



Alberta Golf Hall of Fame – Distinguished Service (Media)

Ernie Afaganis

Inducted: 2026

Club Affiliation: The Glendale G&CC

Ernie Afaganis became one of Canada's most respected and recognizable sports broadcasters through a devoted career in promoting both amateur and professional sports across the country and on the international stage.

Ernie himself was an accomplished golfer playing at Eastern Washington University while earning a Bachelor of Arts, which would lead to a broadcasting career starting in private radio in 1953. He joined CBC in 1961 and this was the beginning of his association with Canada's national broadcasting corporation.

Ernie was always a committed advocate for amateur sports promotion, regularly speaking at high school engagements and volunteering with amateur sports and charitable banquets. For many in Alberta, if you followed golf during his tenure from 1960-1990 you likely not only knew Ernie but may have played golf with him.

He covered the Canadian Open from 1961-1986, the NHL playoffs, the Winter Olympics from 1968 to 1996. His name might be most synonymous with golf and the Canadian Football League, in which he covered the CFL from 1955 to 1980 and served as the president of the Football Reporters of Canada.



On the golf side of things, he was an original member at the Glendale Golf & Country Club, while also serving on the club's board of directors for a period. He hosted the Par 27 show for 26 years, which was a popular Alberta-based television show featuring golf themes and contests with notable players. He also had a a instruction Tee to Green broadcast show, in which he helped golfers with parts of their game with the help of local professionals like Henry Martell. This only further cemented his name as a supporter of golf within the province, helping promote the game to new audiences.

His list of accolades includes his 1977 induction into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame, Canadian Football League Hall of Fame in 1988, Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame in 1991, Sports Media Canada Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001, and the CBC Sports Hall of Fame in 2007.

The Alberta Golf Hall of Fame is excited to include Ernie Afaganis, along with John Down, as the first media personalities of the Alberta Golf Hall of Fame.