and around the farmland. Moe began his ski jumping ventures at the early age of four years old.

Though his father was never a ski jumper, he was an enthusiastic fan of the sport. He would often venture to be a spectator at the annual tournaments held by the Eau Claire Ski Club at the former Hendrickson Hill.

Dad told Gary and his siblings, "If any of you kids want to learn to ski jump, I will give you the chance."

At the age of 13 years, an already proficient ski jumper, Moe joined the Eau Claire Flying Eagles Ski Club. The first tournament in which Moe competed was a tournament at Mount Washington. He finished as the number one top skier in Junior Class "C" and gained Most Graceful honors.

Moe became immediately "hooked" on the ski jumping sport. He continued to be an active junior competitor through 1967. Through the influence of the legendary Ed Brisson, Moe was one of 10 junior jumpers in the Central Division selected to jump in a "Special Boys Class" to compete in tournaments on larger ski jumping hills.

During those early years, Moe remembers skiing on 70 and 90 meter hills. He jumped over 200 feet at Duluth's Fon du Lac and on the following week soaring to 276 feet at Westby.

While a student at the University at River Falls in 1967, Gary joined the Eau Claire senior club. In 1969, on the brand new Silver Mine jump in Eau Claire — in a tournament won by Olympian Bill Bakke of Madison in a record setting 251 feet — Moe won the Eau Claire Ski Club's longest jumper award with a leap of 231 feet. The same year he competed at Iron Mountain and jumped to distances of 247 and 255 feet.

After winning a "B" Class title in a tournament at Ishpeming in 1971, Moe was elevated to Class "A" competitions. In the 1971 season Moe won the Eau Claire Ski Club's coveted title of "Skier of the Year."

A severe back injury at the age of 20 caused Moe to miss competitions in the 1970 ski jumping season. He returned to the competitions and had some enviable tournaments, but it came to an end when his back injuries elevated and forced an early retirement and an end to competitions in 1973.

His employment brought him — in the year 1976 — to Chisago, MN. Shortly after, he continued his ski jumping endeavors with the St. Paul Ski Club.

His son Jarrett and daughters Tracy and Kari were soon competing in the St. Paul Ski Club's junior programs. In approximately 1993 Moe was the club's Junior Director, a position in which he remained for 10 years.

To this day Moe covets a plaque presented to him for his dedication to nurturing and support of the ski jumping sport during his years of service as Junior director.

In 1987 he was elected into a position of director with the St. Paul Educational Foundation. He continues to be an active and vital participant with the Foundation. He takes pride in the fact that he continues to participate in the ski jumping community.

He also is proud that his son Jarrett is an active contributor to the sport. Currently, Jarrett is a U. S. Ski Jumping judge and Technical Adviser. He is hopeful that his efforts and early years in the sport will culminate with his being named a FIS official judge.

Gary's distinguished and successful career as a competitor, and his dedicated efforts to "give back" to the sport more than qualify Moe to be an inductee into the St. Paul Ski Club's Hall of Fame.