NJSIAA appoints Larry White as its 8th executive director

West Deptford resident has served as assistant director of association since 2005

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (September 13, 2017) – West Deptford resident Larry White has been appointed as the eighth director of the NJSIAA, the official governing body of high school sports in New Jersey. White will formally assume the executive directorship on January 1, 2018.

White joined the NJSIAA in 2005, becoming its first African-American assistant director. He now is also its first African-American executive director. In his 12 years with NJSIAA, White has overseen compliance for all eligibility and transfer rules, managed all Controversies Committee cases, and supervised the officials associations. In addition, he has been the assistant director in charge of basketball, baseball, volleyball, bowling, and gymnastics.

His professional experience also includes serving as a vice principal in the Pine Hill School District, and as a teacher in the Monroe Township School District (Gloucester County), the Woodstown-Pilesgrove School District, at St. James Regional High School (which was located in Carney’s Point, NJ), and in the West Deptford School District. White – who from 1989 to 1994 was a minor league baseball umpire – has coached baseball, basketball, golf, and boys and girls tennis, and served as an official for high school basketball as well as for high school- and college-level baseball.

White was nominated by a six-member search committee, which was comprised of past, present, and future Executive Committee presidents. He was a unanimous selection by the search committee, and final approval of the committee’s nomination was provided today by the Executive Committee.

“Our search committee was charged with identifying the individual who could most effectively build upon the NJSIAA’s ongoing success in overseeing scholastic athletics throughout New Jersey,” says Chuck Klaus, the search committee chair. “As the process moved forward, it quickly became clear Larry had a unique understanding of the most challenging issues, their genesis, and a vision to address each. Larry is an ideal fit for this organization, and we were able to recommend him unequivocally.”

As director, White succeeds Steve Timko, who has been with the NJSIAA since 2001, and who has been its director since 2006. Like Timko before him, White’s role will focus on communication with member schools, managing financial affairs, supervising tournaments, attending meetings of both the NJSIAA and the National Federation of State High School Associations, and – subject to Executive Committee endorsement – ruling on interpretations of the association’s constitution, bylaws, rules, and regulations.
“I’ve worked with Larry since he joined NJSIAA a dozen years ago, and I’m extremely proud that a person of his caliber is following me as the association’s executive director,” says Timko. “Larry has a lifetime of professional experience in many facets of scholastic sports, and he’s deeply committed to ensuring that the student-athletes represented by the NJSIAA enjoy fair and safe competition. There’s simply no one else who’s more qualified for this role.”

Established in 1918, the NJSIAA currently is comprised of 435 accredited public, private, and parochial high schools. A non-profit association, it conducts tournaments and crowns champions in 32 different sports.

“I’m eager to continue Steve Timko’s outstanding leadership in continually improving the high school sports environment both for student-athletes and the association’s member schools,” says White, who holds a bachelor’s degree from LaSalle University and a master’s from Rowan University. “It’s tremendously important that we consistently emphasize that all our high school sports venues are no more or less than extensions of the classroom. Scholastic athletics exist to be a vehicle for teaching young people key life lessons.”

White is a member of both the Salem County Sports Hall of Fame and the Penns Grove High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

The NJSIAA has initiated a search to fill the vacancy created by White’s new role. More information can be found at www.njsiaa.org.

NOTE: A digital portrait of White is available here.

About the NJSIAA
Established in 1918, the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) is a voluntary, non-profit organization comprised of 435 accredited public, private, and parochial high schools. A member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, the NJSIAA conducts tournaments and crowns champions in 32 sports. Championship competition for girls is sponsored in basketball, bowling, cross country, fencing, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, winter track, and volleyball. Boys’ championships are determined in baseball, basketball, bowling, cross country, fencing, football, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, winter track, volleyball, and wrestling.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (August 7, 2017) — Led by the largest one-year increase in girls participation in 16 years, the overall number of participants in high school sports increased for the 28th consecutive year in 2016-17, according to the annual High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

Based on figures from the 51 NFHS member state high school associations, which includes the District of Columbia, the number of participants in high school sports reached an all-time high of 7,963,535. The increase of 94,635 participants from 2015-16 is the largest one-year jump in overall participation since the 2008-09 school year.

