



25th BLG Awards: Laval's Roy-Petitclerc, UNB's Maillet named U SPORTS Athletes of the Year

May 1, 2017

CALGARY (U SPORTS) – **Arielle Roy-Petitclerc**, a soccer player from the Laval Rouge et Or, and **Philippe Maillet**, a hockey player from the UNB Varsity Reds, are the BLG Award winners as U SPORTS Female and Male Athletes of the Year for the 2016-17 season.

Official BLG Awards website: www.blg.com/blgawards

U SPORTS website: http://en.usports.ca/blg_awards/index

Photos: [Dropbox](#)

The recipients of the 25th annual BLG Awards were announced Monday night at the Martha Cohen Theatre in Calgary. The awards show will air nationally May 17 at 7 p.m. ET on Sportsnet 360.

All eight nominees – one female and one male from each of the four U SPORTS conferences – received a commemorative gold ring from Jostens, the official supplier of U SPORTS. Roy-Petitclerc and Maillet were also presented with a trophy and a \$10,000 scholarship to attend a Canadian University graduate school.

The winners were once again selected by the Canadian Athletic Foundation, a not-for-profit Board established for the purpose of administering the BLG Awards and protecting the integrity of the selection process. For the third straight year, the general public was also invited to vote online (votes that didn't count towards the official result) and nearly 23,000 votes were cast over 11 days.

“On behalf of BLG and the Canadian Athletic Foundation trustees, I would like to congratulate Arielle Roy-Petitclerc and Philippe Maillet, the winners of the 25th anniversary of the BLG Awards,” said **Doug Mitchell**, national co-chair of BLG. “The eight student-athletes who were nominated are all outstanding in their sport. I congratulate all the nominees for their great accomplishments.”

“BLG is proud to support U SPORTS’ top athletes and to be the founding sponsor of the annual BLG Awards for the last 25 years,” said **Sean Weir**, BLG’s national managing partner and CEO. “Excelling in sports requires unwavering commitment and a strong team ethic. That’s what sports and business have in common – the kind of leadership where, to succeed, the needs of the team are put ahead of the individual.”





“The BLG Awards represent the highest honour for our student-athletes. This year’s national nominees are not only exceptional athletes, they are also tremendous ambassadors for the entire U SPORTS membership,” said **Graham Brown**, chief executive officer of U SPORTS. “On behalf of U SPORTS, congratulations to **Arielle** and **Philippe** and I wish to extend our sincere appreciation to our long-standing partners at BLG for their ongoing support and belief in university sport in Canada.”

Petitclerc, a native of St. Nicolas, Que., in her fourth year of U SPORTS eligibility, captured the Jim Thompson Trophy, presented annually to the female winner. She becomes just the second BLG Award recipient from Laval, joining volleyball player Marylène Laplante (2006).

Maillet, who finished his fourth year of U SPORTS eligibility, returns home with the Doug Mitchell Trophy. The Terrebonne, Que., native is also only the second BLG Award winner from UNB, following in the footsteps of current Varsity Reds associate coach and former men’s hockey player Rob Hennigar, who earned the program’s inaugural award in 2008.

The other female finalists for this season were StFX X-Women hockey player **Sarah Bujold** of Riverview, N.B., Queen’s Gaels cross country runner **Claire Sumner** of Calgary, and UBC Thunderbirds volleyball player **Danielle Brisebois** of Caledon, Ont.

The other male nominees were Laval Rouge et Or football player **Mathieu Betts** of Montreal, York Lions soccer player **Jonathan Lao** of Unionville, Ont., and Trinity Western Spartans volleyball player **Ryan Sclater** of Port Coquitlam, B.C.

The cornerstone of the Laval women’s soccer team, **Arielle Roy-Petitclerc** won the Chantal Navert Memorial Award, presented to the U SPORTS Player of the Year this season. She became the third Rouge et Or representative to get her hands on this prestigious title, after Francine Brousseau (2007) and Marie-Claude Dion (1996).

The midfielder finished tied for first place in the RSEQ with 18 points, including 10 goals in 14 games. In addition, Roy-Petitclerc was named most valuable player of the game on seven occasions, including the provincial semifinal and final. She continued her good work at the nationals, where she led the Université Laval to its second title in three years, while being named to the U SPORTS Championship All-Star Team. Those performances earned her the Rouge et Or Athlete of the Year award.

A member of the first all-RSEQ team in each of her four campaigns in Laval, she also was a Second Team All-Canadian in her first three seasons. Quebec’s rookie of the year in 2013, she





greatly contributed to the first Canadian title won by the Rouge et Or the following year in Quebec City.

