

Sunday April 16, 2023 Holiday Inn – Grand Ballroom Countryside, Illinois

The Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association (IWCOA)

President's Greeting

Dear Wrestling Community,

Thank you for attending the IWCOA 51st Lifetime Service Awards & Hall of Fame Banquet to celebrate these fine individuals with your family, friends, and the wrestling community. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the IWCOA Hall of Fame inductees, Lifetime Service Award selections, and IWCOA Voting Award winners for the Year 2023. Your achievements, leadership, and contributions to our great sport has made wrestling what it is today and define the standard of excellence for years to come. I encourage each of you to continue your support for the sport of wrestling and stay involved in any way you can. I'd like to pay special honor and praise to our 2023 Person of the Year, Anthony "Tony" Clarke, and thank him for all he does to uphold the integrity of scholastic wrestling while working tirelessly behind the scenes to improve the sport and provide opportunities for girls and boys all over the state. Finally, I would like to thank IWCOA Hall of Fame selection committee chair, Joe Cliffe, and the entire committee for their focused efforts to elect a class of such distinguished individuals.

Again, congratulations on this outstanding recognition to all our award winners and honorees, and to our inductees...welcome to the IWCOA Hall of Fame!!

Yours in Wrestling,

Nate Kessen

Nate Kessen IWCOA President

IWCOA Presidents

1971 - Steve Combs, Coach, Deerfield 1972 - Steve Combs, Coach Deerfield 1973 - Wayne Miller, Coach, DeKalb 1976 – Jim Schultz, Coach, Glenbard South 1977 - George Dyche, Coach, West Aurora 1978 - Charles Anderson, Coach, Savanna 1979 – Charles Farina, Coach, East Leyden 1980 - Tony Parks, Coach, Addison Trail 1981 - Mark King, Coach, LaGrange 1982 - Steve Weiss, Coach, Fenton 1983 - Rick Mann, Coach, Hersey 1984 - Jim Cartwright, Coach, Conant 1985 - Bernie Botheroyd, Coach, Glenbard W. 1986 – Jerry Ancona, Coach, Lake Park 1987 - Tom Heniff, Official, Oak Lawn 1988 - Tom Heniff, Official, Oak Lawn 1989 - Mark Gervais, Coach, Marist 1990 - Dan Cliffe, Coach, DeKalb 1991 – Dan Cliffe, Coach, DeKalb 1992 – Augie Genovesi, Coach, Notre Dame 1993 - Augie Genovesi, Coach, Notre Dame 1994 – Joe Pedersen, Official, Naperville 1995 – Joe Pedersen, Official, Naperville 1996 - Dan Cliffe, Coach, DeKalb 1997 - Gary Thacker, Coach, Belvidere 1998 - Gary Baum, Coach, Kaneland

1999 - Gary Baum, Coach, Kaneland 2000 – Dan Fulscher, Official, Lincoln 2001 – Dan Fulscher, Official, Lincoln 2002 - Mike Manahan, Coach, Stanford 2003 - Mike Manahan, Coach, Stanford 2004 – Mike Wilkey, Official, Oak Park 2005 – Mike Wilkey, Official, Oak Park 2006 - Joe Cliffe, Coach, Prairie Central 2007 - Joe Cliffe, Coach, Prairie Central 2008 - Mike Bukovsky, Coach, Montini 2009 - Mike Bukovsky, Coach, Montini 2010 - Rob Ledin, Coach, Mahomet-Seymour 2011 - Rob Ledin, Coach, Mahomet-Seymour 2012 – Mike Matozzi, Coach, Hinsdale South 2013 – Mike Matozzi, Coach, Hinsdale South 2014 – Rich Montgomery, Coach, Rock Falls 2015 – Rich Montgomery, Coach, Rock Falls 2016 - Rob Murphy, Coach, Wilmington 2017 – Rob Murphy, Coach, Wilmington 2018 - Don Mekeel, Official, Sterling 2019 – Don Mekeel, Official, Sterling 2020 - Roy Snyder, Official, Rochelle 2021 - Roy Snyder, Official, Rochelle 2022 - Roy Snyder, Official, Rochelle 2023 - Nate Kessen, Official, Sugar Grove

IWCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nate Kessen – President

Joe Cliffe – Treasurer, Past President, Midwest Nationals, Banquet, Banquet Program, Classic Dual, Publicity, Finance Chair, Fundraising, Membership, Special Awards Sub-Committee, Hall of Fame Selection Chair, Ethics Tony Clarke – Secretary, Officials Development Chair, Publicity, Membership, Banquet, Hall of Fame Selection Rob Porter – President-Elect, Membership Chair, F/S & Girls State Roy Snyder – Past President, Officials Development, Hall of Fame Banquet Rob Murphy – Past President, Banquet Program, Classic Dual, Publicity, Fundraising, Ethics Rich Montgomery – Past President, Hall of Fame Banquet, Classic Dual, Fundraising Chair, Membership, Hall of Fame Selection, Gerdes Leadership Award Mike Bukovsky – Past President, Classic Dual, Hall of Fame Selection, Special Awards Sub-Committee Dan Cliffe – Past President, Membership, Hall of Fame Sub-Committee, Hall of Fame Selection, Ethics Ed Ewoldt – Past President, Historian Augie Genovesi – Past President, Classic Dual Chair, Hall of Fame Selection, Gerdes Leadership Award Rob Ledin – Past President, Midwest Nationals Co-Chair, Publicity, Membership, F/S & Girls State, Hall of Fame Selection, Gerdes Leadership Award Debbie Nason – Gerdes Leadership Award Committee Chair, Banquet, Banquet Program, Fundraising, F/S & Girls State Co-Chair, Hall of Fame Selection Mike Wilkey – Past President, Banquet Committee, Officials Development, Hall of Fame Sub-Committee, Hall of Fame Selection Andy Gardner – F/S & Girls State Co-Chair Matt Moore – F/S & Girls State Co-Chair Scott Richardson – Gerdes Leadership Award Co-Chair, Classic Dual Steve Amy – Membership, Classic Dual Mike O'Dea – Publicity, Membership, Banquet Program, Banquet, Classic Dual, Gerdes Leadership Award Corey Christenson – Midwest Nationals Co-Chair, F/S & Girls State, Classic Dual Eddie Collins – F/S & Girls State, Fundraising, Finance Chris Jordan – Hall of Fame Banquet, Banquet program, Publicity Co-Chair Colleen McGlynn – Girls Co-Chair, F/S & Girls State, Gerdes Leadership Award Fred Arkin – Girls Co-Chair, F/S & Girls State, Classic Dual Mick Torres – Publicity Co-Chair, Hall of Fame Banquet Ryan Cumbee – Classic Dual Ray Eickelschulte – Officials Development, Hall of Fame Selection Mike Elsbury – Classic Dual Mike Pila – Membership

Board Member of the Year

2011 – Joe Cliffe	2015 – Debbie Nason	2019 – Mike O'Dea
2012 – Dan Cliffe	2016 – Nate Kessen	2020 – Eddie Collins
2013 – Rob Ledin	2017 – Mike Wilkey	2022 – Rob Porter
2014 – Dan Fulscher	2018 – Rich Montgomery	2023 – Roy Snyder

51st IWCOA HALL OF FAME BANQUET

Sunday April 16, 2023

REGISTRATION & SOCIAL

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

PRE-DINNER AWARDS

3:00 p.m.

OPENING REMARKS

3:30 p.m.

INVOCATION & DINNER

3:45 p.m.

BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR

PERSON OF THE YEAR

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARDS

5:00 p.m.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

5:30 p.m.

SOCIAL

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

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IWCOA 2022-23 Season Voting Award Winners

Person of the Year

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Hall of Fame Member Listing

Grand Marshals

In Memory

Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze Donor Recognition



2023 IWCOA Award Winners



Class 3A Head Coach of the Year	Class 3A Assistant Coach of the Year
Jason Potter, St. Charles (East)	Grant Hoerr, Park Ridge (Maine South)
Class 2A Head Coach of the Year	Class 2A Assistant Coach of the Year
Nick Miller, Washington	Matt Webster, Washington
Class 1A Head Coach of the Year	Class 1A Assistant Coach of the Year
Mark Masters, Coal City	Jim Looper, Coal City Joe Widlowski, Coal City
Girls Head Coach of the Year	Girls Assistant Coach of the Year
Liz Short, Joliet	Jeff Charlebois, Minooka
Class 3A Administrator of the Year	Official of the Year
Peter Goff, DeKalb	Derek Ryan, Kankakee
Class 2A Administrator of the Year	<u>Newsperson of the Year</u>
Herb Knoblauch, Washington	Curt Herron, IWCOA Features
Class 1A Administrator of the Year	
Tim Gipe, Sandwich	

IWCOA PERSON OF THE YEAR

1985 TED DeROUSSE, Antioch 1986 ED EWOLDT, Wheaton Central 1987 RICK MANN, Hersey 1988 LARRY KRISTOFF, SIU-Edwardsville 1989 ED LUETY, Melrose Park 1990 CHUCK FARINA, Leyden 1991 JOE CLIFFE, Plano 1992 GENE SWIERCZEWSKI, Hoffman Estates 1993 LARRY GASSEN, Downers Grove South 1994 LON GERRISH, Sandwich 1995 JOE PEDERSEN, Naperville 1997 DEBBIE NASON, Orland Park 1997 RON REICHERT, Indiana 1998 STEVE COMBS, Mahomet 1999 MARK JOHNSON, University of Illinois 2000 DAN CLIFFE, Burlington Central 2001 TOM HENIFF, Olympia Fields 2002 LEO KOCHER, University of Chicago 2003 DAN FULSCHER, Lincoln 2004 KEN KRAFT, Northwestern University 2005 MIKE MANAHAN, Olympia

Anthony "Tony" Clarke 2023

IWCOA

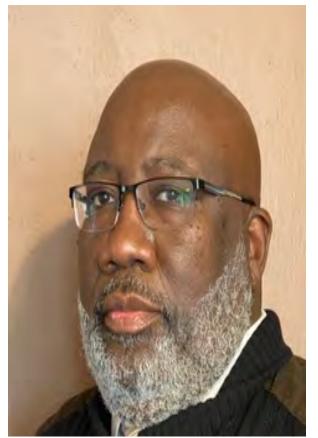
PERSON

OF

THE

YEAR

2006 GEORGE DYCHE, Aurora West 2007 MIKE POLZ, Sandburg 2008 DAVE GANNAWAY, IHSA 2009 JEFF PAPE, Schaumburg 2010 MIKE BUKOVSKY, Montini 2011 DR. MARTY HICKMAN, IHSA 2012 RICH MONTGOMERY, Rock Falls 2013 MIKE MATOZZI, Hinsdale South 2014 ROB LEDIN, Mahomet 2015 ROB MURPHY, Wilmington 2016 CRAIG ANDERSON, IHSA 2017 PAT O'CONNELL, Joliet 2018 JACK LEESE, Northbrook 2019 FRED ARKIN, Oak Park 2019 COLLEEN MCGLYNN, Belleville 2020 NATE KESSEN, Sugar Grove 2020 MIKE POWELL, Oak Park 2022 ROB PORTER, Naperville 2023 ANTHONY CLARKE, Zion



Anthony "Tony" Clarke began his wrestling career at Neal Junior High in North Chicago. After wrestling three years for North Chicago High School under Hall of Fame Coach Amos Jones, Tony graduated from Waukegan West High School in 1982, where he was a sectional qualifier.

Tony is employed as a civil servant for the Department of the Navy, a job he began in 1984.

He has coached wrestling 10 years at the IKWF Club level, three years at the middle school level and, as a volunteer coach, 12 years at Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein.

Tony's expertise as a wrestling official, however, sets him apart. Since he started refereeing in 1984, he has worked 38 IHSA state final events, 25 as a floor official including the first girls state finals in 2022 and 13 as Coordinator of officials. He has also worked 13 IESA State Finals and multiple IKWF State Finals. Tony was named an IHSA wrestling clinician in 1999 and wrestling rules interpreter in 2005 and assumed the position of IHSA Head Wrestling Clinician in 2017.

He has been serving on the National Federation of State High Schools Wrestling Rules Committee since 2015. He is the current NFHS Rules Committee Chairman until 2025. As a side note, Illinois in 2025 would have been represented on the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee for 21 years in a row starting with Dave Gannaway's 8 years of service, Randy Conrad's 4 years of service and Tony's 11 years of service.

Tony has also serviced on the IHSA Officials Advisory Committee, IHSA Wrestling Advisory Committee, and IESA Wrestling Advisory Committee.

Tony is the current IWCOA official's Chairperson and Board Secretary. He also serves as the IKWF Rules Director.

Since 2000 Tony serves as Wrestling Assignment Chairperson for the MSL and WSC conferences. He also serves as Assignment Chairperson for NSC, NLLC and CPL.

Tony has received the following wrestling honors:

1996 IWCOA Official of the Year; 2001 National Federation Officials Association Official of the Year; 2005 IWCOA Hall of Fame Member; 2009 IHSA Distinguished Service Award; 2013 Wrestling USA Magazine Official of the Year, 2014 IHSA Individual State Finals Grand Marshal; 2014 Big K Hall of Fame, 2015 IESA Individual State Finals Grand Marshal, 2015 National Wrestling Hall Of Fame (IL chapter) Lifetime Service Award, 2016 IWCOA Lifetime Service Award and 2022 Lake County Hall of Fame Wrestling Official.

Ladies and Gentlemen, your IWCOA Person of the Year; Mr. Anthony "Tony" Clarke.

More about Tony Clarke can be found by reading his hall of fame bio at <u>https://iwcoa.net/hall-of-fame-2/tony-clarke/</u> and <u>https://nwhof.org/national-wrestling-hall-of-fame/bio/3656</u>.

Phil Chihoski Rosemont

Born in Chicago, IL in 1966, Phil Chihoslki moved to Rosemont, IL when he was a year old. He still resides in Rosemont.

Phil has been involved in the sport of wrestling for 50 years. He started his journey in wrestling in 1973 when he was in second grade for the Rosemont Cobras. They were part of the recently formed IKWF (1971). During his years with the Cobras, Phil wrestled for IWCOA Hall of Fame coach Don Morrissey. While wrestling for the Cobras there were no age divisions. Therefore, you wrestled anyone who was your weight. In both 1978 and 1980 Phil placed fourth individually in the IKWF State Tournament.

During these early years Phil began to experience the Freestyle and Greco Roman styles of wrestling. The next journey in his wrestling career brought him to East Leyden High School, home of the Eagles and IWCOA Hall of Fame coach Charles Farina. He placed sixth in the IHSA Individual AA State Championships at 126 pounds in 1984. Also, he placed in the Illinois Freestyle and Greco State finals. The last chapter of his individual wrestling career brought me to Northern Illinois University. While at NIU he wrestled under two more IWCOOA Hall of Fame coaches, Don Flavin and Ed Vatch.

While in high school, Phil began his coaching career by helping out the Rosemont Cobras. He also coached in college in the mid 80's to the early 90's. Phil later joined Maine West High School's coaching staff through the early 2000's. While coaching at Maine West the team earned Elite 8 status and placed third in the IHSA AA Team State Tournament. Maine West teams also won multiple IHSA Regional titles and two Sectional championships. Individually the team had one state champion and several state placers and qualifiers.

