

# HALL OF FAME



**Dr. Tom Barnhart**

## **Dr. Tom Barnhart** **NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY** **2004**

Dr. Tom Barnhart was the 11th individual elected to the NDRPA Hall of Fame.

He attended California Polytechnic State University, where he received his bachelor's degree in 1973 and master's degree in 1974. In 1978, he received his doctorate from the University of New Mexico and began his career as a faculty member at North Dakota State University (NDSU), where he directed the recreation management degree in the Department of Health, Nutrition and, Exercise Science. During summers, Barnhart directed the National Youth Sports Program at NDSU. He also served multiple terms as a commissioner on the Fargo Park Board.

Barnhart joined NDRPA in 1976, and during his time in the organization, he presented at the NRPA National Congress, wrote articles for several parks and recreation publications, and was integral in developing the NDRPA website.

Barnhart considers one of his greatest achievements at NDSU to be developing and obtaining grants for the National Youth Sports Program, which taught low-income youth the value of sports and team work.

In his years as a parks and recreation professional, he has received multiple awards, including the National Intramural Sports Council Excellence in Programming Award (1987), the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports Commendation (1981), and the Honor Award from the North Dakota Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (1981). He also received the American Association for Leisure and Recreation's Literacy Award (1990) and Meritorious Service Award (1998).

*All NDRPA Hall of Fame members are recognized with plaques at the North Dakota Sports Hall of Fame in the Jamestown Civic Center.*

**Advancing parks and recreation for an enhanced quality of life in North Dakota.**

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