In the summer of 2015, the St. Nicolas, Que., native was also an important part of the Canadian team at the Universiade in Gwangju, South Korea. A member of the starting lineup, Roy-Petitclerc, helped Canada finish in fourth place, the country's best result at the world university games.

"She's our leader," said Rouge et Or head coach **Helder Duarte** about her protégé. "Playing midfield, her vision and sense of the game are definitely above average. Arielle is the captain of the team and she assumes her leadership role with great professionalism. She's definitely the heart of our team and has had a great influence on the excellent season we've had."

"I did not expect that, it's an incredible honor to be recognized at this level," said **Roy-Petitclerc**. "In four years, I have matured a lot, as a player but also as a person. There is a whole world between the person I was in CEGEP and the one I am today. Being team captain has helped me to be a positive leader and to represent the Rouge et Or, both on the field, during practices and matches, and off the field at charity events or in my classes. Soccer led me to spend four more years in school, which I thought was unimaginable five years ago. I now have a bachelor degree - I am proud of that and I owe a great deal to the sport and to the Université Laval."

Philippe Maillet has become one of the most prolific scorers in AUS and U SPORTS hockey during his four years with the UNB Varsity Reds.

In 101 regular season Atlantic University Sport (AUS) games, the shifty right-winger scored 60 goals and added 106 assists for an incredible 166 points, an average of 1.64 points per game.

Those numbers might be even more impressive if injury hadn't limited Maillet to just 17 regular season games during the 2015-16 season.

Statistically, Maillet's fourth season was his best. He had 23 goals and 32 assists to lead the nation in scoring, en route to being named the U SPORTS Player of the Year and winner of the Senator Joseph A. Sullivan Trophy. He followed that up with four goals and 10 points at the University Cup, taking home Championship MVP honours as UNB won the national title on home ice – the team's second straight and third in the last five years.

Maillet, who is working on a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, also led the nation in regular season power play goals, with 14 and a plus-minus rating of +34.





The Terrebonne, Que., native is also a two-time AUS MVP, a three time AUS First Team All-Star, and a two-time U SPORTS First Team All-Canadian. Maillet has twice been named the University of New Brunswick's top male athlete (2014-15 and 2016-17).

In both 2015 and 2016, Maillet was selected to join a team of U SPORTS All-Stars that took on national junior team hopefuls. Unable to play due to injury, in 2015, he registered a goal and an assist in the 2016 event in December during the annual two-game series.

Prior to joining the Varsity Reds, Maillet spent four seasons with the QMJHL's Victoriaville Tigres, registering 240 points (92 G, 142 A) in 252 regular season games.

Following the conclusion of the University Cup, Maillet signed an amateur tryout agreement with American Hockey League's (AHL) Ontario Reign, the top affiliate of the NHL's Los Angeles Kings.

"Phil has had a breakthrough season for our UNB Hockey program," says Varsity Reds head coach **Gardiner MacDougall**. "It has been said by a noted guru that 'Consistency at a high level is the mother of excellence and that incremental improvement is the father.' This year Phil personified that to the highest level with our team."

"As an athlete and a student, you aim for excellence," says Maillet. "Being named a BLG Award winner, which recognizes all sports, not just hockey, means a lot – it means I've achieved a level of excellence. I think it reflects all of the hard work that I put in, each and every day, trying to make myself and my team better."

ALL-TIME BLG AWARD WINNERS:

2016-17: Arielle Roy Petitclerc – Laval (soccer) / Philippe Maillet – UNB (hockey)
2015-16: Kylie Masse – Toronto (swimming) / Andrew Buckley – Calgary (football)
2014-15: Korissa Williams – Windsor (basketball) / Ross Proudfoot – Guelph (country & T&F)
2013-14: Justine Colley – Saint Mary's (basketball) / Philip Scrubb – Carleton (basketball)
2012-13: Shanice Marcelle - UBC (volleyball) / Kyle Quinlan - McMaster (football)
2011-12: Ann-Sophie Bettez - McGill (hockey) / Marc-André Dorion - McGill (hockey)
2010-11: Jessica Clemençon - Windsor (basketball) / Tyson Hinz - Carleton (basketball)
2009-10: Liz Cordonier - UBC (volleyball) / Erik Glavic - Calgary (football)
2008-09: Annamay Pierse - UBC (swimming) / Joel Schmuland - Alberta (volleyball)
2007-08: Laetitia Tchoualack - Montreal (volleyball) / Rob Hennigar - UNB (hockey)
2006-07: Jessica Zelinka - Calgary (track & field) / Josh Howatson - Trinity Western (volleyball)
2005-06: Marylène Laplante - Laval (volleyball) / Osvaldo Jeanty - Carleton (basketball)
2004-05: Adrienne Power - Dalhousie (track & field) / Jesse Lumsden - McMaster (football)