Thanks to increases in all of the top 10 participatory sports, the number of girls participants reached an all-time high of 3,400,297. The increase of 75,971 from the previous year is the largest one-year jump since the 2000-01 sports participation report.
Competitive spirit registered the largest increase among girls sports with an additional 18,712 participants, followed by outdoor track and field (8,508), volleyball (8,470), soccer (6,810) and lacrosse (5,423).

“As we celebrate the 45th anniversary of Title IX this year, this report on girls participation numbers underscores the significance of that important decision in 1972,” said Bob Gardner, NFHS executive director. “It is great to see an ever-increasing number of girls taking advantage of that opportunity to compete in high school sports.”

Seven of the top 10 boys sports registered increases from the previous year, led by soccer (9,912), outdoor track and field (9,003), and cross country (8,580). Overall participation for boys in 2016-17 was 4,563,238, an increase of 18,664 from the previous year.

Participation in 11-player football was down 25,901 from the previous year, although the numbers in 6- and 8-player football were up from the 2015-16 season. The overall number of participants in football (6, 8, 9 and 11 player) in 2016-17 was 1,086,748, down 25,503 from the 1,112,251 in the 2015-16 season.

While the number of participants in high school football declined, the number of schools offering the sport increased by 52 schools in 11-player – from 14,047 to 14,099 – and by nine schools in 6-, 8- and 9-player – from 1,349 to 1,358.

With 14,099 high schools offering 11-player football, the decrease of 25,901 participants amounts to fewer than two individuals (1.8) per school, and an overall decrease of 2.5 percent.

Football remains the No. 1 participatory sport for boys at the high school level by a large margin. Track and field is second with 600,136 participants, followed by basketball (550,305), baseball (491,790) and soccer (450,234).
“While we are concerned when any sport experiences a decline in participation, the numbers do not substantiate that schools are dropping the sport of football,” Gardner said. “The NFHS and its member state high school associations have worked hard to reduce the risk of injury in high school football, and we are pleased at the continued strength of the sport across the country.”

Amazingly, this year’s survey indicated that more than 60 different sports were offered by high schools nationwide, from judo and kayaking, to fencing and rugby, to snowboarding and rodeo. Some of the more popular non-traditional high school sports were badminton (17,184), archery (9,767), crew (5,179) and fencing (4,100).

The top 10 states by participants remained the same; however, Florida moved ahead of Michigan to seventh position this year. Texas and California topped the list again with 834,558 and 800,364 participants, respectively, followed by New York (367,849), Illinois (341,387), Ohio (340,146), Pennsylvania (319,153), Florida (310,567), Michigan (295,647), New Jersey (283,655) and Minnesota (239,289).

The participation survey has been compiled since 1971 by the NFHS through numbers it receives from its member associations. The top 10 sports for boys and girls and the year-by-year participation totals are listed below. The complete 2016-17 High School Athletics Participation Survey is available at http://www.nfhs.org/ParticipationStatistics/ParticipationStatistics/
### TEN MOST POPULAR BOYS PROGRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>18,214</td>
<td>Football – 11-Player</td>
<td>1,057,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track and Field – Outdoor</td>
<td>16,699</td>
<td>Track and Field – Outdoor</td>
<td>600,136</td>
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<td>Baseball</td>
<td>15,979</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>550,305</td>
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<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>15,087</td>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>491,790</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football – 11-Player</td>
<td>14,099</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>13,223</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>12,188</td>
<td>Wrestling</td>
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<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>10,629</td>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>185,171</td>
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<td>Tennis</td>
<td>9,725</td>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>141,466</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming &amp; Diving</td>
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### TEN MOST POPULAR GIRLS PROGRAMS

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<td>Track and Field – Outdoor</td>
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<td>Softball – Fast Pitch</td>
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<td>Softball – Fast Pitch</td>
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<td>Soccer</td>
<td>11,823</td>
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<td>Tennis</td>
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<td>Competitive Spirit Squads</td>
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### ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION SURVEY TOTALS

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<th>Girls Participants</th>
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<td>1994-95</td>
<td>3,536,359</td>
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<td>5,776,820</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Boys Participants</th>
<th>Girls Participants</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
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<td>2016-17</td>
<td>4,563,238</td>
<td>3,400,297</td>
<td>7,963,535</td>
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</table>
**About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)**

The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and performing arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and performing arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.9 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; offers online publications and services for high school coaches and officials; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, speech and debate coaches, and music adjudicators; serves as the national source for interscholastic coach training; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS website at [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org).