For the past twenty years Phil has coached at Notre Dame College Prep in Niles. During his tenure at Notre Dame, he coached with IWCOA Hall of Fame coaches Augie Genovesi, Jim Cartwright, Ed Luety and Bill Scully. The Notre Dame teams made the Elite 8 twice. The team also won multiple IHSA Regional titles and two Sectional titles. Individually the team has had multiple state placers and qualifiers. After thirty-one years, Phil recently retired from the Allstate Arena/Rosemont Theatre/Village of Rosemont as the Director of Marketing and Sponsorship. He owes most of his success in life to the coaches that helped me along the way, the coaches he has encountered over the years and the coaches he has had the pleasure to work with.

Carmelo Flores Chicago

Carmelo Flores was born and raised in Chicago. He attended Lake View High School and was a graduate of the Class of 1975. He wrestled for four years at Lake View under IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Bill Peterson. He was a two-time state qualifier and placed fifth in 1975. He had a career record 96-14. He placed second in the National Freestyle at Chapel Hill, NC. Carmelo was captain of the fresh-soph football squad and wrestling captain for three years. He also won two letters in football and three letters in track.

As a student at the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater, Carmelo wrestled for four years under Willie Meyers. He was a two-time NAIA All-American, placing fourth and sixth. He had a career record of 90-33. He received his B.S. in Education in 1980.

As a member of the 1984 Puerto Rican Olympic team, he placed 9th in the Los Angeles Olympic Games. He finished 4th in both the 1978 and 1983 Pan-Am Games. He was 1982 Central American Games Silver Medalist and won the Gold Medal in 1983 at the Carlos Flores Greco-Roman Tournament in Mexico City.

Carmelo began coaching at Proviso West. After five years, he was named head coach at Lake View. During his fifteen years at Lake View, his dual meet record is 158-50 and he has had thirty state qualifiers and one placewinner. He served as an assistant coach at Chicago Hope and was named IWCOA Assistant Coach of the Year. Carmelo also coached at Evanston High School.

Carmelo was a member of the City of Chicago Fire Department and retired after thirty years of service. In addition, he has participated in the Beat the Streets program in the neighborhood.

Carmelo was inducted into the IWCOA Hall of Fame in 2006.

Mike Hurckes Ringwood

Mike Hurckes was born and raised in McHenry, Illinois. Athletics was an integral part of the Hurckes family daily activities. The youngest of 7 boys, attending games, matches, and practices was a way of life for Mike. His love for the sport of wrestling began in high school. As a standout three-sport athlete, Mike was the first wrestling state qualifier to represent Johnsburg High School.

A graduate of Monmouth College, Mike excelled in football during his four years as a Fighting Scot and wrestled for two years.

In 1988, Mike renewed his passion for wrestling when he was hired as a teacher and head coach at Forman High School in Manito, Illinois, a position he held for three years before moving to McHenry, IL. In four seasons as Head Coach of the McHenry Warriors, his teams dominated the Fox Valley Conference, winning 3 Conference championships, while losing only two Conference meets. Mike's 1994-1995 team finished undefeated 20-0 and ranked in the top ten in the state ratings. During his 7 years as Head Coach, Mike's teams amassed a 113-30 record, along with producing 13 state qualifiers and 3 state champions.

Mike transitioned from coaching to officiating after the 1994-1995 season, and he is entering his 28th season as a state level wrestling official. Mike has officiated 15 IHSA State Finals, 9 IESA State Finals, and also serves as an IHSA Wrestling Rules Interpreter and Clinician. Mike's knowledge, contributions and utilization of video technology plays an instrumental role in educating and advancing other officials. In 2021, Mike played an important role in the making of a NFHS educational officiating video.

In 2018, Mike was inducted into the Illinois Wrestling Coaches Officials Association (IWCOA) Hall of Fame. Mike was honored as IESA Official of The Year in 2019 and IHSA Official of The Year in 2020.

This past season, Mike became a special consultant and assigner for the IESA. His primary role is to help with rules interpretations and questions along with assigning all officials for the Regional, Sectional, and State Tournament.

Mike and his wife Nancy are both retired educators and reside in Ringwood, Illinois. They are the proud parents of four children and one grandchild, Shelby, Austin, Chloe, Stori and Mirra.

Rob Ledin Mahomet

Rob Ledin is in his 31st year in education and 27th year as a head coach. Rob grew up on the southside of Chicago and began his wrestling career in 1976 as a Vittum Park Viking in the Chicago Park District. Donald Ledin, his father and Hall of Fame member, coached Rob to two IKWF state tournaments including a sixth-place finish in 1981. A 1985 graduate of St. Laurence High School in Burbank, Rob lettered in wrestling three times. In his senior season he was named Captain and won the 1985 Chicago Catholic League Championship and the 1984 and 1985 Regional Championship under Head Coach, Robert Trombetta. Rob went on to wrestle at Illinois State University earning his Varsity "I" under IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach George Girardi. Rob received his Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1990 and later earned his Master's Degree in Educational Administration from ISU in 2006.

In 1990 Rob began his coaching career at Hinsdale South High School as an Associate Dean and Assistant Wrestling Coach under another IWCOA Hall of Fame Inductee, Mike Matozzi. After two seasons, Rob left Hinsdale South to pursue a job in the Chicago Park District where he began an IKWF Club at Archer Park. In 1994 Rob moved to Normal where he taught Physical Education, Health Education and Driver Education at Normal Community High School. He served as the Head Freshman Wrestling Coach and the Chiddix Junior High School Head Wrestling Coach.

Rob received his first high school Head Wrestling Coach position at Clinton in 1995. For the next 8 years Rob produced an IHSA Dual Team Runner-up finish in 2000 and an IHSA Dual Team Third Place finish in 2001. During his tenure at Clinton, Ledin's teams produced five OKAW Conference Championships and three IHSA Regional Championships. In 2000 Rob was named IWCOA Head Coach of the Year, and in both 2000 and 2001 he was chosen as the Decatur Herald & Review Head Coach of the Year. Also, in 2001 Rob was selected to coach the Illinois Senior All-Stars in the Illinois vs. Indiana Classic Duals. In 2003 Rob took the Head Coach position at Morton High School and coached there for two seasons.

In 2006 Rob was hired by IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach, Marty Williams, to take the helm at Mahomet-Seymour High School where he currently resides. Rob presently is the Director of Alternative Education and has served as the Head Wrestling Coach for the past 17 seasons. Ledin's teams at Mahomet have won 15 Corn Belt and/or Apollo Conference Championships, 12 Regional Titles and his Mahomet-Seymour teams have finished in the Final 8 six times; 2009, 2017, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, while earning an IHSA Third Place Dual Team Finish in 2022. The 2021 season saw the Bulldogs finish 7th in the IWCOA Class 2A Open Individual State Tournament. In 2009, Rob was chosen to coach the Central Illinois All-Stars in the Cross State Classic.

In 2011 Rob was inducted into the IWCOA Hall of Fame. Rob has been named the Champaign News Gazette Head Coach of Year 4 times; 2009, 2017, 2020, 2021. He was chosen as the IWCOA Executive Board Member of the Year in 2013 and IWCOA Man of Year in 2014. In addition, Rob earned the IWCOA Silver Recognition Award in both 2013 and 2021. In 2018, Rob was chosen to be one of the Grand Marshals for the IHSA Individual State Tournament. During his three head coaching assignments, Rob has amassed a 489-182 dual meet record equaling a .729 winning percentage. Over his career, Rob has coached 97 individual state qualifiers, 32 state placers and 7 state champions.

Rob has served as an IWCOA Executive Board member since 1999. In 2001 Rob was elected Secretary and in 2009 he was elected President. Currently, Rob serves on the Hall of Fame Selection Committee Coaches Sub-Committee, Fresh/Soph. State Series Committee and State Finals Announcer and Midwest Nationals Tournament Committee Co-Chairman.

Rob and his wife of 32 years, Christa, reside in Mahomet. Rob and Christa have three children: Laura (24), Kiel (22), and Jenna (18).

Mark D. Mestemacher Edwardsville

Born in 1957 in Granite City Illinois, Mark Mestemacher graduated from Collinsville High School in 1975. He wrestled 4 years for the Kahoks and was selected as team captain his senior year. He then went to Illinois State University where he wrestled for 2 years before transferring to the University of Illinois. He graduated from University of Illinois in 1979 with a degree in Agricultural Economics.

Mark got back into the sport of wrestling in 1993 as he, along with current Edwardsville High School coach Jon Wagner and Mike Freitag, started the Edwardsville Wrestling Club. Mark helped lead the Edwardsville Wrestling Club for the next 20 years where it grew from 50 youth competing to consistently topping the 200 youth wrestling for EWC annually. During that 20 year stretch the club had 260 state qualifiers, 60 state placers and 6 Champions. In 2008 Mark was honored as the Grand Marshall for the IKWF State Championships. Also, in 2008 Mark and his wife Carol funded the building of the Jon Davis Wrestling Center, a 24,000 square foot center dedicated to the sport of wrestling that is home to the Edwardsville High School wrestling program as well as the Edwardsville Wrestling Club. Mark no longer coaches for the Edwardsville Wrestling Club but still serves on the Board of Directors for EWC.

Mark has been instrumental in the last 15 years in helping organize and start 6 youth wrestling programs, 12 middle school wrestling programs, 5 high school wrestling programs and 3 college wrestling programs. He was also very involved in keeping the SIU-Edwardsville wrestling program from being dissolved in 2005-2006.

Since 2006 Mark has been involved with the National Wrestling Coaches Association Leadership Academy for college coaches which is held annually at the Jon Davis Center in Edwardsville. In 2006 Mark was awarded the Dan Gable, America Needs Wrestling award and in 2008 he received the NWCA Meritorious Service Award.

In 2008 the Fellowship of Christian Athletes launched a sports specific ministry in wrestling, where Mark has held the position of Chairman of the board and currently is the Treasure for the FCA Wrestling board. FCA Wrestling is focused on sharing the gospel with coaches and athletes and has grown in its influence both nationally and internationally in the last 15 years.

As a graduate of the University of Illinois, Mark has had a significant interest in supporting the University of Illinois wrestling program and the Illinois Regional Training Center (IRTC) over the years. Mark and Carol have made a significant contribution to the University of Illinois wrestling program to build a new 14,000 sq ft wrestling center to open in 2025.

Mark is still active serving on the East St Louis Wrestling Club board, FCA St Louis board, the FCA Wrestling board, the FCA Midwest Region board, the Jackie Joyner Kersee Foundation Board, The Metro Community Church board, the Lansdowne Up -East St Louis board, and the Edwardsville Wrestling Club board. Mark is also co-owner in Ceres Barge Line and Lansdowne LLC.

Mark and his wife Carol have been married for 40 years and reside in Edwardsville. They have 2 grown children in Amanda and Adam and 5 grandchildren.

John Polz Willowbrook

John Polz attended J. Sterling Morton High School in Cicero and was a graduate from the Class of 1958.

He received the Outstanding Senior Wrestler Award while in high school. He went on to attend the University of Illinois and lettered in wrestling 3 years. He was a two-time recipient of the George Huff Award.

John began his teaching and coaching career at Morton West High School in Berwyn. He was a biology teacher and served as the Head Wrestling Coach from 1963 through 1968. He later became an Assistant Coach at Riverside-Brookfield, coaching there from 1979 to 1980. He then returned to coach Morton from 1988 through 1992. As a Head Coach he had seven state qualifiers and two state runner-up finishers.

After retirement, John spent many years working as an Assistant Coach at Carl Sandburg High School in Orland Park alongside his son, IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Mike Polz and IWCOA Hall of Fame wrestler Eric Siebert. During this time, Sandburg won 5 IHSA Dual Team State Titles and a total of 10 Dual Team State trophies. In addition, Sandburg produced 20+ individual State place winners and 10+ State Champions.

John also worked as an Assistant Coach at Plainfield North High School alongside his grandson Clinton for one year in 2012 and was most recently an Assistant Coach at Bolingbrook High School with his grandson, Conrad, in 2022.

John has devoted a large part of his life to the sport of wrestling over the last 65 years and continues to volunteer during practice and off-season tournaments.

In 2005 he joined his son Mike as an inductee into the IWCOA Hall of Fame.

Todd Rosenthal Moline

Todd Rosenthal attended Moline High School, Blackhawk Junior College and Illinois State University. While attending Black Hawk College, Todd won a bronze medal at the Junior Pan-American Freestyle Championships in Venezuela. He then followed by winning a gold medal in the 1979 Junior Greco-Roman Pan-Am Games in Mexico City.

At Illinois State University, he was selected as the Most Valuable Wrestler in 1982. An alternate on the 1980 and 1984 U.S. Olympic Greco-Roman wrestling team, he won three National Greco-Roman titles and was selected to be on two World Cup Greco-Roman teams. He captured the silver medal at the 1983 National Sports Festival.

After graduation in 1982 from Illinois State University, Todd began coaching as an assistant at United Township High School in East Moline. In that program, he helped produce four all-state wrestlers, and the school's first individual state wrestling champion. UTHS also finished in the "Elite Eight" in the first IHSA Dual Team State Championships in 1984.

Three years later, he assumed the head wrestling post at his alma mater, Moline High School, and held that position for fifteen years. Todd's wrestling teams tallied a dual meet record of 278-55, 63 individual state qualifiers, 11 state place winners and two state champions. The Maroons won 13 conference championships (12 in a row), eight regional titles, six sectional titles, and six dual team "Elite Eight" appearances. They placed fourth in 1998, third in 2000, second in 1999, and won the IHSA Dual Team State championship in 1996.

Todd was also named Team Leader of the 1995 Tour De Monde Greco-Roman team in Slovenia and Team Coach to the 1997 Team in Hungry. He was named the IWCOA Class AA Coach of the Year in 1996 and 2000. In addition, the National Wrestling Coaches Association selected him as the 1996 Illinois Coach of the Year. In 2001, he was inducted into the IWCOA Hall of Fame.

Todd became Moline High School's Athletic Director in 2000 where he stayed until his retirement in 2017. He hosted the IHSA Dual Team State Championship at Moline's Wharton Field House in 2003 and 2004. He hosted again in 2008 when the Dual Team Championship was cancelled at Northern Illinois University because of a school shooting.

Todd was selected as the 2008 and 2014 IWCOA Administrator of the Year. Also in 2008, he received the IWCOA Special Recognition Award Silver Level. Todd served on the IHSA Wrestling Advisory Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee to formulate a new wrestling weight control plan, which began in the 2003-04 school year and is currently used today. In 2015, he was inducted to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Illinois Chapter.

For all of his wrestling accolades, he was selected as the Grand Marshal for the IHSA Individual State Tournament in 2018. Todd was inducted to the Illinois Athletic Director Association Hall of Fame in 2020.

In retirement, Todd serves on the Selection Committee for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Illinois Chapter and the IWCOA Hall of Fame. Todd is currently the Assistant Tournament Manager of the head table for the IHSA Individual State Tournament, which he began supervising in 2007.

Todd and his wife of 38 years, Sue, reside in Moline. Todd and Sue have two children: Keeley (36), and Ryan (34). Plus, two grandchildren Khloe (7) and Kinsley (5) that keep him young!

Ray Winesburg Hoffman Estates

Ray Winesburg first took to the wrestling mat at the age of six years old for the Dundee Highlanders where he was an IKWF state finalist, which he followed with a strong career at Larkin High School in Elgin. He was a twotime Upstate Eight Conference Champion and a two-time IHSA regional champion. He received a scholarship to continue his wrestling career at Northern Illinois University, and when it concluded after a severe shoulder injury, he decided to stay on the mat as an official.

