



Rita Bell (Panasis)—Athlete Induction Class of 2001

- Raised in Vancouver, British Columbia
- Multi-sport athlete competing in basketball and softball
- Won 4 BC Championships with the Vancouver IXL basketball team from 1939-1941
- Captured 8 BC provincial titles and 8 Canadian Senior A Women's basketball championships with the Vancouver Hedlunds 1942-1946, Vancouver Nut House 1947, and Eilers 1953-54
- Qualified to compete at the first Pan Am Games with the Eilers but was unable to play due to injury
- Offered professional contracts from Abe Saperstein, owner of the Harlem Globetrotters and the Chicago Bluebirds Club
- Also an accomplished softball player, competing in the World Amateur Softball Championships in Cleveland, Ohio in 1944

