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all he did as a player, and more importantly what he has done since.

Boyce has played a major role in helping build a thriving old-timers hockey community.

"I always just played for the moment," Boyce says when asked if he thought he'd still be playing hockey into his 70s. "I never really pictured what my hockey future might be."

For more than 25 years, Boyce took on the bulk of the organizational duties when his Beaver Lumber/Sports Unlimited team ran an old-timers tournament in Georgetown, raising money for autism research and the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association. He continues to lend his scheduling skills to the annual Heritage Old-timers Tournament every November and is an invaluable source of contacts when a team is needed to fill a last-minute slot.

Over the past decade he

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- John Boyce

has served as the unofficial general manager of the District 19 entries in the Ontario Senior Games. In the most recent games, he put together teams at the over-55, 60, 65, 70 and 75 levels, with four of them winning gold, and the other taking silver. Five of the six district teams entered in the last two Canada Senior Games have won gold.

Boyce himself has been a part of four Ontario gold-medal winning teams and three national champions and will be chasing a fourth this year in Kam-



Herb Garbutt/Torstar

Nearly 40 years since helping the the Georgetown Raiders win four Ontario intermediate titles, John Boyce continues to play three times a week.

loops, B.C.

Putting together the old-timers teams has given him an appreciation for what the Raiders executive

did in keeping the team competitive year after year.

"You always have to have an eye open for players. Because guys move up age cat-

egories, you always have to be looking for someone to take their place," he said.

But there's more to it than finding skilled hockey

players.

"First, you have to be a good guy. You can't come in with any airs about you. At this age, we all have our limits and you have to be respectful," Boyce said. "And two, you have to be able to play."

Boyce was also active in the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association as a coach for more than a decade. He guided the Georgetown major atoms to the Ontario semifinals, earning him junior rep coach of the year.

Boyce was inducted into the Halton Hills Sports Museum Hall of Fame in 2009 as both an athlete and builder. He now serves as a board member for the museum.

The 2020 Hockey Heritage Award will be presented to John Boyce at the 43rd Annual Hockey Heritage Dinner on Monday March 2, at the Acton Legion at 7 p.m. Tickets are available from Dave Kentner at (905) 877-6710 or at kentnerskot-tage@cogeco.ca.



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