With 43 years as an IHSA official, you would assume Ray has seen it all by now, but he says that is not the case because "wrestling, like chess, has no end of possibilities." Ray has been selected to work the IHSA Individual and Dual Team State Finals a combined 15 times, with 10 trips to Champaign for the individual tourney and five working the dual-team championships. In addition, Ray worked all three varsity state tournaments the IWCOA held in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also served the IHSA as a Certified Clinician, helping to teach and train fellow officials, and continues to work with the IHSA clinicians to train new officials. Ray is currently the Wrestling Assignment Chairperson for the Chicago Catholic League, Fox Valley Conference, South Suburban Conference, Southwest Prairie Conference and Interstate-8 Conference, Interstate Central 8, and some independent schools, in addition to 62 junior high schools across Northern Illinois.

Ray was selected as grand marshal of the IHSA state finals in 2017 and grand marshal for the IESA state finals in 2015. Prior to the award being capped at one win per official, Ray was voted the IWCOA Official of the Year three times (1999, 2003, 2010), and was inducted into the IWCOA Hall of Fame in 2007. Ray was named IHSA NFHS wrestling official of the year for the 2010-11 season. He has served on the IESA Wrestling Advisory Committee and has refereed the IESA State finals a total of 12 times. Ray currently serves as the co-chairman of officials for the IKWF, a post he has held since 2019. He also continues to referee for the IKWF and for various wrestling tournaments across the United States, in addition to keeping one of the busiest seasons in the state consistently refereeing seven days per week during the IHSA/IESA/IKWF season.

Ray has always had the enthusiastic support of his wife, Donna, and his daughter, Season, a crowned Miss Illinois pageant winner, in his pursuits of officiating. He is professor and director of the science of welding at the Environmental Technical Institute in Willowbrook.

"No one loves the sport of wrestling and the art of the referee more than I do," Ray said. "As a young man, I was successful on the mat, and in my later years came to see the importance of instilling wrestling's values in the younger generations."

The IWCOA would like to congratulate all 2023 Lifetime Service Award inductees. Your dedication to wrestling will forever be remembered.

Congratulations Phil, Carmelo, Mike, Rob, Mark, John, Todd, and Ray!

IWCOA Lifetime Service Recipients

Adams, Vernon "Art"
Anderson, Charles
Bay, Ott
Bee, Floyd
Bernard, Larry
Bormet, Sean
Botheroyd, Bernie
2
Bowers, Jim
Brooks, Greg
Bukovsky, Mike
-
Carnahan, Jim
Cartwright, Bill
-
Cartwright, Jim
Chaloupka, James
_ ·
Chihoski, Phil
Clark, Anthony
-
Cliffe, Dan
Cliffe, Joe
-
Coit, Ron
Collins, Niall
Combs, Steve
Conrad, Randy
Conrad, Ray
-
Conrad, Roy
Cozzi, Greg
0
Craig, Jim
Cummings, Ray
Curby, Dr. David
Custer, Jim
Cyzewski, Tim
-
Czech, Ted
DeJarnatt, Carson
DeRousse, Ted
Dodge, Tim
Dyche, George
Easter, Bob
Eggert, Dale
Ewoldt, Ed
Farina, Charles
Flanigan, Tom
Flavin, Don
Flores, Carmelo
Fulk, Bob
Fulscher, Dan
Gannaway, Dave
Gardner, Greg
Gardner, Jack
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	Gardner, James	2003
	Gardner, Marilynn	2018
	Gardner, Mark	2022
	Garshelis, Renshaw	2012
	Gassen, Larry	2012
	Gauger, Ton	2005
	5	2010
	Genovesi, Augie	2009
	George, Elias	
	George, John	2008
	George, Pete	2008
	Gerrish, Lon	2013
	Gervais, Mark	2013
	Geselter, Morrie	2009
	Giese, Ed	2020
	Girardi, George	2002
	Goldstein, Lou	2016
	Haak, Tim	2015
	Hahn, Mark	2017
In	Heniff, Tom	2002
21	Hicks, Bob	2002
1/	Holzer, Werner	2002
	Honeycutt, Bill	2018
	Hubbard, Jarrett	2022
-	Hurckes, Mike	2023
-	Hurley, Allen	2008
-	Johnson, Mark	2010
	Jones, Robert I.	2012
	Jones, Sharron	2015
	Kanke, Larry	2015
	King, Mark	2010
	Klemm, Dave	2005
	Kocher, Leo	2013
		2011
	Konstans, Randy	2019
	Kraft, Art Kraft, Kan	
	Kraft, Ken	2001
	Kraus, Bert	2012
	Kristoff, Larry	2001
	Lazier, Murney	2012
	Ledin, Rob	2023
	Leese, Jack	2001
	Licocci, Tony	2011
	Luety, Ed	2005
	Mammen, Wayne	2020
	Manahan, Mike	2005
	Mann, Rick	2005
	Marianetti, Steve	2022
	Marino, Jack	2011
	-	

IWCOA Lifetime Service Recipients

Marquardt, Bill
Massery, Mark
Mathews, Dave
McCann, Dennis
McCann, Terry
McCauley, Neil
McGinnis, Harry
McLaughlin, Eural
Mestemacher, Mark
Miller, Wayne
Montgomery, Rich
Morgan, Andre'
Nason, Debbie
Nighohossian, Haig
O'Connor, Pat
Oglesby, Ron
Pedersen, Dr. Joe
Peterson, Bill
Pierre, Dale
Pillard, Henry
Pittman, Don
Polz, John
Polz, Mike
Porter, Tom
Portincaso, Mike
Puebla, Kevin
Raabe, Jim
Reichert, Ron
Robinson, Jack
Rosenthal, Todd

Ruettiger, Mark	2017
Ruettiger, Mick	2020
Rust, Ed	2018
Ryan, Ron	2017
Samorian, Harold "Sam"	2004
Schaus, Jon	2007
Schmitt, William "Red"	2001
Semetis, Ron	2018
Sherman, Walter	2010
Slimmer, Louis	2003
Stoudt, Elaine	2015
Stoudt, Jack	2003
Stevens, Sandy	2015
Strange, Robert	2010
Summerville, Joe	2019
Swalec, Dr. John	2011
Swierczewski, Gene	2003
TenPas, Larry	2006
Therry, Robert	2003
Turner, Jim	2015
Vavrus, Joe	2009
Weick, Bill	2006
Weiner, Neal	2019
Weiss, Steve	2014
Whitlatch, Rex	2013
Wilkey, Mike	2007
Williams, Marty	2013
Willson, Pete	2003
Winesburg, Ray	2023
Young, William	2010

Male & Female Wrestling Officials Needed

Have you ever considered becoming a wrestling official? Our sport is in dire need of those with wrestling knowledge to give back thru officiating! Officiating is a great way to stay connected to our sport while giving back. You can also make money for working meets and tournaments. If you are interested, visit the link, or scan the QR Code below and complete the google interest form. You will then be contacted about becoming a wrestling official and provided support to do so.

https://tinyurl.com/39mbpcv5



For more information visit: https://iwcoa.net/officials/

Nicholas Baima, Glen Ellyn (Glenbard West)/Univ of Northern Iowa Wrestler

Wrestling for Glen Ellyn (Glenbard West) High School (1999-2002) under IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Head Coach Bernie Botheroyd, Nicholas Baima placed four times at the IHSA Class AA State Tournament. Nick placed 5th at 103 lb. as a freshman, 5th at 119 lb. as a sophomore, 3rd his junior year at 130 lb. and was 5th as a senior at 145 lb. He was a two-time IHSA Sectional Champion, and he won the Dvorak Invitational and placed three other times. He finished his career with Glenbard West, posting a career record of 173-13 and had a 16-4 record at the IHSA State Tournament. With the help of his club coach, IWCOA Hall of Fame Member Ed Giese, he placed 5th at the USA Cadet Freestyle Wrestling Nationals and finished 4th and 5th at the FILA Cadet Freestyle Wrestling Nationals.

After High School, Nicholas wrestled for the University of Northern Iowa (UNI), coached by Brad Penrith (2002-2007). For UNI, he was a four-time NCAA qualifier. He was seeded 4th and 5th at the NCAA Division I National Tournament his junior and senior year. He won the Western Wrestling Regional twice. In addition, he won the 2005 Midlands Wrestling Championship and was awarded Most Outstanding Wrestler. His career record at UNI was 124-42, with the majority of his losses occurring in his first and second years.

Nicholas was also a four-time NWCA D1 Academic All-American and was named NCAA D1 Academic All-American by ESPN The Magazine.

Upon graduating from UNI with a BA in philosophy and humanities and a minor in history, Nicholas pursued a MA in philosophy at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. While working on his MA, he coached at Missouri Baptist University, reuniting with his old club teammates, Paul and Matt Collum. He then went on to achieve a PhD in philosophy at Washington University-St. Louis. He is now Associate Professor of Philosophy at the Wilkes Honors College of Florida Atlantic University.

Nicholas is indebted to his family, friends, coaches, and teammates.

Mike Behnke, Villa Park (Willowbrook) Wrestler

Mike Behnke graduated from Willowbrook High School in Villa Park in 2002. He was a four-time state qualifier. He wrestled for two years under IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Chuck Rossetti and his final two seasons under Bryan Murphy. Mike qualified for the 1999 IHSA State Tournament as a freshman and placed fifth as sophomore in 2000 at 189 lb. He then won back-to-back titles in 2001 and 2002 at 215 lb. and at 275 lb. He was voted the IWCOA Outstanding Wrestler in 2002. Mike was a member of Willowbrook's Elite Eight Dual Team in 1999. He finished his career with a 152-11 won-loss record including two unbeaten seasons. He had a win streak of 80 straight victories to close out his high school career.

Mike went on to wrestle at the University of Illinois. He had a 6th place in the Big Ten Tournament and was an NCAA qualifier.

Mike was also inducted into the Willowbrook High School Hall of Fame. Mike currently works in Minnesota.

Matthew Collum, Naperville (Neuqua Valley) Wrestler

Matthew Collum started his wrestling career at the age of five wrestling for the Lemont Bears, Lockport Grapplers, Fox Valley, and eventually the Martinez Fox Valley Elite Wrestling Club. While competing for Coach Jose Martinez, Matt was a three-time IKWF State place winner and won two IKWF State Championships.

Moving on to high school, Matt competed for Hall of Fame Coach Keith Healy at Providence Catholic during his freshman year, then moved on to Neuqua Valley High School, where he competed his remaining three years for another Hall of Fame Coach, Mick Ruettiger. Overall, his record in high school was 182 -16, and he was a three-time IHSA state place winner, finishing in 3rd place twice and winning the 119 lb State Title his senior year. Before Matt moved on to college, he also was a 2-time Fargo All American, including a finals appearance, and also captured a Senior National Championship.

Matt's college wrestling career included stops at Iowa Central, Old Dominion, Oklahoma State, and Missouri Baptist. Matt was coached by some of the biggest names in the business including Luke Moffitt, Steve Martin, John Smith and Brian Jackson to name a few. All together in his college career, he won a NJCAA National Championship, and was a 3-time All-American. Post College, Matt also experienced success, as he placed 4th twice at the Senior Level Northern Plains WTT Qualifier, and he also competed in the U.S. Open, the NYAC Tournament, and the Dave Schultz International Tournament.

After his competitive career came to a close, Matt turned his attention to coaching. He was at Timberland HS in MO serving as an assistant and eventually head coach from 2012 until 2018, where his team's finished 3rd in the State twice. He then served as an assistant coach at Neuqua Valley for a season, until he landed at Loyola Academy where he was named head coach in 2019. Matt has produced 52 state qualifiers, 24 place winners, 1 state champion, and was named Chicago Catholic League "Tony Lawless" Coach of the Year in 2022. Matt was also inducted into the Neuqua Valley Hall of Fame in 2021.

Todd Combes, Coal City Wrestler

Todd Combes started wrestling with the Dolton Falcons Park District at the age of three under the supervision of coaches Ray Czaszwicz, Les Sparrey, and Ed Dorman. As Todd moved through the Falcons program, he started winning matches and tournaments under the helm of his father, Marty Combes. He started making his mark on the world of wrestling winning regional and sectional tournaments at the intermediate level. Todd took second place at both in 1989 and then placed 6th at state when he was only 10 years old.

Todd also had eight straight state final appearances between Illinois Kids Wrestling Federation (IKWF) and Illinois High School Association (IHSA). Todd was a three-time state champ in IKWF while winning the M.O.W. Awards at the Midwest Junior Classic, the IKWF Open Elite, and the state tournament in 1993.

Then, the family moved to Coal City, Illinois. As an incoming freshman, Todd began wrestling as a Coaler. While in high school, he aspired to continue his wrestling success. Hall of Fame Coach, George Dare had just retired but left his legacy behind to live on in the hearts and minds of his wrestlers. The coaching staff changed again for the Coaler as a freshman and as a sophomore, but his teammates were there to push him all the way to the IHSA State Championships taking second place at state in both of those freshman and sophomore seasons.

New coaches, Brett Porter and Mark Masters, both eventual Hall of Fame inductees, arrived at Coal City in time to guide and motivate this winning grappler. They motivated Todd to get to the next level and fine-tune his competitive edge. As they pushed him, he pushed himself even harder. After losing his father in a tragic accident the year before and competing in an extremely close finals match-up, Todd wanted to right the ship of his life on the mat in the sport that he loved. He responded to these challenges with honor and perseverance going undefeated his junior and senior years as a Coal City Coaler.

With two state championships under his belt and collecting the 'Single A - Most Outstanding Wrestler Award' in 1997, he finished high school with a record of 136 wins and nine losses. His overall wrestling career record stands at 465 wins, 119 losses, and three ties.

Todd Combes has since followed in his father's footsteps. He is now in his fifteenth year of coaching kids' clubs by helping them understand to have fun and exhibit good sportsmanship while molding the hearts, minds, and bodies of a new generation of wrestlers.

Mike Garofola, Palatine Contributor

For the past 28 years, Mike has been a prep sportswriter for the Daily Herald in the sports of wrestling, boys and girls soccer, and boys tennis, covering for the Cook, DuPage, Fox, and Lake County areas

Mike is an IWCOA Senior Feature Writer since 2017 and was the 2017 IWCOA Media Person of the Year. He has covered boys state wrestling tournaments for 27 consecutive years for the Daily Herald. During those years, he has filed over 2,200 stories from tournament action, State individual tournament & State dual-meets. Mike was a contributing feature writer for Pioneer Press & Illinois Matmen from 2016-2019.

In addition to being the beat writer for both boys' and girls' soccer for the Daily Herald, he was also on the Chicago Fire soccer beat during the first three seasons from1998 to 2001. Mike was named Media Person of the Year seven times by the Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association.

Mike and his wife Linda live in Palatine, they have two children and six grandchildren.

Sharron L. Jones, Decatur Contributor

A 1963 graduate of Maroa-Forsythe High School, Sharron Jones was not very familiar with the sport of wrestling until she and Bob Jones were married. As he began to officiate the sport of wrestling, she would sit in the bleachers and knit Afghan's until she had completed one for every member of the family. Deciding to make better use of her time, she began to keep score at the meets that Bob was officiating. Her love affair with wrestling had begun.

Starting as a scorekeeper at the Clinton Holiday Tournament, she has worked the Argenta Bomber Classic, Mattoon High School kids tournament, Mahomet-Seymour Marty Williams Invitational and IKWF wrestling tournaments as a scorekeeper, announcer and assistant tournament director for many years. She also assisted with the Shelbyville IKWF tournament and numerous regional, sectional and state tournaments for many years and has served as a scorekeeper at many area high schools during this time.

