



2018 Community Leader Sports Award



Michael Hacker

Michael is the owner, manager, and chief instructor of Rally Niagara Badminton Club, where he works to bring diverse groups of adults and young people together through a common love of sports. Believe it or not, badminton is the 2nd largest participation sport in the world behind only soccer. In his club's activities, events, and outreach, Michael has worked to facilitate cross cultural dialogue and form inclusive relationships. He is led by his faith to foster inclusion, and uses his skills as a financial analyst and administrator to solidify the organizations with which he works.

Michael founded Rally Niagara in 2011, and he leads this enterprise with the help of volunteer instructors and coaches. The team offers youth programs that feature goal setting and achievement strategies. However, the most important part of any session at Rally is the sense of fellowship, support, and belonging that Michael creates for all who participate. A former VP at HSBC, he has a commitment to multiculturalism. Rally Niagara's sessions often feature participants from India, Canada, Burma, Malaysia, Iran, and other countries, with a strong emphasis on relationship building, an appreciation of difference, and an exploration of similarities.

For his work to connect people, build equity, and foster inclusion through sports, the NFJC proudly presents Michael Hacker with the 2018 Community Leader in Sports Award.



"...a just community begins with me!"

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