



**DON DANSER\***  
**NJSIAA**  
**Administrator**

During a career spanning more than 40 years, Don Danser served as an English teacher, coach, official, NJSIAA Project Manager, Tournament Director and NJSIAA Assistant Director for the sports of cross country, indoor track and outdoor track.

Don, who grew up one of 12 children, always loved to teach, and even after he retired from the profession, loved any opportunity to help and enlighten others. He was known as the "Answer Man" at NJSIAA, and would light up at any opportunity to share his knowledge and help people.

Don taught Latin for three years in Armonk, N.Y., and then moved to the Philadelphia School District, where he helped create a language arts program for elementary schools based on Latin. In 1972, he accepted a job as an English teacher at Rancocas Valley High School. It was there that he also began his career with track and cross country, first as an assistant cross country coach, and then as a head coach. In his 10 years as a head coach, his teams went 81-39.

The 1970s was also the decade when Don became an official and started directing meets, including most every major event in South Jersey.

In 1997, he became director of the state cross country championships. That year he also retired from teaching at Rancocas Valley to take a position as NJSIAA Project Manager. He was promoted to Assistant Director in 2001. Aside from his cross country and track duties, Don was also in charge of NJSIAA's cooperative sports programs, the ShopRite Cup point system and editing all major publications on a yearly basis.

He received numerous service awards, was inducted into several Halls of Fame and was also a member of the NFHS Record Book Committee and its Track and Field Rules Committee.

*\*Don passed away on June 15, 2015.*