Sharron has worked as least 50 IHSA Regional and Sectional tournaments as a scorekeeper and began working as a bench official at the IHSA Individual State Tournament over 30 years ago and also works as a bench official at the IHSA Dual Team/Girls State Tournament. Several years ago, she moved to the head table to serve as communications director and produced the individual class lineups for the Grand March.

In addition to serving as a matchmaker for the Midwest Nationals tournament held each summer in Bloomington, Sharron has aided the IWCOA by helping with registration for the Mahomet-Seymour coaches and officials' clinics.

In 1999 Sharron and Bob were selected as Grand Marshals for the IKWF State Tournament. She was named a "Friend of Wrestling" by the IWCOA and in 2011 received the Silver Level Special Recognition Award from the IWCOA. She also received the IWCOA Lifetime Service Award in 2015. In 2016 she was selected by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum-Illinois Chapter to receive the Lifetime Service Award to Wrestling.

Sharron has worked as a legal secretary since 1964 and has just recently retired serving the Macon County States Attorney. She is a charter member of the Macon-Moultrie Counties Legal Secretaries Association. Besides her grandkids, she has enjoyed knitting and bowling.

Greg Langley, Harrisburg Coach

Greg Langley was a star athlete at Eldorado high school, winning honors in both football and track. Since the Eagles did not offer wrestling, Greg came to our sport later in life.

After playing football at SIU-Carbondale, Greg became the head coach of Harrisburg High School and he has never left. Under his leadership, the Bulldogs have over 470 dual meet victories, with 23 state qualifiers and two state place winners.

Greg has been the Southern Illinois Coaches Association Coach of the Year 4 times ('91, '92, '96 & '06). Greg again showed his leadership as the Eagles went a 13-3 during the difficult COVID campaign.

Two of his Regional winning teams went to the Elite Eight of state competition.

Greg's expertise is not limited to the mats. He is the Athletic Director for the Purple and White and is an IHSA Official Representative. He was a vital member of the 2000 football coaching staff that lead Harrisburg to a state championship and has coached 2 Track and Field Champions (1999 & 2001)

In honor of his distinguished career and commitment to the youth of Harrisburg and surrounding areas; The IWCOA welcomes Mr. Greg Langley to the 2023 HOF class.

Ed Mears, Champaign (Centennial) Coach

Mr. Ed Mears was a decorated three sport athlete for the Golden Warriors of Sterling High School. He wrestled for IWCOA Hall of Fame coach Carson DeJarnett.

The Dual meet squad from his senior campaign (77-78) is a proud member of the Sterling HOF.

After playing baseball in college, Ed started his professional career by giving 10 years of service to young children in central Illinois.

In 1996, Ed caught the bug to come back to the mats and he became the Head coach at Champaign Centennial. Over the next 30 years; Ed coached the Chargers to over 300 dual meet wins, over 20 state qualifiers; and a twotime state champion as well as an additional finalist.

He is extremely proud of how his wrestlers have turned out in life. At the same time, one of his most cherished memories goes back to his high school senior season. His coach took a 10 am home dual vs. Dekalb and turned it into a Saturday dual in which the town of Sterling packed the gym. With that hometown support, the Golden Warriors upset DeKalb and went on to finish their season undefeated.

Off the mats, Ed coached both football and baseball.

Congratulations to Ed and his family.

Charles Merizan, Granite City Wrestler

Charles grew up in southern Illinois where he lived until he graduated from Granite City high school. He wrestled for HOF coach Ted Seabrook. He was state champion in 1945 and again in 1946. He was co-captain of the wrestling team and in 1946 was class President. He wrestled in many AAU tournaments winning 1st place in one, placing second in another and had two 3rd place finishes. Charles was stationed in Japan while serving in the Army. Upon his discharge, he entered the University of Illinois as a business/accounting student on the GI Bill. He wrestled for 3 ¹/₂ years for Coach Pat Patterson and received varsity Letter Sophomore, Junior & Senior years. Charles worked in SCM calculator Sales and was a partner in Computer Micrographics, Inc. He retired in 1993. Charles was inducted in the Granite City Hall of Fame.

Jon Murray, Geneseo Coach

Born in Cedar Rapids, IA, Jon Murray is currently in his 31st year of coaching wrestling and has been the head coach at Geneseo High School for 21 seasons, beginning with the 2002-03 season. He served as an assistant coach at Geneseo for eight years under IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Larry Kanke and then coached at United Township High School in East Moline under another Hall of Fame member Mark "Bam" Pustelnik.

Jon graduated from Bloomington High School where he was a two-time state qualifier and three-time regional champion. He also played football and competed in track and field.

After high school, Jon went on to Illinois College in Jacksonville. He earned his Bachelor's degree in 1992. While wrestling for Illinois College he compiled a 119-23 record and was a three-time Midwest Conference Champion. He was captain of the wrestling team and was also selected Most Valuable Wrestler.

As head coach Geneseo, Jon has coached 94 state qualifiers and thirty-four state place-winners. He has coached three state champions. His teams have compiled a 337-100 dual meet record and placed 2nd in the Dual Team State Tournament two times and fourth this past season.

Jon has coaches six sports while at Geneseo High School. He has coached at the IHSA State Finals in Individual Wrestling, Dual Team Wrestling, Girls Golf, Track & Field, Boys Cross-Country, and Girls Cross-County.

A 2013 selection as IWCOA Class 2A Coach of the Year, Jon was inducted into the Illinois College Hall of Fame in 2012.

Cassio Pero, Chicago (Mt. Carmel)/University of Illinois Wrestler

A product of the Mt. Carmel wrestling program of Chicago, Cassio Pero wrestled for four years under IWCOA Hall of Fame coach Bill Weick. He was 2002 graduate and a four-year starter for the Caravan and won a state title at 125 lb. in 2002 and placed fifth at 112 lb. in 2001. He defeated two returning state champions enroute to his title. He has a career record at Mt. Carmel of 108-6. While at Mt. Carmel, he served as Team Captain for the wrestling team. He also was Mt. Carmel's "Fight Night" Champ.

Cassio went on to the University of Illinois to wrestle under another IWCOA Hall of Fame member, Mark Johnson. He was an All-American in 2006 and had a college career record of 80-36. He graduated with a degree in Sports Management and went on to earn his MBA.

Cassio was a four-time IKWF State Champion, Tulsa National Champion and AAU National Champion.

After leaving the Illini he went on to serve as an assistant coach at Delaware State University. He spent one year at Delaware State and during that time he helped coach their first NCAA National Tournament qualifier.

Currently Cassio serves as a financial professional and private client banker. He is also involved with the Beast Wrestling Academy in Houston, TX.

Cassio enjoys movie nights, fishing, reading and golf.

Mike Poeta, Highland Park/Univ of Illinois Wrestler

A native of Highwood IL, Mike Poeta competed at Highland Park High School, where he was a 4-time IHSA state place winner. He finished 3rd in both his freshman and sophomore years and won IHSA State Championships both his Junior and Senior years. He also won 2 Cadet Freestyle National Championships, and the 2004 Junior Freestyle National Championship, while also capturing 3 High School National Championships. After his senior year, he was named a USA Wrestling Dream Team member, and was recognized as the number one pound for pound High School Recruit in the Country.

Mike went on to compete at the University of Illinois, where he became one of the most decorated wrestlers in Illini Wrestling History. He compiled a 105-14 career record, the 3rd all time highest winning percentage ever at Illinois, and won 2 Midlands Tournament Championships. He won 2 Individual Big Ten Titles, and was a 3-time NCAA All American, including 2 Championship Finals appearances. Mike was also a proud member of the 2005 Big Ten Champion Fighting Illini Wrestling Team.

After College, Mike represented the United States in the 2010 World Cup in Moscow, and also competed at the U.S. Olympic Trials in 2012. He wrestled professionally for 3 years, before starting his coaching career as Owner

and Head Coach of the Poeta Training Center in Lake Forest Illinois. During his 5 year tenure, Mike grew the training center from 40 wrestlers to over 200 wrestlers, and went on to train 19 Junior High and High School State Champions.

Eventually Mike landed back at U of I in 2017 serving as an assistant coach for the next 5 years. In 2021, Mike was named Head Wrestling Coach of the University of Illinois Fighting Illini Wrestling Team. In his short time as Head Coach, Mike has already enjoyed tremendous success, producing numerous NCAA Qualifiers and All Americans. Mike would like to acknowledge coaches Griff Powell, Tony Seibert, Mark Johnson and Jim Heffernan for having a tremendous influence on him as a wrestler and coach during his career.

Jim Raabe, Moline Coach/Contributor

Jim Raabe's wrestling career started at Willowbrook high school in Villa Park and proceeded to Western Illinois University where he wrestled for four years. At WIU he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education in 1978, which led to a 36 years-Teaching. He also accumulated 41 years of officiating and 44 years of coaching.

Jim started his teaching/coaching at Providence Catholic High School with IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Tim Ruettiger. Tim served as his mentor, both as a teacher and a wrestling coach. Jim also served as Tim's assistant varsity coach and Providence placed 2nd in state that same year.

After marrying Barbara Shoup (41 years and counting), Jim moved to Hamilton high school to begin his head coaching experience. Starting with only 4 wrestlers his first year, by the end of year five his teams had won two IHSA Regional titles and boasted 15 state qualifiers, 8 state place winners, and 1 state champion. During those five years at Hamilton, he also earned a Master's degree in Physical Education, became a USA certified silver level coach, started an IKWF club, officiated freestyle and greco including the honor of being the judge official for Barry Davis' Olympic challenge ladder match in Fort Madison, Iowa.

After Hamilton, Jim became the wrestling coach at MacMurray College for three years where he coached 2 National Qualifiers with 1 earning All-American status. It had been 11 years since MacMurray's last All-American wrestler and unfortunately for their program their last All-American. With the birth of his son James in 1987, Jim moved to the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired (ISVI) where he taught Physical Education and coached wrestling for 26 years, mentoring 1 state qualifier. Also, during his time at the ISVI Jim managed to earn his license for teacher of the blind and visually impaired, coached boys track and boys swimming, and was athletic director for 26 years. He is the reason that Goalball (a blind sport) became a North Central Association of Schools for the Blind (NCASB) conference sport and coached the sport for 10 years.

Jim was also past president of the NCASB and past president of the Western District Illinois Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (IAHPERD).

Upon retirement from ISVI, Jim served as a volunteer wrestling coach for the restarted MacMurray College men's and women's programs while also working on a committee to create an IHSA girls state wrestling tournament, which lead to an official presentation to the IHSA, which was ultimately successfully completed by the IWCOA.

Presently, Jim serves as an assistant wrestling coach for both the men's and women's programs at Augustana College under the direction of Head Coach Tony Willaert.

Jim served the on the IHSA wrestling advisory committee, AD Hoc wrestling weight control committee, IHSA cross-country & track advisory committee, and IHSA students with disabilities advisory committee.

Jim's honors include the:

- IWCOA "Friend of Wrestling" award in 1989;
- IADA Class 1A & 2A Athletic Director of the Year award 2009;
- the IWCOA"Lifetime Service to Wrestling" award in 2022;
- and the National Hall of Fame-Illinois Chapter, Lifetime Service to Wrestling Award in 2022.

Tom Rossiano, Elmhurst Coach/Contributor

Tom Rossiano was born on the south side of Chicago in 1953. He attended Perry Grammar School where he was introduced to wrestling in the 7th grade by Coach Nick Camera. His only competitions were the city tournament where he placed 3rd in 7th grade and 2nd in 8th grade.

Tom attended Thornridge High School from 1967-1971. He was coached there by Dick Russell. Tom was a fouryear varsity letter winner at Thornridge and was twice voted Most Valuable Wrestler. Tom was selected as Captain his Senior year. Tom was a two-time conference champion, two-time Rich East Rocket Invitational Champ, Regional champion, qualified for sectional twice. Tom placed 3rd in State freestyle and 4th in the IHSA State Championships in 1970 at 98 pounds. During his Junior and Senior years, he compiled a 52-7.

Tom attended Northern Illinois University from 1971-1975 where he wrestled under WCOA Hall of Fame Coach Don Flavin. He was a four-year Varsity starter for a team ranked as high as 9th in the nation in the NCAA Division 1. He was voted Team Captain his Senior year. While at NIU, Tom earned a BS in Education. Tom later went on to obtain his Masters Degree and earned an additional 90 hours in Science and Education.

In 1980, Tom started his coaching career at Thornwood High School as an assistant to IWCOA Hall of Fame Inductee Jarrett Hubbard. Tom was assigned to coach the freshmen. After Freshman practice, Tom would go up to the varsity room to work with the Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors.

In 1984, Tom accepted a Science position and the Head Coaching job at Mendel Catholic High School. Tom built the program to respectability. He finished there with a dual meet record of 41-9 had two State Qualifiers and one state Place Winner (5th). During his third and last year, Mendel finished 3rd in the Chicago Catholic Conference behind Mt Carmel and St Laurence.

Tom later went to Providence Catholic High School from 1987-1990 where he served as a Assistant Coach to IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Tim Ruitteger (87-88), and IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Mike Polz (88-89, 89-90). In three years at Providence Catholic, the Celtics compiled an 84-2 Dual Meet Record, had 26 state Qualifiers, 16 Individual State Placers and six State Champions. They were also two-time Team State Champions in 1988 and 1989 and were State Runner-ups in 1990.

In 1990 Tom accepted a teaching and coaching position at Waubonsie Valley High School. During his first year there, he was Assistant to another IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach, Fred Johnson. The next year he took over the Head Coaching reins. In Tom's six years as Head Coach, the Warriors compiled a 129-20-3 Dual Meet record, had 30 individual State Qualifiers, 15 State Place Winners and 3 State Champions. The Team was also State Runner-up in 1993 and 1994 and placed 4th in 1997. Tom retired from coaching after the 1997 season to start a family.

Tom volunteered at York High School from 2000-2015 under IWCOA Hall of Fame Coach Terry Clarke. Tom continued teaching at Waubonsie Valley until 2017 when he retired. He took a job at Marist High School teaching and was an Assistant under Brendan Heffernan for three years. During his time there they had 11 State Qualifiers and 4 individual Place Winners. Tom retired for good in 2020.

- Career Dual Meet Record as Head Coach: 170-29-3
- Nominated for Head Coach of the Year by the Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association 1993, 1994, and 1997
- Nominated for Assistant Coach of the Year by the Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association 1989 and 1990
- Waubonsie Valley Hall of Fame Inductee
- Elected Secretary of the S.I.C.A. Conference Coaches' Association 1984
- Voted Assistant Coach of the Year by the S.I.C.A. Conference Coaches' Association 1983

Finally, Tom is honored and humbled to be voted into The Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Hall of Fame and to be included into this group of Coaches and Officials that have done so much for the sport of Wrestling in Illinois.

Roy Seeger, Mundelein Coach/Contributor

Roy Seeger wrestled at Lake Forest High School and returned as a volunteer coach 1982. This motivated Roy to pursue a college degree that would allow him to coach. He graduated from University of Northern Colorado in 1988 and returned to Lake Forest as assistant wrestling and football coach. In 1993 Roy took over as Head Wrestling Coach and his Lake Forest teams excelled quickly setting a record for single season wins at Lake Forest on the way to winning 67 duals over 5-years.

Running a business in Prospect, led Roy to look for other coaching opportunities closer to home and work. He reunited with his friend, IWCOA Hall of Famer Dale Eggert, whom Roy had coached with in the early 90's. Roy spent 5 years as the assistant coach at Libertyville High School before Mundelein High School recruited him to lead their program. Roy turned Mundelein into a contender winning 43 duals over 3 seasons. A new superintendent joined Mundelein that year and required all head coaches to be teachers in the building triggering Roy to return to Libertyville.