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For NJ’s nearly 300,000 high school student-athletes, Stop Opioid Abuse Program (SOAP) unveiled

Education-focused initiative, from Garden State Pharmacy Owners (GSPO)

HAMILTON, NJ (Sept. 27, 2017) – Focusing on the opioid abuse epidemic now raging throughout the U.S., Garden State Pharmacy Owners (GSPO) has established a program to provide relevant, potentially life-saving information to New Jersey’s nearly 300,000 high school student-athletes. The GSPO Stop Opioid Abuse Program – which will be known by its acronym, SOAP – will regularly share student-focused materials with public, private, and parochial high schools across New Jersey. Each school may then determine how best to distribute the information to its athletes, as well as to coaches and trainers.

Statewide distribution will be coordinated for SOAP by the NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association), the governing body for scholastic sports throughout the state, which represents 435 member high schools and their scholastic athletes. Some of the informational materials provided, both in online and printed form, will be provided by the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey (PDFNJ).

“As pharmacy owners, our members are well aware of the impact opioid abuse is having in our state and around the country,” says Marty Miller, GSPO’s executive director. “Our organization felt compelled to do something to address this terrible situation, and our unwavering commitment to our communities – coupled with support from both the NJSIAA and the Partnership – gives us a platform to communicate effectively with a seriously at-risk population, high school athletes.”

Students who participate in high school sports are particularly vulnerable to abusing powerful painkillers, because injuries sustained during competition often lead to an opioid prescription.

“Given our mission to serve and protect student-athletes, we’re enthusiastic about any program that may curtail the likelihood of opioid abuse,” says Steve Timko, executive director of the NJSIAA. “Certainly, the idea of using NJSIAA’s extensive communication network to reach New Jersey’s student-athletes was extremely well conceived.”

Other components of the SOAP initiative will include additional community outreach, regular updates to and interaction with state legislators and drug manufacturers, plus volunteer efforts by GSPO members.

“With the misuse of opioids becoming an increasingly serious problem among high school students, who are at a 33 percent greater risk of future opioid misuse if they are prescribed opioids before high school graduation, SOAP provides an excellent opportunity to deliver critical, life-saving information to student athletes, parents, coaches and trainers,” says PDFNJ Executive Director Angelo Valente. “The Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey lauds the leadership of the GSPO and NJSIAA in initiating outreach to students potentially more vulnerable to opioid misuse.”

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About the NJSIAA
Established in 1918, the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) is a voluntary, non-profit organization comprised of 435 accredited public, private, and parochial high schools. A member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, the NJSIAA conducts tournaments and crowns champions in 32 sports. Championship competition for girls is sponsored in basketball, bowling, cross country, fencing, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, winter track, and volleyball. Boys' championships are determined in baseball, basketball, bowling, cross country, fencing, football, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, winter track, volleyball, and wrestling.

# # #
October is National High School Activities Month

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Bruce Howard

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (September 27, 2017) — The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and its 51 state high school associations begin the annual celebration of National High School Activities Month next week with a focus on sportsmanship and a salute to the more than 500 million fans of high school sports.

The NFHS has designated the month of October as National High School Activities Month to help schools throughout the nation promote the values inherent in high school athletic and performing arts activities. Started in 1980 as National High School Activities Week, the NFHS expanded the celebration to a month several years ago to provide additional time for the 19,000-plus high schools to hold special activities at the local level.

The purpose of National High School Activities Month is to remind students, parents, coaches, officials and others in communities across the country about the values and benefits of interscholastic activity programs.
High school activities help address society’s most current issues by:

- Finding and nurturing the best effort of each young participant;
- Encouraging students to stay in school, perform better academically and become better citizens;
- Demanding respect for fair play and appreciation for the equitable application of procedures, rules and regulations;
- Providing healthy lifestyle instruction;
- Challenging racism, sexism and classism through the active pursuit of teamwork and school spirit.

