

## Mount Pearl Sports Hall of Fame Inductee Jonothan Kelly Athlete 2019



Jon Kelly began playing soccer in Mount Pearl at six years of age. Over the next 24 years he would play on eight minor teams representing Newfoundland & Labrador, 11 Challenge Cup teams, and five Memorial University Seahawks teams. During that time Jon also coached for six years with Mount Pearl Minor All-Star teams and two years with Provincial All-Stars. To say Jon was committed to the sport is somewhat of an understatement.

Jon's record of awards also paints a picture of a great soccer player and a great sportsman. Team MVP; Provincial Tournament MVP; AUAA All-Star (once as second team; twice as first team); Seahawks Male MVP; NLSA Senior Male Player of the Year; Memorial University Athletic Honour Society; Challenge Cup All-Star (8 years); and Challenge Cup Top Defender.

In describing Jon as a player his coaches use words like physical, intelligent and highly skilled. His powerful approach was respected by teammates and feared by opponents. He instilled confidence in those around him. As one of the younger players on his Challenge Cup team he always came through big, shutting down opposing strikers or chipping in with timely goals. Jon was a fierce competitor yet a gentleman on the field. He was well respected by his coaches, teammates and opposing players.

Although his career was cut somewhat short by injury in 2013, it is quite evident that Jon Kelly had an extremely positive impact on the Mount Pearl Soccer Association for some 24 years as a minor and senior player, and as a minor all-star and provincial coach. He has inspired many others who played with him and followed him. It is in recognition of his athleticism, outstanding play and contribution to the sport of soccer and our sport community that the Sport Alliance is honoured to induct Jonathon Kelly into the Mount Pearl Sports Hall of Fame.