During the next 8 years at Libertyville, he helped produce 7 All-Staters, 6 NSC Conference Championships, 6 Regional Championships, and the team that placed 4th in the IHSA Dual Team State Tournament. In 2008 Roy was awarded the NWCA Scholastic Division Illinois Assistant Coach of the Year. A turn of events took Roy back to Mundelein for the 2013 season, serving as Head Coach again in 2016.

Roy is the President & CEO of AECC Mobility in Mt. Prospect, IL and serves as an assistant wrestling coach for Libertyville High School for his 37th year of coaching. Roy & Stacy split their time living in Illinois and Colorado.

Ross Truemper, Pinehurst, NC Contributor

Born in Aurora, IL Ross Truemper graduated from Wheaton Central High School where he participated in Football and Track. He was named as Special Mention All-Conference in Football.

He attended Monmouth College and played football. He earned his B.A in 1974 and then received his M.S. in Ed. from Northern Illinois University in 1981. In 1989 he earned his General Administrative Certificate Endorsement from Governors State University.

Ross began his career in education at Wheaton-Warrenville High School as a P.E. teacher and later department chairperson. In 1983 he became Athletic Director at Wheaton Central High and then became Athletic Director and later Assistant Principal at Naperville Central High School. In 1998 he became Principal at Oswego High School. He then moved to Principal at Naperville North High School. Ross has served as Supervisor of Clinical Studies, Supervisor of Student Teachers and Private Business Vocational School Principal Consultant. During the period from 2011 to 2013 he was Interim Co-Principal at West Aurora High School. He later served as Intermediary Consultant for Aurora Regional Pathways to Prosperity Project. From 2010 through 2016 he served the DuPage Regional Office of Education as the Assistant Superintendent.

Ross has been a fixture at the IHSA Individual State Tournament for the past thirty years. For many years he managed the head table and has served as the Class 3A announcer since 2009.

As tournament director of the 2002 IHSA Dual Team State Tournament, Ross coordinated the Class AA and Class A state meet at Naperville North High School.

Ross was named as Illinois High School Principal of the Year and received the IHSA Distinguished Service Award and the IHSA Track Official of the Year. He was also inducted into the Illinois Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

He is a member of the Illinois Principals Association, National Association of Secondary School Principals and the Illinois Athletic Directors Association.

Upon retirement Ross moved to Pinehurst, NC but still returns every year to continue his announcing duties at the IHSA Individual State Tournament.

Mike Urwin, Orland Park Contributor/Wrestler

Mike Urwin competed as a youth wrestler for the Orland Park Pioneers where he was an IKWF state champion in 1982. He then moved onto St. Laurence High School in Burbank whereas a sophomore with a 34-1 record he won the 1984 IHSA State Championship at 98 pounds to become the first ever IHSA wrestling individual state champion from the Chicago Catholic League. The 1984-85 season presented its own set of challenges as Mike missed a month of his junior season with mononucleosis but was able work his way back to the mat to qualify for the state tournament and compile a 19-3 record. He placed 4th as a senior in 1986 at 112 lbs, finishing his final high school season with a 36-5 record. His three-year varsity record was 89-9. In 2013, Mike was inducted into the St. Laurence high school athletic hall of fame for his accomplishments in wrestling.

After his wrestling career was complete, Mike continued his wrestling journey as he went on to volunteer as a coach with the Orland Park Pioneers for 20+ years, coaching many wrestlers who qualified for the IKWF and IHSA state tournaments, including several youth and high school state champions and eventual NCAA All-Americans.

As great as his wrestling and coaching resume is, Mike's greatest accomplishments are arguably in the capacity of a contributor. Mike has served the Illinois Kids Wrestling Federation (IKWF) full-time as its Secretary/Treasurer since 1996. He was honored as an IKWF Grand Marshal and Ron Silverstein award winner in 2010 for his dedication and service to the organization. In addition, Mike assumes the role of tournament manager for the IKWF Kids Open, Dual Team State Tournament, and Individual State Tournaments every year. He also holds the same role for the ILUSAW Freestyle and Greco state tournaments and has served as an integral part of the team of contributors that has produced many national championships in USAW age group Freestyle and Greco-Roman competition.

He has served the IHSA for the past eight seasons as score clock coordinator and has been instrumental in the transforming the IHSA State Tournament and State series to the use of Trackwrestling tournament software and electronic scoring.

Ron Vermillion, Crystal Lake Official

Ron Vermillion graduated from Dundee Community High School in 1976. He competed in wrestling for four years. He had a career record of 64-16 while wrestling under Head Coach Bob Kennison. He also competed in Cross County.

He started coaching with the Dundee Highlanders Club and then was the head coach with the Crystal Lake Wizards Club. During this time, he coached several IKWF place winners, including his son Blake. Many of these wrestlers went on to make an impact on the sport of wrestling as coaches or officials.

Ron was named as the Official of the Year by the Illinois Kids Wrestling Federation in 2018. He has worked a combined twelve IHSA Individual and Dual Team State Tournaments and was nominated as IWCOA Official of the Year in 2019 and again in 2023.

Ron has worked for Dolly Madison & Hostess Cakes for 30 years as well as the Crystal Lake Park District and the Crystal Lake Gymnastics. He presently works in the Crystal Lake Gymnastics Training Center.

His hobbies include scuba diving, motorcycle riding, golf and hanging out with his grandchildren.

John Wise, Pittsfield/University of Illinois Wrestler

John Wise began wrestling in 2nd grade, thanks to the Pittsfield, Illinois IKWF club. He continued to work hard and improved, traveling to local and regional tournaments with his father, Joe. Throughout John's career, Joe encouraged his son to always finish out his seasons when he felt like quitting. John's parents never missed a match. John also lettered in Track & Field while at Pittsfield.

As a sophomore in high school, John placed second at the IHSA tournament. The loss proved a powerful motivator; he decided to go to the renowned J Robinson Wrestling Camp in Minnesota, where he was able to tap into the mental and physical discipline required to come back and win. He became a two-time state champion, four-time regional champion, and three-time sectional champion. John holds the Pittsfield High School record for pins, wins, and win percentage. John compiled a career reord of 148-6. He also earned all-conference honors in football and was named Most Valuable Defensive Player as well as Male Athlete of the Year in 2003 and 2004 at Pittsfield High School.

Wise began his collegiate athletic career at Western Illinois University playing football as a defensive lineman. He transferred to University of Illinois in 2005 and began wrestling as heavyweight under legendary coaches Mark Johnson and Jim Heffernan, both IWCOA Hall of Fame Inductees. His return to the sport he loved was a great choice; John became a three-time National Qualifier and All-American in 2009.

In his 2006-07 season he qualified for the NCAA Championships after placing seventh at the Big Ten Championships. The following season he was ranked in the top 20 of the NWCA/Intermat poll all season, ascending as high as No. 11. John qualified for the NCAA Championships after finishing fifth at the Big Ten Championships. During his final season he earned his All-American honor, finishing seventh at the NCAA Championships. He qualified automatically for the NCAA Championships with a third-place finish at the Big Ten Championships. John finished his career tied for 24th on the career wins list at the University of Illinois.

After his wrestling career concluded, John had a brief tryout with the New England Patriots football team.

The greatest win of his life was marrying his wife Ellie with whom he has three wonderful children. The Wise family lives in Galesburg, Illinois.

THE IWCOA WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND OUR WARMEST WELCOME TO THESE FINE INDIVIDUALS ON THEIR INDUCTION INTO THE 2023 HALL OF FAME CLASS!

Congratulations Nick, Mike, Matt, Todd, Mike, Sharron, Greg, Ed, Charles, Jon, Cassio, Mike, Jim, Tom, Roy, Ross, Mike, Ron, & John!

YEAR <u>MEMBER</u>

SCHOOL/TOWN

YEAR MEMBER

1976	Adams, Vern "Art"	Normal	2019	Diantronshin Spott	Milan
2014	Adams, vern Art Alber, Peter	Normal Dakota	2019	Blankenship, Scott Blew, Jerry	Roselle (Lake Park)
2014	Aldridge, Terry	Eureka	1981	Blunk, Clarence	Blue Island
1997	Allen, Andre	Lane Tech	2008	Bormet, Sean	Providence
2005	Amy, Rick	Rockridge	2008	Borrero, Wilbur	Antioch
2005	Amy, Steve	Rockridge	1996	Botheroyd, Bernie	Glenbard West
1998	Ancona, Jerry	Roselle (Lake Park)	1995	Bowers, James	Bloomington
2011	Anderson, Greg	Geneseo	2012	Bowers, Jeff	Bloomington
2000	Anderson, Dave	Palos Hills (Stagg)	1994	Bowman, Randall	LeRoy
1979	Anderson, Charles	Savanna	2020	Boyd, James	Port Byron (Riverdale)
2012	Andreotti, Paul	Marist/Northwestern	2020	Bracken, Kevin	St. Laurence
1999	Anthonisen, Norman	Chicago (Bowen)	2001	Bradley, Greg	Mt. Zion
1997	Antonacci, Dr. Robert	Lindblom	1994	Branum, Rex	Lincoln JC
1990	Antonides, Robert	Morgan Park	2015	Bringe, Ken	Chicago Bowen & Ag Sci
2010	Arkin, Fred	Oak Park	1999	Brooks, Gregory	Chicago (Fenger)
2010	Arlis, Tom	Naperville N./Batavia	2002	Brost, David	New Lenox
1978	Armer, Max	LaGrange	1985	Brown, George	Rock Island
2003	Armes, Les	Normal/Joliet JC	2008	Bukovsky, Mike	Montini Catholic
2003	Axelrod, Steve	Tinley Park	2003	Bulow, Allen	Glenbrook South
2014	Baker, Robert A.	Byron	2003	Busser, James	Polo
2014	Baima, Nicholas	Glenbard West	2014	Bybee, Mark	Burbank (St. Laurence)
2023	Bales, Joei	Joliet C./Northwestern	1990	Byram, Howard	Niles East
2016	Ball, Dave	Hillsboro	2020	Byrd, Tyrone	Clinton/Univ of Illinois
1980	Bandy, Lester	Danville	2020	Camden, Brett	Mahomet-Seymour
1979	Barbaro, Tony	Tilden Tech	2008	Campbell, Robert	Rich Central
1996	Bartosz, Bruce	Antioch	2008	Carlson, Kevin	Lombard (Glenbard East)
2016	Bate, Eric	Normal (U-High)/ISU	1996	Carmody, Tom	Jacksonville
2006	Baum, Urban	Belleville (East)	2001	Carnahan, James	Rock Island
2000	Baum, Russ	Cahokia	2001	Carrick, Chauncey	Sycamore
2002	Bay, Mike	Waukegan	2019	Carroll, Dan	Chicago (St. Rita)
1972	Bay, Ott	Waukegan	2010	Cartwright, Alan	OPRF/Nebraska (Omaha)
1972	Bay, Rick	Waukegan	1993	Cartwright, William	Proviso East
2006	Bay, Steve	Waukegan	1993	Cartwright, James	Conant
1995	Becker, Howard	Wilmington	2014	Casey, Chris	Tinley Park
1989	Bee, Floyd	Lincoln	2010	Chaloupka, Jim	Chicago
2022	Beebe, Chase	Lombard (Montini)	2015	Chapman, Mike	WIN Magazine
1975	Behm, Don	New Trier	2013	Cheeseman, Pat	Mt. Carmel
2023	Behnke, Mike	Villa Park (Willowbrook)	2000	Christenson, Curt	Pontiac
2017	Benford, Booker	SIUE	2010	Clarke, Terry	Elmhurst (York)
2001	Benion, Ernest	Romeoville/U of IL	2005	Clarke, Tony	Zion
1995	Benner, William	Peotone	1993	Cliffe, Dan	DeKalb
2018	Berger, Ryan	Mahomet/U of IL	1993	Cliffe, Joe	Plano/Prairie Central
2001	Berman, Al	Palatine	1998	Clinton, Ron	Univ of Illinois/EIU
2000	Bernard, Larry	Bolingbrook	2010	Coit, Ron	Farmer City
2003	Bessemer, Ron	Harper JC	1989	Coldren, Dick	Northwestern
2020	Betterman, Joe	Lake View/Team USA	1999	Collins, Niall	Oak Park
1987	Billberg, Bob	Libertyville	2023	Collum, Matthew	Nequa Valley
1988	Bishop, Fred	Proviso	2022	Collum, Paul	Romeoville
2019	Blaha, Tom	Tinley Park/SIUE	2023	Combes, Todd	Coal City
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YEAR <u>MEMBER</u>

<u>SCHOOL/TOWN</u>

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1975	Combs, Steve	Moline	2009	Eberhard, Dave	Oswego
1973	Coniglio, Frank	Murphysboro	2009	Eggert, Dale	Libertyville
1975	Conrad, Roy	Chicago (Schurz)	2000	Eickelschulte, Raymond	Fowler
2000	Conrad, Randy	East Leyden	1998	Eiter, Rob	St. Viator
1989	Conrad, Ray	River Grove	2007	Elliott, Trevor	Sandwich
2003	Cook, Gary	Argenta-Oreana	1979	Ellis, John	Palatine
1998	Cookas, Mike	Joliet (West)	2018	Elsen, Paul	Winnebago/Wheaton Coll
2017	Cooper, Dr. Benjamin	Stephen Decatur/SIUC	1973	Emmons, Robert	Lawrenceville
2017	Corwin, Lloyd	Rock Island	2020	Endsley, Steve	IESA
2008	Cotter, Kevin	Byron	1996	Erikson, Tom	Bloom Township
1995	Cozzi, Greg	Palatine	2015	Evans, Mike	Bloom Trail
1995	Craig, James	Oak Lawn	2013	Everett, Gene	Gibson City
2022	Crandall, Kip	Tremont/Millikin	1975	Ewoldt, Ed	Wheaton (Central)
1980	Crisler, Ben	Thornton	2014	Exton, Glen	Vandalia/O'Fallon
2020	Culbertson, Bob	Vandalia	2005	Fallen, Phil	Chicago (Amundsen)
1990	Cummings, Ray	Tolono	2003	Fallico, Craig	Park Ridge (Maine So)
2008	Curby, Dr. David	LaGrange	1973	Farina, Charles	East Leyden
1974	Custer, James	Pekin	2004	Farina, Jim	East Leyden
2002	Cutlip, Jack	Arlington Heights	1985	Farina, Mike	Elmhurst (York)
2002	Cysewski, Dan Jr.	Cary Grove	2000	Farinosi, Dan	Hoffman Estates
1991	Cysewski, Tim	Glenbrook South/NU	2000	Farris, Paul	Wheaton
1973	Czech, Ted	Thornton	2010	Feldman, Dr. Bernard	Palos Park
1990	Dallman, Glen	Byron	2012	Fellinger, Dave	Chicago
1998	D'Ambrosio, John	Byron Bremen	2014	Ferguson, Ryan	Roselle (Lake Park)
1991	Dannehl, Wayne	Antioch	2020	Ferry, Cal	Machesney Park (Harlem)
2007	Dantzler, T.C.	Thornwood/NIU	1994	Feutz, Charles O.	Conant
1994	Dare, George	Coal City	2011	Filippi, Frank	Glen Ellyn
2008	Davis. Jon	Edwardsville	1982	Finn, Terry	Oak Lawn/SIUC
2000	Davis, Tony	Chicago (Mt. Carmel)	2012	Fiorella, Sammy	Burbank St. Laurence
1978	DeJarnatt, Carson	Sterling	1974	Fitzgerald, John	Burbank (Reavis)
2017	Dergo, George	Morris	1993	Flanigan, Tom	U of I - Loop Campus
1978	DeRousse, Ted	Antioch	1977	Flavin, Don	DeKalb/NIU
1991	Deutschmann, Archie	Urbana	2001	Fletcher, Charles	Machesney Park
1991	Devine, Pat	Tilden Tech	2005	Flores, Carmelo	Chicago (Lakeview)
2012	Devine, Don	Crystal Lake	1988	Fowley, Roy	East Aurora
1996	Dickason, Donald	Champaign	2003	Fox, Ed	Wheeling
1985	Diewald, Emil "Butch"	Homewood-Flossmoor	1993	Foy, Michial	Thornwood
2008	Dodge, Tim	Lindenhurst	1988	Friberg, William	Leyden
2007	Douglas, David	Luther S/Thornridge	2020	Friedl, Pete	Sandburg/Univ of Illinois
1981	Downing, Wirt	East St. Louis	2011	Froehlich, Dave	Rolling Meadows
2004	Drendel, Gene	Naperville	1985	Fulk, Bob	Glenbard North
2013	Drosopoulos, Dan	Morrison	2000	Fulscher, Dan	Lincoln
2012	Dunn, Jim	Lawrenceville	2014	Futris, Tom	Crystal Lake
1993	Dunn, Leo "Skip"	Rich East	2006	Gannaway, Dave	Normal/IHSA
2007	Durlacher, Lindsey	Buffalo Grove/U of I	1989	Gardner, Jack	Springfield
1987	Dyche, George	West Aurora	1986	Gardner, Jim	Springfield/EIU
2022	Dziewiakowski, John	Lombard (Montini)	2013	Gardner, Mark	Bloomington
1985	Easter, Bob	Peoria (Richwoods)	2001	Garland, Mike	Granite City
2017	Easter, Greg	Chillicothe (IVC)	1987	Garner, Don S.	Wheaton Community
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YEAR MEMBER

