

Robert W. Jackson, MD
Dallas, TX

Dr. Robert Jackson is currently the Chief of Orthopaedics at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. He has traveled a long way in his Orthopaedic career and his contribution to Sports Medicine and the field of arthroscopic surgery is immeasurable. Dr. Jackson accompanied the Canadian Olympic team to Tokyo as a team physician in 1964. His Chief at the University of Toronto, Dr. Ian McNab, suggested that he look up an orthopaedist while there who had reported a technique of looking into knees at a conference in Barcelona, Spain. He proved difficult to find, however, because at the time even the Japanese had not heard of Dr. Masaka Watanabe. Dr. Jackson did find him, however, and was so intrigued by the technique and possibilities of arthroscopy that he stayed on to work with and learn from Dr. Watanabe. He re-introduced arthroscopy to the western world when he returned to Toronto in 1965. Dr. Jackson has been and remains at the forefront of the development of this technique and his contributions through clinical and applied research have been enormous.

Other significant clinical investigations include the development of an electro goniometer to measure the anterior translation of the tibia on the femur in the anterior cruciate deficient knees while walking. Dr. Jackson won an international competition in 1958 sponsored by the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma for a large study of fractures of the shaft of the tibia. He is conducting research with the use of low-power laser, in conjunction with "dynamic dyes", as a method of welding meniscal tissue. An interest in spinal cord injuries and paraplegia led to clinical research into sexual rehabilitation after spinal cord injury, and physical rehabilitation through the medium of sport and recreation.

The list of personal honors, awards, and prizes too numerous to name include an ABC (American, British, Canadian) Traveling Fellowship, and an award of merit from the City of Toronto. Dr. Jackson was awarded the "Founders Medal" by the Canadian Orthopaedic Research Society, the J.C. Kennedy Award for Research in Sports Medicine, the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Award for "Excellence in Research" in 1987 and the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Bay Area Knee Society, San Francisco, California. He was honored by the Canadian Wheelchair Sports Association with the "Dr. Robert W. Jackson Award," presented annually "to the individual whose years of dedication and contributions exemplifies the passion and spirit of Robert W. Jackson, who committed a lifetime to promoting and developing wheelchair sports." He was *the only physician* recognized in 1994 by *Sports Illustrated* as one of 40 individuals who have had a significant impact on sports in the last half-century through the introduction and development of arthroscopic surgery. He was awarded the Jackson-Burrows Medal, "presented to a graduate of the Royal National Orthopaedic Institute, London, England, for meritorious academic achievement". Dr. Jackson was awarded *Mr. Sports Medicine 2001* by the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine at the Annual Meeting in June in Keystone, Colorado.

Dr. Robert W. Jackson personifies a Sports Medicine lifetime with exemplary contributions of enduring value for many generations to come.

Nominator: Ronald M. Selby, MD
New York, NY