Each week throughout the month-long celebration will feature a specific emphasis: **National Sportsmanship, Fan Appreciation and Public-Address Announcers Week** (October 1-7); **National Performing Arts Activities Week** (October 8-14); **National Coaches/Sponsors/Advisors/Officials Week** (October 15-21); and **National Community Service /Youth Awareness Week** (October 22-31).

“High school sports and activity programs provide one of the best bargains in our community and nation and will continue to do so as long as our nation supports them as an integral part of the education of our young people,” said Bob Gardner, NFHS executive director. “Not only do these programs teach the more than 12 million young people who participate in them valuable life skills lessons, such as ethics, integrity and healthy lifestyles, they also provide the best entertainment value in our nation.”

The NFHS has provided suggested activities for schools during each of the week-long events. All materials for National High School Activities Month,
including The Case for High School Activities, are available on the NFHS website at www.nfhs.org.

This press release was written by Madi McGuire, an intern in the publications/communications department at NFHS. She is a junior at Butler University in Indianapolis studying strategic communications.

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About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)
The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and performing arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and performing arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 12 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.9 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; offers online publications and services for high school coaches and officials; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, speech and debate coaches, and music adjudicators; serves as the national source for interscholastic coach training; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS website at www.nfhs.org.

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NJSIAA names Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey its exclusive athletic training provider

Highlights ongoing emphasis on health and safety

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (October 19, 2017) – The NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association), the governing body of New Jersey scholastic sports, has designated Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey as its exclusive athletic training provider.

Under the agreement, athletic trainers from Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey are available to all teams representing NJSIAA member schools, before, during, and after NJSIAA-sponsored tournament events. This arrangement enables student-athletes to have maximum interaction with athletic trainers whenever an injury or other concern arises.

“Athletic trainers are a vital component of the ongoing process of keeping scholastic athletes safe and healthy as they compete in the sports of their choice,” says Steve Timko, executive director of the NJSIAA. “From advice and preventative strategies to aiding in the recuperation of an injured player, I don’t think competitive high school sports could exist without them. We’re delighted to have Premier Sports Medicine on board as our athletic training provider, and look forward to the nearly 300,000 student-athletes we represent benefitting from their expertise.”

Athletic trainers are highly qualified, multi-skilled healthcare professionals who collaborate with physicians to provide preventative services, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention, and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions. They work under the direction of a physician as prescribed by state licensure statutes.

“Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey is very proud to provide unparalleled athletic training services to the NJSIAA,” says Allan Parsells, co-owner of Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey. “The association’s commitment to ensuring the health and safety of its athletes is second to none. We’re honored that NJSIAA and all its sponsored programs trust us to help keep athletes safe; it’s something we’ll never take for granted.”

The agreement takes effect immediately and runs through the current school year.

About the NJSIAA
Established in 1918, the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) is a voluntary, non-profit organization comprised of 437 accredited public, private, and parochial high schools. A member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, the NJSIAA conducts tournaments and crowns champions in 32 sports. Championship competition for girls is sponsored in basketball, bowling, cross country, fencing, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, winter track, and volleyball. Boys’ championships are determined in baseball, basketball, bowling, cross country, fencing, football, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, winter track, volleyball, and wrestling.
About Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey

Premier Sports Medicine is the “first name” in athletic training and sports medicine services. The company was originally founded as Premier Sports Medicine of Florida, LLC in 2006 and has since expanded to Georgia, Michigan and New Jersey. They have also partnered with dozens of sporting organizations throughout the United States all with the common goal to provide the most comprehensive, high-quality service while not only enhancing, but embracing the commitment to the health and safety of the participating athletes and the event sporting community as a whole. Premier Sports Medicine is passionate about making sure that athletes at all levels stay safe and healthy while participating in the sports they love. Injuries can and do occur, but there are proactive steps that can be taken to minimize risk. When an injury does occur, an athlete's ability to bounce back often times depends on the timing and quality of care he or she receives immediately following the injury. Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey, LLC offers a professional team of certified and licensed athletic trainers with outstanding physician support services, along with several other community resources and allied healthcare professionals that can complement our program. Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey, LLC and its athletic trainers have many combined years of experience providing athletic training services at all levels and with events of every type and scale. Our passion is managing any and all details of the medical team and supplying a superior staff, while working to ensure that services exceed expectations. It is our goal to help keep your athletes where they are supposed to be! In addition to providing unparalleled athletic training services, Premier Sports Medicine of New Jersey is a Licensed Training Provider for the American Red Cross, a sub-distributor of Philips brand Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and AED accessories, as well as a provider of ImPACT Computerized Concussion Testing.