SCHOOL/TOWN

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2023	Garofola, Mike	Palatine	2005	Harrell, Quintroy	Harvey Twisters
2004	Garrett, Harold	Bloomington	2013	Harsh, Jim	Bloomington
1994	Garshelis, Renshaw	Charleston	2013	Hasty, Bryon	East Peoria
1995	Gassen, Larry	Downers Grove South	2015	Hattendorf, Mark	Elgin
2001	Gauger, Tom	Burbank St. Laurence	2006	Healy, Keith	Providence Catholic
2014	Geist, Ryan	Fox Lake (Grant)	2017	Heffernan, Jim	Univ of IL
1994	Genovesi, Augie	Niles (Notre Dame)	1982	Heniff, Tom	Oak Lawn (Richards)
1982	George, Pete	Bensenville (Fenton)	2012	Herman, Jevon	St.Charles/U of IL
1973	George, Elias	Evanston	2009	Hernandez, Emiliano	Maine East
1977	George, John	Evergreen Park	2019	Hey, Jacob	Dixon/USAF
2013	Geraci, Sam	Roselle (Lake Park)	2019	Hiatt, Sam	DeKalb/NIU
2002	Gerber, Walt	Rock Island	2014	Hickman, Marty	Bloomington/IHSA
2014	Gerdes, Ben	Providence/Sandburg	1972	Hicks, Bob	Chicago Tilden Tech
2022	Gerdes, Ken III	Providence/Univ of IL	1979	Hill, Eugene	Illinois State Univ
1997	Gerrish, Lon	Sandwich	2011	Hill, Jeff	Petersburg (PORTA)
1995	Gervais, Mark	Chicago (Marist)	2018	Hoerr, Grant	Morton/U of Wisconsin
1993	Geselter, Morrie	Deerfield	2017	Holbrook, Scott	Sterling (Newman)/Orion
2015	Gholar, Darrell	Dunbar/U of Minnesota	2020	Holland, Dana	Glenbard North/Ariz St. U
2015	Giannamore, Frank	Mundelein	2001	Holland, Robert	East Leyden/EIU
2008	Giardini, Gary	Rockford (East)	2017	Holler, Dave	Rockton Hononegah/ISU
2009	Gibson, Ron	Naperville	1994	Holm, Dan	Libertyville
1994	Giese, Ed	Bensenville (Fenton)	1993	Holtfreter, Richard	Harvard
1999	Gilbert, Joey	Tinley Park Andrew	1976	Holzer, Werner	Chicago Schurz/U of IL
2017	Gillespie, Shannyn	Evanston/Lock Haven	2003	Honeycutt, Bill	Woodridge
1978	Girardi, George	Normal (U - High)	2022	House, Herbert	Conant
2017	Gitcho, Jan	Granity City/SIUE	2012	Houston, Rod	Camp Point Central
1993	Giura, John	Oak Park	1993	Houston, Ken	Oak Lawn/SIUC
1976	Glass, Brad	Winnetka New Trier	1979	Hubbard, Jarrett	Joliet (West)
2016	Gluck, Mike	Palatine/U of Wisconsin	2008	Hughes, Matt	Hillsboro/EIU
2020	Glynn, Brian	Providence/Univ of IL	2018	Hurckes, Michael	Ringwood
2019	Goldstein, Matt	Conant	2017	Hurry, Tyler	Port Byron (Riverdale)
1993	Goransen, Perry	Joliet Township	2013	Hunt, Gary	Decatur
1991 1074	Govoni, Don	Joliet	1973	Hurley, Allen	Winnetka (New Trier)
1974 2017	Greene, Kenneth Greenfiled, Mike	Rock Island	1984 2016	Isaacson, Terry	Oak Park
		Belleville (Althoff) Urbana	2016 2007	Izzo, Jim Jaalaan David	Lombard (Montini)
2001	Gremer, John Griffin, Jock		1981	Jackson, David	Burbank (Reavis) Chicago (Tilden Tech)
1998 2010	Griffin, Jack Grizzi, Bob	Stagg/Northwestern	1981	James, Joe	e (
2010 1974	Gross, Charles	Burbank (Reavis) Peoria	2012	Jarman, Tom Johnson, Fred	NU/Wheaton College
2003	Gruszka, Stan	Naperville North	2012	Johnson, Tom	Augustana/Waubonsie
2003	Guzak, Ray	Blue Island/NIU	2003 2007	Johnson, Tom	Bismarck-Henning Chatham-Glenwood
	Haak, Tim	Harvard	2007	Johnson, Gerald A.	New Lenox
2001 2006	Hahn, Mark	Glenbard North	2012	Johnson, Johnny	North Chicago/NIU
2000		Mahomet	2008 1987	•	•
2005 1986	Handlin, Robert Hanke, Al		2005	Johnson, Mark Johnston, Gene	Rock Island (Alleman) Oak Forest
2001	Hanke, Al Hankenson, Lou	Elmhurst College Charleston	2003 1980		
2001	Hankenson, Lou Hanley, Reid	Charleston Clarendon Hills	1980 1994	Jones, Amos Jones, Robert I.	North Chicago Decatur
2007 1988	Hanlin, Bert	East Moline	2023	Jones, Robert I. Jones, Sharron L.	Decatur
1988 1978	Hanson, Charles	Glenbrook North	2023 1988	Kachiroubas, Lou	University of Illinois
17/0	Hanson, Charles	CICHOLOOK INOLUI	1700	Kaciniouoas, Lou	Oniversity of minors

YEAR MEMBER

SCHOOL/TOWN

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•	TT 1' T 1		2016		
2000	Kading, John	Glenbard South	2016	Lid, Glenn	Maywood (Proviso East)
2010	Kaiser, Marty	Rockton (Hononegah)	1996	Llewellyn, Jon	Hinsdale Central/U of IL
1993	Kaltofen, Alvin	College of Dupage	2008	Lockhart, John	Mahomet/Univ of IL
2016	Kamp, Kris	Deer Creek	2001	Loffredo, Fred	Tilden Tech
2019	Kane, John	Conant	2010	Long, Bob	Yorkville
2002	Kanke, Larry	Geneseo	1997	Lovelace, Norman	Harper JC
1998	Kelly, Billy	Oak Lawn (Richards)	1999	Lovellette, Richard	Litchfield
1998	Kelly, Jerry	Oak Lawn (Richards)	1991	Luety, Ed	Melrose Park
2019	Kelly, Mary	Mahomet-Seymour	1987	Lundy, Al	Calumet City
1972	Kenney, Harold "Hek"	Univ of Illinois	1999	Magruder, Ronald	Wheaton Central
2004	Kerby, Richard	Chicago Kelvyn Park	2011	Mahar, Jim	Amboy
2022	Kessen, Nate	Sugar Grove	2020	Malley, Mark	Stephen Decatur/MSU
1999	Kienlen, Donald	Joliet Township	2001	Mammen, Kirk	Urbana
1994	King, Mark	LaGrange-Lyons Twp.	1991	Mammen, Wayne	Urbana
2011	Kirgan, Allen	Granite City	1997	Manahan, Michael	Olympia
1998	Klemm, Dave	Lincoln/EIU	1986	Mann, Bobby	Danville
1975	Klootwyk, Ray	Joliet (West)	1993	Mann, Richard	Hersey
1995	Kocher, Leo	University of Chicago	1984	Mann, William	Maine South/U of IL
2004	Kody, Scott	Inverness	2020	Mansell, Ken	Lincoln-Way/Quincy ND
1992	Koehler, Bob	Illinois State University	2011	Marchello, Jack	Thornton
1992	Koenig, Tom	Bloom Township	1983	Marcucci, Vic	Burbank (Reavis)
1986	Konovsky, Bob	Morton Township	1999	Marianetti, Steve	Glenbrook N/U of IL
2014	Konstans, Randall	North Aurora	1975	Marino, Jack	Proviso East
1973	Kraft, Arthur	Northwestern/Triton	2009	Markwell, Dave	Fithian (Oakwood)
1978	Kraft, Ken	Northwestern	1977	Marlin, Kenneth	Champaign/Rockford
1976	Kraus, Bert	LaGrange	1999	Marquardt, Bill	Bloomington
2001	Kristine, Alex	Barrington	2018	Martelli, Charles	Naperville N/U of Mich
2002	Kristoff, Kip	Bethalto/SIU	2020	Martinez, Israel	West Aurora/Montini
1974	Kristoff, Larry	Carbondale/SIU	2009	Martinez, Lino	Stevenson
2013	Kristoff, Mark	Bethalto	2019	Martinez, Nathan	West Aurora
2020	Kroner, Fred	Mahomet/News-Gazette	2022	Marx, Peter	Conant
1987	Kruempelstaedter, James	Winnetka New Trier	1985	Massery, Mark	Savanna/NU
1995	Krupke, Ralph	Roselle (Lake Park)	2022	Masters, Mark	Coal City
2017	Kuykendall, Bob	Mundelein (Carmel)	2000	Mathews, Dave	Naperville
2013	Laccone, Frank	DeKalb	2011	Matozzi, Mike	Hinsdale (South)
2009	Lackey, Matt	Moline/Univ of IL	1988	McAdams, Ben	Moline
2001	Lahey, Tom	Tinley Park Andrew	1997	McCann, Dennis	Park Ridge (Maine So)
1992	Lambros, Tony	Chicago (Calumet)	1972	McCann, Terry	Chicago (Schurz)
1992	Lancaster, Jerry	Port Byron Riverdale	2010	McCarthy, Foster	Champaign
2023	Langley, Greg	Harrisburg	2008	McCauley, Lawrence	Granite City
2002	Larsen, Ron	Joliet	2000	McCauley, Neil	Naperville North
1976	Law, Glen "Newt"	Univ of Illinois	1996	McCausland, Ralph	Wheaton Central/EIU
1984	Lazier, Murney	Evanston	2007	McCoy, Terry	DeKalb/Kaneland
2008	LeCuyer, Tom	Plano	2006	McGinnis, Harry	Triton Junior College
2009	Ledin, Don	Chicago	1991	McLaughlin, E. Mac	Joliet (Central)
2011	Ledin, Rob	Mahomet/Clinton	2014	McMahon, Patrick	Tinley Park
1980	Leese, Jack	East Leyden	2014	McMorrow, Gary	Prospect
2002	Lester, Harry	Moline	2022	McTague, Brian	Morris/Reed Custer
1989	Licocci, Tony	Rock Falls	2023	Mears, Ed	Champaign (Centennial)

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1993	Meeks, Major Richard	Champaign/U of IL	1992	Parker, Norman	Highland Park
2012	Mekeel, Donald	Sterling	1986	Parker, Ted	Deerfield
2009	Mena, Bob	Sterling Newman	1985	Parks, Tony	Addison Trail
2000	Mena, Mike	Sterling Newman	1978	Patacsil, Joseph	Chicago Tilden Tech
2023	Merzian, Charles	Granite City	2017	Patrick, Nate	Naperville (North)/UofIL
2011	Mestemacher, Mark	Edwardsville	1974	Patterson, Buell	University of Illinois
1998	Milazzo,Larry	Roxana	1995	Patton, James	Woodstock
2020	Milder, Kevin	Lena-Winslow Stockton	1999	Pearson, Fred	Chicago Tilden Tech
1985	Millard, Don	Pekin/SIUC	1996	Pedersen, Joe	Naperville
2000	Miller, Don	Mundelein	2023	Pero, Cassio	Mt. Carmel/Univ of IL
1981	Miller, Wayne	DeKalb	2002	Peterson, Jon	Grayslake
2011	Miller, Jim	Tolono	1984	Peterson, William	Chicago (Lakeview)
1990	Minot, George	Harvard/U of IL	1983	Pickens, Robert	Evanston
2001	Mirabella, Jeff	Elgin	1976	Pickerill, Ken	Oswego
2005	Mitton, Bob	Orion	1984	Pierre, Dale	Wheaton (North)
1983	Monroe, Ken	East Leyden	1986	Pillard, Henry	Joliet Junior College
2002	Montgomery, Rich	Rock Falls	1987	Pinther, Harold	Eastern Illinois Univ
1991	Moore, Ken	Thornton	1982	Pittman, Don	Champaign
2015	Morgan, Shane	Oswego	2004	Platt, Rollie	Quincy
2012	Morris, Ben	Bensenville (Fenton)	1973	Plaza, Arnold	Chicago (Tilden Tech)
2002	Morrison, Allie	University of Illinois	2023	Poeta, Michael	Highland Park/Univ of IL
2012	Morrissey, Don	Rosemont/Putnam	2005	Polz, John	Morton
1993	Mottleson, Dr. Ben	LaGrange	1999	Polz, Michael	Sandburg/Providence
2017	Moxley, Jim	Fisher/Mahomet-Seymour	2019	Porter, Brett	Mahomet-Seymour/Edinboro
1984	Mudge, Richard	Prospect	1983	Porter, Tom	Hersey
2005	Mueller, King	Bolingbrook	1990	Porter, Robert	Niles (West)
2016	Mulrenin, Terry	Oak Lawn/SIUE	2011	Porter, Rob	Naperville (Central)
2005	Murphy, Bill	Homewood	1996	Portincaso, Mike	Bloomingdale
2011	Murphy, Rob	Wilmington	1994	Powell, David	St. Charles
2023	Murray, Jon	Geneseo	2014	Powell, Michael	Oak Park
1977	Musgrove, Homer	Sterling	2008	Powers, Rich	Marian Catholic
1982	Nacin, Al	Burbank (Reavis)	1990	Prehn, Paul	Illinois University
2007	Nason, Debbie	Orland Park	2015	Prichard, Greg	Morton
2013	Nesbit, Bob	Springfield	2011	Pronga, Lou	Chillicothe (IVC)
1993	Newlon, Gary	Prophetstown	1997	Puebla, Kevin	Augustana College
2004	Nighohossian, Haig	Granite City	2013	Pustelnik, Mark	East Moline (United Twp)
2016	Nino, John	Kelvyn Park/Triton JC	1994	Querciagrossa, James	Peoria (Woodruff)
1992	Nordin, James	Palatine	2017	Quirk, Pat	Hinsdale (Central)/U of IL
1994	Nordquist, Ken	Rich South	2016	Quigley, Chris	Aurora/ISU
1977	Norman, Robert	Morton East/U of IL	2023	Raabe, Jim	Jacksonville
1989	Norris, Bernadette	Chicago (Lakeview)	2012	Ragan, Dennis	Carbondale
2020	Norton, Dr. Seth	Wheaton College	2022	Ramirez, Mike	Chicago
2018	O'Connell, Patrick	Joliet Central	1984	Ray, Ron	Orr/Bloom Trail
1994	O'Connor, Pat	Glasford-Illini Bluffs	2016	Reed, Tom	Cahokia
1994	Oglesby, Ronald	Oak Lawn	1999	Reichert, Ronald	IL Wrestling Federation
1978	Olson, George	Wheaton College	2000	Reif, Gary	Jacksonville/Carlinville
2020	Owens, Brad	Mt. Zion/Univ of Wisc.	2000	Richards, Jim	Hoopeston
2020	Paar, Ron	Crystal Lake/U of Wisc.	1993	Richoz, Arch	DeKalb
2014	Pape, Jeff	Franklin Park	1993	Riley, Jack	Northwestern
2013	1 apo, 3011		17/7	itity, sack	

