



The Coat of Arms

The official Coat of Arms of Royal Colwood Golf Club was authorized in 1996. Although Royal Colwood Golf Club had its own crest for many years, in 1993 it was determined that the crest did not conform to the standard format of heraldry, and it had never been officially registered. A committee consisting of the Chair Joyce Anderson, Gloria McCleave, Bob Darlington, Fran Day, and Kay Craig embarked on the process of applying for a grant of armorial bearings. These are honours from the Canadian Crown, and provide recognition for contributions that Canadian individuals and corporate bodies make in Canada and elsewhere. All Canadian citizens or corporate bodies may petition to receive a grant of armorial bearings, of which there are three categories: coats of arms, flags, and badges.

The committee was helped in the process by Robert D. Watt, the Chief Herald of Canada, and by the artistic and heraldry expertise of Graham Anderson of Cowichan Bay. The aim was to create a Coat of Arms that was distinctive, and incorporated symbols that represented important facets of the Club. These are that the Club is:

- a golf club (crossed golf clubs)
- Royal (a crown)
- Canadian (maple leaves)
- British Columbian (the dogwood, B.C.'s provincial flower)
- located in Victoria (a cougar, the symbol of the city)

A contest among members to choose a motto resulted in "Provocatio Splendor Traditio", which translates as "Challenge, Splendour, Tradition".

The Coat of Arms was officially presented at the Club's Spring Opening in April 1996, when Robert Watt proclaimed the "Letters Patent". The full document hangs in the area of the front entrance that recognizes the Royal designation of the Club.