For more information on Premier Sports Medicine, please visit them on the web at www.premiersportsmedicinellc.com, on Facebook (@PremierSportsMedicineLLC), Twitter (@PSMatc) and Instagram (premiersportsmedicine).

# # #
NJSIAA appoints Milltown resident as new assistant director

Tony Maselli was previously AD for Montgomery Township School District

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (October 25, 2017) – Milltown resident Tony Maselli has been appointed as an assistant director by the NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association). Maselli will fill the roll recently vacated by Larry White, when he was named to appoint Steve Timko early next year as the association’s executive director.

As assistant director, Maselli will have various responsibilities, including oversight of several of the 32 different sports for which the NJSIAA conducts tournaments and crowns champions. Specifics remain to be determined.

“Tony is an exceptional leader, with a strong commitment to fostering a positive, competitive environment for all the student-athletes in his charge," says Steven Timko, NJSIAA executive director. "I'm confident that his enthusiasm and professional expertise will make him an invaluable addition to NJSIAA.”

Immediately prior to joining NJSIAA, Maselli was director of athletics for Montgomery Township School District. Prior to that, he spent two years in the Metuchen School District as director of athletics and supervisor of Health and Physical Education.

Earlier in his career, Maselli served as a special education teacher in Metuchen, and taught physical education in Buffalo, NY. He graduated from Valparaiso University with a bachelor’s in Physical Education, and from Wagner College with a master’s in Special Education, before earning a supervisor certification from Kean College.

NOTE: A digital portrait of Maselli is available here

About the NJSIAA
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# # #
In recognition of Veterans Day, NJSIAA to offer FREE admission to all military personnel and Veterans

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (November, 7, 2017) – To recognize the men and women who have served or are actively serving in the military, the NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association) is offering them free admission to all NJSIAA tournament events being held on Veterans Day, November 11.

“We want to demonstrate our gratitude to those who have or are currently defending our country,” says Steve Timko, executive director of the NJSIAA. “These men and women are true role models to today’s youth, so on November 11 we’re showing our appreciation to them by offering free admission to all our events.”

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# # #
New Jersey State High School Wrestling Championships return to Boardwalk Hall for 2018 Tournament on March 2, 3, and 4

All-session tickets go on sale Friday, December 8, at noon

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (Dec. 1, 2017) – This coming March, Atlantic City’s Boardwalk Hall once again will host the New Jersey State High School Wrestling Championships. Continuing what has become a tradition for the sport since 2002, the top high school wrestlers from across the state will be at Boardwalk Hall on March 2, 3, and 4 to compete in the NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association) State Wrestling Championships.

All-session tickets will be priced at $40 and go on sale through Ticketmaster.com, the Boardwalk Hall Box Office, Ticketmaster Outlets, or by phone (800-745-3000) beginning Friday, December 8. This public sale has a limit of 10 tickets per order. Single session reserved tickets are $10 and will go on sale at noon on Friday, January 26.

Group sales for all-session tickets will be available for orders consisting of a minimum of 11 tickets and a maximum of 50 tickets per order. A $4 service charge per ticket will be added to group sales purchases. Group tickets can be purchased by calling 609-348-7022 or by e-mailing kate_bielunas@comcastspectacor.com.

Senior citizens (65 and older), children (2-12), and students with a valid grade school or high school ID are eligible for a $2 ticket beginning on Friday, March 2. These will be available through the weekend of the event. These discounts are available only at the Boardwalk Hall Box Office with a valid ID.