IWCOA HALL OF FAME

YEAR MEMBER

<u>SCHOOL/TOWN</u>

YEAR MEMBER

SCHOOL/TOWN

2018	Risley, Jim	Mahomet-Seymour	2015	Sears, Al	Wheaton/SIUE/Belleville
1993	Robinson, Donald	Normal	2013	Seeger, Roy	Lake Forest
1979	Robinson, Jack	Thornton	2025	Seeman, Tom	Crystal Lake
1997	Rockwood, Joe	Thornton	1994	Semetis, Ron	Dixon
2017	Rodgers, Kirby	Lincoln	1994	Shapiro-Weissman, Dave	
2017	Roesler, Karl	Providence/Univ of IL	1985	Sheets, Cliff	Decatur
2013	Rolak, Mike	Chicago Tilden Tech	1986	Sherman, Dan	Deerfield
1990	Roman, Ronald	Chicago Tilden Tech	1980	Sherman, Walter	Glenbrook North
1990	Romanowski, Walter	Chicago Tilden Tech	2002	Sherman, Winfred	Proviso
2001	Rosenthal, Todd	Moline	2002	Sherrill, Rob	Illinois Best Weekly
1998	Ross, Paul (Pete)	Lincoln	2000	Siebert, Eric	LaSalle-Peru/U of IL
2002	Rossetti, Chuck	Willowbrook	2001	Siebert, Mark	LaSalle-Peru
2002	Rossiano, Tom	Waubonsee Valley	2003	Silverstein, Max	Chicago/Naval Academy
2023 1974	Rauth, Walther	Belleville	1977	Silverstein, Ralph	Crane Tech/ U of IL
2022	Reynolds, Donnie	Providence/Univ of IL	1977	Silverstein, Ron	Niles
2022	Richardson, Scott	Providence/Shepard	2010	Sinverstein, Kon Simon, Jeff	Peoria (Richwoods)
1995	Rowden, Don	-	2010		· · · · · ·
2004	Rubiano, Tony	Fox Lake (Grant) Park Forest	2004	Simons, Terry	Wheeling
	•		1972	Skelnik, Rich	East Leyden Proviso
2016	Rucker, Kenny	Harvey (Thornton) Minooka		Slimmer, Louis	
2009	Ruettiger, Bernie		1991	Smith, Brad	Hersey Homewood
2002	Ruettiger, Dominic	St. Charles/Neuqua Valley Lisle	2003	Smith, Chuck	Rochelle
2003	Ruettiger, John		2014 2013	Snyder, Roy	
1995	Ruettiger, Mark	Providence/EIU		Sorensen, Jeff	Bloomington TF South
1996	Ruettiger, Tim	Providence	1976	Sowinski, Joe	
2003	Rumchak, Bill	Bolingbrook	2002	Stalhut, Warren	Edwardsville
1990	Rumsfeld, Hon. Donald	Winnetka New Trier	2007	Stearns, Steve	Oak Lawn/SIUE
1994	Ryan, Ron	Mt. Olive	2015	Stevens, Don	Carl Sandburg/SIUE
2016	Salinas, Rudy	Chicago	2000	Stevens, Sandy	Glen Ellyn
2020	Salley, Jason	Elgin	2018	Stoltz, David	Hersey/U of IL
2016	Sammons, John	Oswego	1990	Storitsch, Larry	Joliet
1984	Samorian, Harold	Glenbrook North	1983	Stoudt, Jack	Pekin
1999	Santana, Frank	Gordon Tech	1972	Strange, Robert	Lawrenceville
1991	Sapora, Dr. Allen	Illinois University	2003	Stuart, Don	Oak Forest
1994	Sapora, Dr. Joseph	Illinois University	2003	Stuart, Ron	Oak Forest
1998	Savenago, Geno	Glenbard North/EIU	2017	Stumpf, Don	Arlington/SIUC
1989	Schaus, Jon	Geneva	2005	Summers, Dan	Hersey
1992	Schmadebeck, Bill	Glenbrook Granita Cita	2004	Summerville, Joe	Tolono
1973	Schmitt, William "Red"	Granite City	1981	Swalec, John	Libertyville Hoffman Estates
2009	Schneider, Russ	Gurnee	1984	Swierczewski, Gene	
2009	Schroeder, Steve	Metamora/El Paso	1974	Swindell, Roy	Champaign
1988	Schult, James	Glenbard South	2005	Swinford, Randy	Princeton
2013	Schultz, Neil T.	Harvard	2022	Tannenbaum, Eric	Naperville N./U of Mich
1992	Schultz, Donald	Carl Sandburg	1994	Taylor, Lawrence	Cahokia
2003	Schultz, Chet	Rock Island	1975	TenPas, Larry	Waukegan/U of IL
1977	Schwartz, Marty	West Leyden	2018	Thacker, Gary	Belvidere
1986	Sciacca, John	Harvard	1975	Therry, Robert	North Chicago
2001	Scordino, Joe	Carmel H.S.	2004	Thompson, Ernie	Oak Park
2014	Scully, Bill	Hoffman Estates	2003	Tiffany, Mark	Waukegan/NIU
1987	Seabrooke, Ted	Proviso East/U of IL	2005	Tipsword, Bob	Buffalo Grove

IWCOA HALL OF FAME

YEAR MEMBER

<u>SCHOOL/TOWN</u>

YEAR MEMBER

SCHOOL/TOWN

2016	Torres, Mick	Libertyville	1997	Wheeler, Al	Oswego
2013	Trizzino, Mark	Joliet	2018	Whelan, Keith	Granite City/U of Mizzou
2008	Trizzino, Scott	Joliet (Central)	2001	Whelan, Khris	Granite City
1998	Trost, Kirk	Lincoln-Way	1992	Whelan, Robert	Chicago (Hirsch)
2023	Truemper, Ross	Pinehurst, NC	1992	Whitaker, Walt	Granite City
2006	Tschannen, Morris	Roxana	1979	Whitlatch, Rex	Urbana
1994	Tschudi, Dick	Dakota	2015	Wiesneth, Jack	Libertyville
1999	Turner, Alvin	Chicago (Parker)	1980	Wilkenson, Dr. James	Southern Illinois
2007	Turner, Jim	Marion	1997	Wilkey, Mike	Oak Park
2023	Urwin, Michael	Orland Park	2015	Williams, Joe	Lockport
2004	Vail, Bill	Oak Lawn/Joliet JC	1999	Williams, Joseph	Chicago (Mt. Carmel)
2019	Vatch, Ed	Addison Trail/Wisconsin	1992	Williams, Marty	Yorkville
1973	Vavrus, Joe	Moline	2006	Williams, TJ	Chicago (Mt. Carmel)
1990	Vega, Al	TF North	1981	Williams, Willie	Bloom Township/ISU
2019	Vercelli, Jake	Joliet Catholic/Purdue	1979	Willson, Pete	Wheaton College
2023	Vermillion, Ron	Crystal Lake	2006	Wilson, Raphael	Waubonsie/Augustana
2022	Villareal, Ruben	Plano	2016	Wilson, Reggie	Bloom Trail/Triton/OK St/Chi St
2004	Wachenheim, Lee	Elmhurst (York)	2018	Wilson, Ron	Chicago (Bowen)
2019	Wagner, Jon	SIUE/Edwardsville HS	2007	Winesburg, Ray	Elgin
1996	Waldroup, Derrick	Bremen	2023	Wise, John	Pittsfield/Univ of IL
2013	Walker, Jim	Westmont	2004	Wiser, John	Delevan
1988	Walker, William	Downers Grove N	1997	Wisniewski, Dan	Highland Park
2004	Warner, Andy	Savoy	2022	Witzig, Russ	Troy (Triad)
2012	Wasserstrom, Sam	Ridgewood	2003	Woods, Jim	Bloom/WIU
2016	Watkins, Kenneth	Maywood	2017	Wright, Reggie	Proviso (East)/OK State
2010	Watson, Dr. Wayne	Chicago	2006	Wright, Tim	Rock Island/SIUE
2018	Weber, Dan	Conant/Wheaton College	2003	Young, John	Peotone
2000	Weber, Rory	Proviso E/Northwestern	1990	Young, William	Naperville (Central)
2003	Wehmeier, John	Belleville	2017	Zajac, Shane	Lincoln-Way/OR St/UofOK
2018	Welter, John	Fox Lake (Grant)	2002	Zbacnik, Michael	Plainfield
1977	Weick, Clarence	Chicago Tilden	2016	Zeman, Bill	LaGrange (Lyons)/U of IL
1973	Weick, William	Chicago Tilden	2000	Zeman III, Otto	Riverside-Brookfield
2010	Weiner, Neal	Wheeling	2019	Zielinski, Rob	McHenry
1986	Weiss, Steve	Bensenville (Fenton)	2004	Ziemek, Thomas	Maine South
2006	Welter, Steve	Fox Lake (Grant)	1988	Zimmer, William	Lockport
1999	Wetzel, Eric	Chicago (Dunbar)	2005	Zinke, Al	Crown



2023 IHSA State Tournament Grand Marshals – Mike Garland, Larry Kanke, Randy Konstans, Roy Snyder

Four Grand Marshals will lead the annual Grand March of Finalists Saturday night before the championship bouts of the 85th IHSA Individual Wrestling State Final Tournament.

First held in 1975, the annual March of Finalists is conducted at the State Tournament by the IHSA in conjunction with the Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association (IWCOA) and the State Farm Center. Each year the Grand Marshals are honored for their contributions to the sport and to the young men and women who participate in it.

The Marshals play an important role in the color and pageantry of the event. They lead the 84 individual finalists and their coaches in a breathtaking Grand March around the arena floor just prior to the championship bouts. The annual crowd in excess of 10,000 is witness to a spectacle of high school athletics seen nowhere else in America.

Here is a closer look at the four men who will serve as the Grand Marshals in 2023:

MIKE GARLAND



Mike Garland dedicated nearly twenty years of his career coaching wrestling at his alma mater, Granite City High School.

Prior to coaching, he enjoyed a decorated career on the mat at Granite City, where he was the team leader in pins and points en route to all-conference honors. He was a state qualifier in the single class days of the state tourney (16 qualifiers per weight class) and went on to earn a degree from Southern Illinois University.

Mike's coaching career at Granite City included two stints as a Warrior assistant coach in the 1980's, which bookended his time as an assistant wresting coach at Belleville Area Junior College. He ascended to the Granite City High School head wrestling coach position in 1987 and held that role until his retirement in 1999.

Mike compiled a career coaching record of 274-40-2, helping the Warrior program ascend to the most dual team victories in the county, as Granite City High School became the first high school in the country to reach 1,000 dual team victories in February of 1998.

The Warriors enjoyed an incredible dual team run under Mike's leadership, as they finished in the Top 8 in the state six times, including placing fourth at the IHSA State Finals in 1999. Granite City High School's 1995 team was ranked first in the state and tenth in the nation, but the team lost its shot at a state title when the state meet was cancelled.

All told, Mike's teams achieved nine conference championships, eight regional crowns and seven sectional titles. 57 wrestlers qualified for state under Mike's tutelage, while T.J. Slay (1995, 130lb) and John Venne (1996, 160) ultimately won individual state championships.

Mike was honored as the IWCOA Coach of the Year in 1995 and was later inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame. He is also a member of the Granite City Sports Hall of Fame, along with numerous other regional and national honors.

Prior to his time at Granite City High School, Mike also coached numerous sports at Madison High School, Madison Junior High School and Coolidge Junior High School.

LARRY KANKE



A native of Rock Island and graduate of Eastern Illinois University, Larry Kanke received his Master's Degree from the University of Illinois and an Administration certificate from Eastern Illinois University.

As a wrestler at Eastern Illinois University, he placed fourth at 177 pounds in the NCAA Division II Nationals. He was a two-time conference champion and was the NAIA District 20 Outstanding Wrestler. He had a record of 28-2 his senior year and won the team's Most Falls Award.

After graduation, Larry began his coaching career in Geneseo, Illinois, but was drafted into the Army and served his country for two years. He returned to Geneseo as the Head Varsity Wrestling Coach and served in that capacity for 32 years.

Coach Kanke was instrumental in starting Geneseo's Junior High Wrestling Program, the Little League Program and the Nationally known Bi-State Wrestling Invitational. His teams won eleven conference titles and five regional titles during his tenure. Larry's teams had a dual meet record of 393-201-4 with 66 state qualifiers and 12 state place winners. His two sons, Tim and Mike, both placed twice at the IHSA state tournament.

Coach Kanke retired from teaching and coaching in Geneseo in 2002, the same year he was inducted into the IWCOA Hall of Fame. In 2005, he became head coach at his alma mater, Rock Island Senior High School, where he compiled a record of 28-18 and coached Reese Taylor to a state championship.

Larry is a member of the Geneseo High School Hall of Fame, as well as the National Wresting Hall of Fame Illinois Chapter and also received the latter's Lifetime Service Award.

RANDY KONSTANS



Charles High School in the fall of 1978. For the following four wrestling seasons, Randy's experience was shaped by the very capable hands of Coaches Fred Bruder and Chuck Robinson.

Upon graduating from St. Charles High School, Randy enrolled in Illinois Wesleyan University. Randy continued his wrestling career by wrestling all four years for the Titans. Wrestling at 118/126 lbs. for his collegiate career, Randy was a three-time place winner in the rugged College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW).

In 1987, following his graduation from Illinois Wesleyan, Randy took the position of assistant wrestling coach at his alma mater. During his stay at St. Charles, Randy came to assume a multifaceted role as an assistant to Hall of Famer Mick Ruettiger. His responsibilities included coaching at various scholastic levels (including Varsity); assisting with the organization and running of numerous wrestling events held at the high school; and organizing and structuring the weight-lifting regimen for the wrestling program.