WE ARE UNIVERSITY SPORT / NOUS SOMMES LE SPORT UNIVERSITAIRE

45 rue Vogell Road, 701, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada L4B 3P6
t (905) 508 3000 f (905) 508 4221

USPORTS.CA | Canada



2003-04: Joanna Niemczewska - Calgary (volleyball) / Adam Ens - Saskatchewan (volleyball)
2002-03: Kim St-Pierre - McGill (hockey) / Ryan McKenzie - Windsor (cross country & T&F)
2001-02: Elizabeth Warden - Toronto (swimming) / Brian Johns - UBC (swimming)
2000-01: Leighann Doan - Calgary (basketball) / Kojo Aidoo - McMaster (football)
1999-00: Jenny Cartmell - Alberta (volleyball) / Michael Potts - Western (soccer)
1998-99: Corinne Swirsky - Concordia (hockey) / Alexandre Marchand - Sherbrooke (T&F)
1997-98: Foy Williams - Toronto (track & field) / Titus Channer - McMaster (basketball)
1996-97: Terri-Lee Johannesson - Manitoba (basketball) / Curtis Myden - Calgary (swimming)
1995-96: Justine Ellison - Toronto (basketball) / Don Blair - Calgary (football)
1994-95: Linda Thyer - McGill (track & field) / Bill Kubas - Wilfrid Laurier (football)
1993-94: Sandra Carroll - Winnipeg (basketball) / Tim Tindale - Western (football)
1992-93: Diane Scott - Winnipeg (volleyball) / Andy Cameron - Calgary (volleyball)

About the BLG Awards

The BLG Awards were established in 1993 to recognize the top female and male athletes from universities affiliated with U SPORTS. The Awards are based on athletic accomplishments, outstanding sportsmanship and leadership. Each of the 56 U SPORTS schools nominates one female and one male athlete of the year. From these nominees, one female and one male athlete are chosen within each of the four conferences: Atlantic University Sport (AUS), Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec (RSEQ), Ontario University Athletics (OUA) and Canada West Universities Athletic Association (CWUAA). To be eligible, a student-athlete must have competed in a U SPORTS-sanctioned sport for a minimum of two years and cannot be a previous recipient of a BLG Award.

All nominees receive a commemorative gold ring and winners are presented with a trophy and a \$10,000 scholarship to attend a Canadian university graduate school. Winners are selected by the Canadian Athletic Foundation (CAF), a not-for-profit board established for the purpose of administering the BLG Awards and protecting the integrity of the selection process. The CAF Board of Trustees consists of 19 members from five Canadian cities representing major corporations from across the country who are committed to ensuring that Canadian university athletes receive the recognition they deserve.

About Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) is a leading, national, full-service Canadian law firm focusing on business law, commercial litigation and arbitration, and intellectual property solutions for our clients. BLG is one of the country's largest law firms with more than 725 lawyers, intellectual



property agents and other professionals in five cities across Canada. We assist clients with their legal needs, from major litigation to financing to trademark and patent registration. For further information, please visit www.blg.com.

About U SPORTS

U SPORTS is the national brand for University Sports in Canada. Every year, over 12,000 student-athletes and 500 coaches from 56 universities vie for 21 national championships in 12 different sports. U SPORTS also provides higher performance international opportunities for Canadian student-athletes at Winter and Summer Universiades, as well as numerous world university championships. For further information, visit usports.ca or follow us on:

Twitter: @USPORTSca
Facebook: @USPORTSCanada
YouTube: @USPORTSca
Instagram: @USPORTSca
Snapchat: @USPORTSca

-U SPORTS -

For further information, please contact:

Ken Saint-Eloy
Manager, Communications
U SPORTS
Cell: 647-871-7595
ksainteloy@usports.ca

Alan Hudes
Coordinator, Communications
U SPORTS
Off: 905-508-3000 ext. 242
Cell: 647-991-5343
ahudes@usports.ca

Peter Watts
Media Officer
BLG Awards
T: (403) 444-4377
C: (403) 862-2919
E: peter.watts@corusent.com

