

# UNITED STATES BIATHLON ASSOCIATION

## Hall of Fame

# ART STEGEN

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Art Stegen has been at the epicenter of Biathlon for forty years. As an athlete, coach, team leader, board secretary and editor of the US Biathlon newsletter, Art has dedicated himself to the sport of biathlon and always looked to make a difference.

He demonstrated athletic prowess early in his career as a runner, then as a cross-country skier and, later, in biathlon, spending his Army service time with the Modern Winter Biathlon Training Center at Fort Richardson near Anchorage, Alaska.

Art had solid results throughout his career, medaling at US National Championships in 1974 and participating in the 1972 CISM Ski Games and the World Biathlon Championships in 1973, 1974 and 1975. He followed his competitive career into coaching when he was hired to be the U.S. Biathlon's first full-time coach of the U.S. National Team from 1978-1981, a period which included the successful 1980 U.S. Olympic team at Lake Placid. He was also the first Program Director from 1981 to 1982 and played an important role in the establishment of the independent U.S. Biathlon Association. During his time as the coach, he was the primary person responsible for the introduction of women into the sport. After leaving biathlon to continue teaching high school foreign languages and history he also became a highly successful high school coach for running and skiing in New York State and, as the first New York State Ski Racing Biathlon Chairman he helped to develop the local New York State's active biathlon program and the introduction of biathlon into the Empire State Games. He became a member of the USBA Board of Directors in 1984. Art came back to biathlon coaching in 1993, taking over the National Guard program until 2003 and put many athletes onto National and Olympic Teams during that period.



Art's career is a remarkable set of accomplishments, including being the first American to be certified in cross-country skiing and biathlon at the Norwegian Sports Institute, honored for writing the first English language book about Biathlon by the UIPMB, writing the military's biathlon training and coaching manuals, and drafting US Biathlon's modern By-laws as well as the revised structure for Board of Directors. For these reasons we welcome Art to the Biathlon Hall of Fame.