With the availability of a full-time teaching position at West Aurora High School in the spring of 1989, Randy interviewed for the position and was accepted. Although at a new school as a full-time educator, Randy's commitment to the West Aurora wrestling program mirrored his past-practice. For the next twelve years Randy served as an untiring Varsity Assistant Coach. He assumed the role of weight-lifting coordinator as well as an organizer for multiple wrestling events hosted by the high school. Additionally, during the spring and summer periods he volunteered to help to organize and supervise West's "Open Gym" for individuals seeking to improve their skills in both Freestyle and Greco-Roman techniques. And finally, one would be hard pressed to be at a spring or summer tournament and *NOT* see Konstans volunteering to work a scoring table.

Along with Lester Coleman, in 1995 Randy helped organize and run the Freestyle and Greco-Roman Junior Duals held at SIU-Edwardsville. In this same period Randy helped to organize and supervise local area wrestlers in cultural exchanges to Rhode Island and Winnipeg, Canada. For his dedication and service to the sport Randy was recognized by the IWCOA as its Assistant Coach-of-the-Year in 1992 — and again in 1998. In both years Randy was named as one of the coaches for the Indiana-Illinois Scholastic Duals.

In 2000-01, Randy was selected to replace West Aurora's retiring Athletic Director. Additionally, for the following four years Randy served as the DuPage Valley Conference's Wrestling Resource Athletic Director — the AD in charge of wrestling for the conference. It was during this period that West Aurora (under Randy's guidance) hosted the DVC Conference Tournament as well as several IHSA Regional Tournaments. The IWCOA recognized Randy's contributions to the sport of wrestling when, in 2006, they named Randy Konstans as its Administrator-of-the-Year.

Randy departed West Aurora for the Athletic Director's position at Lockport High School in 2006. In 2010, Randy was offered the position at Downers Grove South High School — an offer he opted to accept and continues to currently serve it.

Although Randy's responsibilities encompass a variety of areas — each of which demands a significant portion of his time — he still makes time to give back to the sport of wrestling. Since 2004 Randy has served as a Bench Official for the IHSA Individual State Tournament. In recent years, he has served as the Co-Head Bench Official. From 2004 through 2010 he has served as a Bench Official at the IHSA Dual Team State Tournament. From 2007 until present Randy has served as a member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame–Illinois Chapter Committee; he has been its treasurer since 2010. In 2014, in recognition of his dedication, commitment and service to the sport of wrestling, the IWCOA inducted Randy Konstans into its Hall of Fame and in 2017 was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame-Illinois Chapter Lifetime Service Award.

ROY SNYDER



Roy's participation in sports began in the early 1970's at Dubuque Hempstead High School in Dubuque, Iowa where he participated in wrestling, football, and track. He received all- conference honors his senior year in both wrestling and football. Roy was selected Team Captain in both sports and went on to compete in football at North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City, Iowa. He then matriculated to the University of Dubuque where he obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Safety.

Roy, his wife and their two young sons moved to Illinois in 1991, settling in Mt. Morris before moving to Rochelle in 2010. Roy's participation in sports continued as a volunteer coach in soccer, baseball, wrestling and football. His first year as an IHSA licensed official was 1991 in football, followed by wrestling in 1992 and baseball and softball in 1994. In addition to officiating, Roy was elected to a local school board for several years and participated in several races each year, including the completion of the 2005 Chicago Marathon.

Roy's accomplishments in officiating IHSA wrestling state series include: 31 IHSA Wrestling Regionals, 26 IHSA Wrestling Sectionals, 13 IHSA Wrestling Dual Team Sectionals, 10 IHSA Dual Team State Finals, 11 IHSA Boys Individual State Finals, working the inaugural IHSA Girls Wrestling Individual State Finals, totaling 22 IHSA Wrestling State Finals. Roy was the IWCOA President from 2019-2022 and oversaw the IWCOA sponsored Individual State Finals during 2021's pandemic season.

Roy is one of seven IHSA officials to officiate four different IHSA State Finals, achieving the rare feat in the sports of Boys Wrestling, Girls Wrestling, Football, and Baseball. Additional accomplishments in wrestling include working 16 Dvorak Tournaments, eight Illinois vs. Indiana Duals, 10 IESA State Finals, 11 IKWF Individual State Finals, and three IKWF Dual Team State Finals.

In addition to 33 years as a Certified IHSA wrestling officiating, Roy has accomplished the following in IHSA officiating: four Football State Finals, three Baseball State Finals and currently an IHSA Certified Wrestling and Baseball Clinician.

1975

Joe Vavrus, Moline John Fitzgerald, Reavis

1976

Ted Czech, Thornton Elias George, Evanston

1977

Lou Slimmer, Proviso East Bill Schmitt, Granite City

1978 James Custer, Pekin Bob Hicks, Tilden Tech

1979

Art Adams, Normal Bob Strange, Lawrenceville

1980 Charles Farina, East Leyden Jack Marino, Proviso East

1981 Steve Combs, Moline Werner Holzer, Schurz

1982 Art Kraft, Sterling/Northwestern Ken Kraft, Sterling/Northwestern

1983 Charles Anderson, Savanna

1984 Ed Ewoldt, Wheaton Central Jack Riley, Northwestern

1985 Ken Marlin, Champaign Bob Therry, North Chicago

1986

John George, Evergreen Park Pete George, Fenton

1987

Robert Emmons, Arlington Heights Don Flavin, DeKalb Amos Jones, North Chicago John Swalec, Libertyville

1988

Max Armer, LaGrange Larry Kristoff, Carbondale Murney Lazier, LaGrange Bill Weick, Chicago

1989

Roy Conrad, Chicago Robert Mann, Park Ridge William Mann, Park Ridge Larry TenPas, Waukegan

1990

Ted Rousse, Antioch Carson DeJarnett, Sterling Harold Samorian, Northbrook Gene Swierczewski, Hoffman Estates

1991

Rick Bay, Waukegan George Girardi, Normal Jack Leese, Leyden Pete Willson, Wheaton

1992

Jarrett Hubbard, Joliet Mark Johnson, Rock Island Mark Massery, Savanna Dick Mudge, Arlington Heights

1993

James Gardner, Springfield Jack Gardner, Springfield Tom Heniff, Oak Lawn Marty Schwartz, Leyden

1994

Bob Fulk, Glenbard North Dale Pierre, Wheaton North Ron Ray, Bloom Trail Jack Stoudt, Pekin

1995

Floyd Bee, Lincoln Bob Easter, Peoria Richwoods Wayne Miller, DeKalb Willie Williams, Country Club Hills

1996

James Craig, Oak Lawn Mike Farina, York Tom Porter, Champaign Jon Schaus, Geneva

1997

George Dyche, Aurora West Bert Kraus, LaGrange Henry Pillard, Joliet Walter Sherman, Glenbrook North

1998

Bob Billberg, Libertyville Ed Luety, Melrose Park Steve Weiss, Bensenville Rex Whitlatch, Urbana/Hinsdale

1999

Dr. Tom Flanigan, New Lenox Brad Glass, Winnetka Rick Mann, Hersey Don Robinson, Bloomington

2000

Dan Cliffe, DeKalb Joe Cliffe, DeKalb John Ellis, Palatine Bob Pickens, Evanston

2001

Jim Bowers, Bloomington Ray Cummings, Pesotum Tony Parks, Addison Trail Jack Robinson, Harvey

2002

Mark King, LaGrange Terry McCann, Chicago Dr. Joseph Pedersen, Darien Dr. Dan Sherman, Deerfield

2003

Bill Cartwright, Proviso East Jim Cartwright, Conant Augie Genovesi, Niles Notre Dame Jim Kruemplestaedter, New Trier

2004

Greg Cozzi, Palatine Mike Manahan, Stanford Olympia Mac McLaughlin, Joliet Norm Parker, Chicago

2005

Renny Garshelis, Charleston Larry Gassen, Downers Grove S. Morrie Geselter, Deerfield Mike Wilkey, Oak Park

2006

Bernie Botheroyd, Glenbard West Tim Cysewski, Northwestern U. Marty Williams, Mahomet Bill Young, Naperville

2007

Bruce Bartosz, Antioch Lon Gerrish, Sandwich Bill Marquardt, Bloomington Mike Portincaso, Glendale Heights

2008

Greg Brooks, Chicago Dan Fulscher, Lincoln John Gremer, Urbana Pat O'Conner, Glasford

2009

Niall Collins, Oak Park Mark Gervais, Marist Robert Jones, Decatur Tony Licocci, Rock Falls

2010

Dave Mathews, Crown Point Dennis McCann, Maine South Rich Montgomery, Rock Falls Jim Patton, Woodstock

2011

Larry Bernard, Joliet Ed Giese, Elmhurst Ron Oglesby, Alsip Robert Whelan, Salisbury, NC

2012

Don Pittman, Champaign Neil McCauley, Naperville Leo Kocher, University of Chicago Jim Carnahan, Rock Island

2013

Dave Gannaway, Mackinaw Tim Haak, Harvard Mike Polz, Orland Park Don Schultz, Burbank

2014

Bill Honeycutt, Woodridge Dale Eggert, Libertyville Anthony Clarke, Zion Don Behm, East Lansing, MI

2015

Wayne Mammen, Urbana Steve Marianetti, Elmhurst Ron Reichert, Lowell, IN Tim Dodge, Lindenhurst

2016

Howard Becker, Wilmington Ron Bessemer, Harper JC Randy Conrad, East Leyden Joe Summerville, Tolono Unity

2017

Mike Bukovsky, Lombard Jim Chaloupka, Berwyn Dave Curby, LaGrange Ray Winesburg, Elgin

2018

Alvin Kaltofen, College of DuPage Rob Ledin, Mahomet Ralph McCausland, EIU Todd Rosenthal, Moline

2019

Ron Coit, Farmer City Don Mekeel, Sterling Rob Murphy, Wilmington Ron Ryan, Mt. Olive

2020

Dave Klemm, Lincoln College Debbie Nason, Orland Park Mike Matozzi, Hinsdale South Kevin Puebla, Augustana

2022

Bernie Ruettiger, Minooka Johnny Ruettiger, Lisle Mark Ruettiger, Providence/EIU/Lincoln Way Dominic Ruettiger, St. Charles/Neuqua Valley Tim Ruettiger, Providence

2023

Mike Garland, Granite City Larry Kanke, Geneseo Randy Konstans, Downers Grove Roy Snyder, Rochelle

The IWCOA wishes to thank the following level sponsors for their generous donations

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Jim Carnahan Jeffrey R Eckdhal Dave W. Fellinger William Gallo Tim Haak Mark Johnson Fred Kroner Mahomet-Seymour Dennis McCann Kirby Rodgers Jonathan J Ryan Don Stevens Nancy Whitlatch

Larry Bernard Dave Fellinger Augie Genovesi LeRoy Isbell Mark Kristoff Julie Mensendike James Risley Dr. Russ Schneider John Wehmeier The IWCOA wishes to thank the following corporate sponsors for their generous donations and encourage everyone to frequent their businesses.

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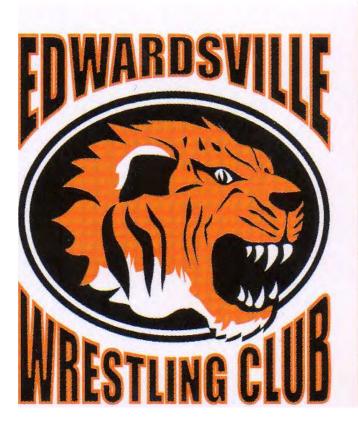
MEN OF COURAGE



Kevin McCann and Brett Harman were outstanding athletes and great young men. Brett wrestled at Maine South High School for Hall of Fame Coaches Craig Fallico and Dennis McCann while Kevin wrestled at Notre Dame High School for Hall of Fame Coach Augie Genovesi and played football for Coach Mike Hennessey. Both were teammates and best friends from their youth wrestling day, and both went on to excellent college wrestling careers – Kevin at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and Brett at the United States Naval Academy. Kevin and Brett were champion wrestlers, team captains, and true leaders by accomplishments, attitude, and example.

In September 2004, Kevin and friends from Chicago visited Brett in North Carolina. Brett was now a Marine Lieutenant ready to leave for Iraq. They went to a college football game and stopped a drug crazed; drunken driver was recklessly driving through the parking lot, endangering the life of everyone. The driver came back later, and with his brother, lured Brett and Kevin into a trap. They shot Brett in cold blood, and when Kevin courageously went to defend him, they murdered Kevin. Brett and Kevin died valiantly defending others and each other.

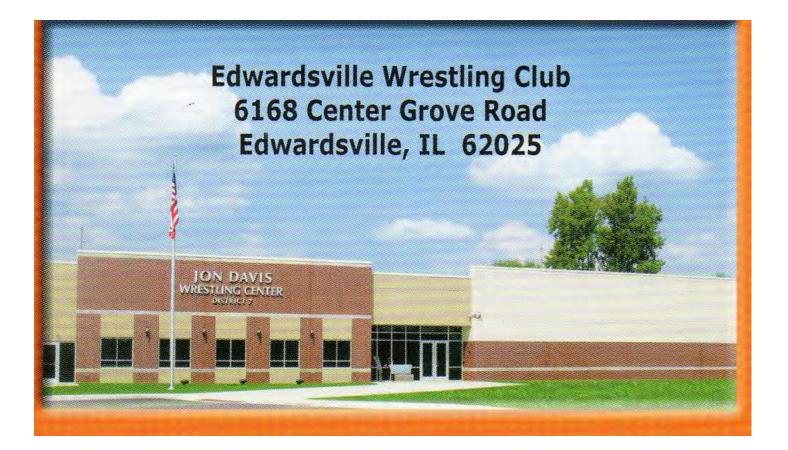
Brett and Kevin have left a legacy of honor, love, and courage to the many, many people whose lives they touched. Their heart, sensitivity, toughness, warmth, and love are remembered daily. They will never be forgotten.



Mark Mestemacher Edwardsville Wrestling Club

markewc@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 314-422-0159 Fax: 618-692-9482



Ken Gerdes III Memorial Golf Outing



Tuesday, June 20, 2023 Cost: \$150 per player Prepaid Foursome \$500

Silver Lake Country Club Orland Park

Enjoy 18 holes of golf (including cart), Event T-Shirt & Goodie bag and an exciting awards banquet...

All for just \$150 / player

* Longest drive contests

* Closest to the pin challenge

*Betting Holes

*And A Chance to Win a New Car!

27th Annual Golf Outing



The Ken Gerdes III Memorial Foundation has been receiving donations from the wrestling community, friends and family since 1996 to honor the outstanding legacy that Ken left behind in wrestling and in leadership. Generous donations have allowed over 145 Leadership Awards to HS Seniors across the state, and to Illinois wrestlers, groups and families competing at National, International, World and Olympic competitions. Since 2000, the foundation has been able to provide \$1,000-1,500 to every Olympic Wrestling Team Member from Illinois.

This year's event will be held Tuesday, June 20, 2023.

Shot-Gun Start at 9 am. Dinner at 3:30 pm.

The cost for this event is only **\$150**. This price includes entry into all events, 18 holes of golf, riding cart, dinner and various awards.

There will be dinner and many, many raffle prizes directly after golf .

To help us properly plan for this event, please pre-register by contacting Scott Richardson at 815-474-2217 or Debbie Nason at 815-347-5368 or email debn4690@aol.com.

Sponsorship opportunities available.



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