The competition, presented by the Rothman Institute, begins at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, March 2, for the preliminaries and pre-quarter finals. On Saturday, March 3, the competition starts at 9 a.m. for wrestle-backs number one, two, and three, as well as quarter-finals. Following the morning session, Boardwalk Hall will clear the facility and re-open at 5 p.m. for the 6 p.m. evening session of the semi-finals and wrestle-backs number four and five. On Sunday, March 4, competition begins at 10 a.m. for wrestle-back number six and consolations, followed by the finals and the awards ceremony at 2 p.m. Doors open one hour prior to each session.

The tournament is the highlight of the year for New Jersey wrestlers. The race for the championship titles begins with the district competitions on Friday, February 16, and Saturday, February 17 in each of the 14 weight classes (106 lbs, 113 lbs, 120 lbs, 126 lbs, 132 lbs, 138 lbs, 145 lbs, 152 lbs, 160 lbs, 170 lbs, 182 lbs, 195 lbs, 220 lbs, 285 lbs.) and is open to all New Jersey high schools that are NJSIAA members. Intensity increases with the final regional competition on Wednesday, February 21, Friday, February 23, and Saturday, February 24. The season culminates with the State Championships in Atlantic City, as the top wrestlers in each weight class of the eight regions vie for the Championship Title.

For more information on the Championships, or to obtain media credentials, please contact Bob Behre at 908-268-4256 or bbehre@yahoo.com.

About Spectra

Spectra by Comcast Spectacor is an industry leader in hosting and entertainment, partnering with clients to create memorable experiences for millions of visitors every year. Spectra’s unmatched blend of integrated services delivers incremental value for clients through several primary areas of expertise: Venue Management, Food Services & Hospitality, and Partnerships. Learn more at SpectraExperiences.com.

About Comcast Spectacor

Comcast Spectacor is part of Comcast Corporation, a global media and technology company that operates Comcast Cable and NBCUniversal. Comcast Spectacor’s three core businesses are the National Hockey League’s Philadelphia Flyers, the Wells Fargo Center Complex, and Spectra, a hosting and entertainment firm specializing in Venue Management, Food Services & Hospitality, and Partnerships. Learn more at ComcastSpectacor.com.

About the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA): The only agency of its kind nationwide, the CRDA has used Atlantic City casino reinvestments as a catalyst for meaningful, positive improvement in the lives of New Jersey residents since 1984. Under the 2011 Tourism District Act, the Authority’s mission evolved from statewide projects to becoming the state’s key economic development agency for Atlantic City. CRDA’s expanded responsibilities now include land use regulation, tourism marketing and clean and safe initiatives. The CRDA also oversees Historic Boardwalk Hall (the leading entertainment venue of its size in the country) and the Atlantic City Convention Center. In total, CRDA has invested nearly $2 billion in more than 400 projects statewide, of which $1.8 billion has been invested in Atlantic City, spurring business investments and expansions, and creating permanent jobs in the process. For more information about CRDA and our projects, visit www.njcrda.com. Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/njcrda.

For destination photos and videos media may visit www.doatlanticcity.com/mediaonline where dozens of assets are available for download. For complete Atlantic City tourism information, visit www.doatlanticcity.com.

# # #
NJSIAA presents Lawrence Township resident Steve Goodell with Award of Honor

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**NJSIAA presents Lawrence Township resident Steve Goodell with Award of Honor**

_**Coaches, officials, an athletic trainer, and a sports reporter** receive additional 2017 Sports Awards_

**ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (Dec. 4, 2017)** – Lawrence Township resident and New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) General Counsel Steve Goodell has received that association’s prestigious Award of Honor. Also presented by the NJSIAA during festivities at Hamilton Manor in Hamilton, NJ were 2017 Sports Awards, which are specific to coaching, service, officiating, and sports writing.

Goodell was recognized for exerting a positive and far-reaching influence on the NJSIAA since 1991. He continues providing counsel to the executive director and association staff on a broad range of topics that impact the 434 NJSIAA member schools.

“Through the years, Steve has demonstrated a rare combination of strength and leadership, while overcoming many challenges,” says Steve Timko, NJSIAA executive director. “Many of his efforts on NJSIAA’s behalf have received national recognition.”

