

**CAN**

Saro Keresteciyan

I started as Athletic Therapist for the Canadian standing volleyball team in 1998. Had an interest in volleyball and Disabled Sport, and when the Team came to Montreal for a training camp, I met with the Team Manager (Lawrence Flynn) and through discussions, got involved with standing volleyball. I accompanied the team to their tournament in Olsztyn, Poland where I had my first introduction to classification and started my journey as a classifier at that time. I was with the Team until the Sydney Paralympics where Canada won the silver medal, and unfortunately, the sport was removed from the Games after Sydney. I continued and still continue to be a part of the classification group for World ParaVolley today.

Lawrence Flynn was my first “mentor” in the sport. Through the years with TCDV, he showed and taught me what standing and sitting volleyball was all about and I learned to love the sport disciplines more and more over the years.

July 1998 – Olsztyn, Poland – World Championships (Team Therapist and Classifier Candidate)

June 1999 – Laval, Quebec – Pan-Am & World Cup Paralympic Qualifier (Team Therapist and Classifier Candidate – Obtained International Classification at that time)

October 1999 – Sydney, Australia – Southern Cross Games – (Classification Instructor with Jenni Barron, now Cole, and International Classifier for Games)

June 2000 - Paralympic Preparation Tournament – Wisla, Poland (Team Therapist)

August 2000 – Sydney Paralympic Games – Team Canada Therapist

October 2003 – Rhodes, Greece, World Championships of Standing Volleyball (Chief Classifier)

Instructor of Classification including Standing Volleyball

October 1999 – Southern Cross Games in Sydney, Australia

December 2003 – Santiago, Cuba

March 2004 – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

March 2007 – Shanghai, China

February 2017 – San Jose, Costa Rica





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I was a part of the team (along with Jenni Barron, now Cole, and Cristina Riera) who reviewed the classification processes in August 2000.

I stopped being involved with standing volleyball in 2000. After the Sydney Paralympic Games I was no longer Team Canada therapist, but still involved with International Classification until present.

Official posts held:

Pan Am Zone Head of Medical Commission 2001 – 2008

Re-elected as Head of Pan American Zone Classification Commission in 2017 – to present

World ParaVolley International Classifier

Member and Data Manager – World ParaVolley Classification Commission

