

Deborah Martin - CT Lacrosse Hall of Fame - Class of 2014

Debbie Martin is a pioneer of women's lacrosse at both a local and a national level. She has been an umpire for high school and collegiate play since 1974 and received her National Rating in 2000. She has officiated at all levels of the game from NCAA Championships, through Connecticut state high school finals, to youth games. She has been a board member of the Connecticut Women's Lacrosse Officials Association for over twenty years and served on the board of the US Women's Lacrosse Association and its National Umpire Committee before and during the merger of organizations that culminated in US Lacrosse in 1998. With the US Lacrosse Women's Division, she was the first Super Region Chair. Since 1995, Martin has been a Women's Collegiate Assignor for the NCAA, providing officials for nearly a thousand games annually. She is known for her work on developing and establishing the standardized fees and travel expenses to which officials are accustomed today. She has been instrumental in developing the curriculum to train new officials, especially youth officials, and has traveled widely to help train officials across the country ... as far afield as St. Louis and Santa Barbara. Working initially in conjunction with Connecticut Lacrosse Hall of Fame honoree the late Maureen O'Shea's Connecticut Futures Program, Martin designed and organized clinics for junior officials. Her training guidelines are still in place here in Connecticut and are now used by US Lacrosse for the entire country. In 2013 Martin received the Distinguished National Service Award from US Lacrosse. Outside of lacrosse, she has received the Outstanding Official of the Year Award from the Connecticut Field Hockey Association Officials Board and the Chickie Poisson Award for distinguished service from the Connecticut Field Hockey Coaches Association. In 2009 she was inducted into the Connecticut Field Hockey Hall of Fame. Now Deborah Martin is being inducted into the Connecticut Lacrosse Hall of Fame as a truly great official and contributor to the game.