Goodell’s legal career began in 1985 as an assistant prosecutor in the Mercer County Prosecutor’s Office. He began handling NJSIAA matters six years later, appearing in courts throughout the state, presiding at hearings, and working in close communication with the association’s professional staff. In 2011, Goodell was named NJSIAA general counsel, and has been instrumental in crafting some of the association’s first-in-the-nation policies, including those related to steroid testing, transgender issues, and the anti-discrimination rule.

Recipients of other 2017 Sports Awards are:

**Sports awards**

- **Athletic Trainer:** Jim Barber (Brick Township High School)
- **Baseball:** Brian Nice (Allentown High School)
- **Basketball:** Audrey Taylor (Franklin High School), Eric McElroy (Verona High School)
- **Bowling:** Anthony Bilello (Jackson Memorial High School), Greg Rottengen – posthumous recognition (Warren Hills High School)
- **Cross Country:** Matt Purdue (Ocean City HS), Glenda Calabro (Jackson Memorial High School)
- **Fencing:** Marat Israelian (St. Peter’s Preparatory School)
- **Field Hockey:** Nancy Gross (Wall High School)
- **Football:** Mike Sabo (Morris Hills High School), Dennis Thomas (Millville High School)
- **Golf:** Siobhan Devlin (Ridge High School), Dan Lafferty (Clearview High School)
- **Gymnastics:** Frank Brady
- **Ice Hockey:** Tim Mullin (Ridge High School)
- **Lacrosse:** Baron Wallenhurst (Moorestown High School), Jessica McGinn (Bernards High School)
- **Soccer:** Anson Smith (Hunterdon Central High School), Katie Donahue (Ridge High School)
- **Softball:** Diana Fasano (Immaculate Heart Academy)
• **Swimming:** Sean Foley (Bridgewater-Raritan High School), Jon Stinson (St. Augustine Preparatory School)
• **Tennis:** Raheel Saleem (Montgomery High School), Allison Münch, Carl Richko
• **Track:** Sam Turner (Matawan High School), Tim Mooney (Ridge High School)
• **Volleyball:** Pete Lukach (Garfield High School), Caryn Schanstine (Northern Highlands High School)
• **Wrestling:** Roy Dragon (Bridgewater-Raritan High School)

**Service Awards**
- Maureen Bilda (Deptford High School)
- Harry Chebookjian (Shore Regional High School)
- John Hein (Freehold Regional High School)
- David Hughen (Boonton High School)
- Gus Kalikas (AL Johnson High School)
- Tony Mitchell (Paul VI High School)
- Dan Vivino (Westwood High School)

**Officiating award**
- **Officials:** Phil Birnbaum (Tennis), Stanley Friedman (Tennis), Barbara Wallace (Gymnastics), Bob Triebe (Ice Hockey)

**Sports Writer’s award**
- Mike Pavlichko (WCTC Radio)

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###
NJSIAA inducts six-member Class of 2017 into Gallagher Bollinger, Inc. Hall of Fame

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (Dec. 4, 2017) – A legendary team, an official, an administrator, an athlete, and a pair of coaches make up the 2017 NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association) Gallagher Bollinger, Inc. Hall of Fame class.

“The Bollinger Hall of Fame luncheon is one of our signature annual events – and each year I’m amazed by the caliber of the latest inductees,” observes Steve Timko, the NJSIAA’s executive director. “When you look back at the history of scholastic-athletics in New Jersey, the level of accomplishment is consistently amazing.”

The year’s six inductees are:

- Jim Baglin (Coach) – A 1970 graduate of Plainfield High School, who went to Susquehanna University, Baglin began his coaching career at West Morris High School, in Mendham, in 1979. Three years later, he was serving as West Morris’ athletic director. When he retired in 2016, he was the third winningest public school basketball coach in state history, with a remarkable record of 685 victories, and 193 losses.

- Dr. Sam Crosby (Official) – A Somerville High School graduate who attended Rutgers University, Crosby held a range of positions during his 39-year career at Bridgewater-Raritan Regional Public Schools. Related to scholastic athletics, he served as a wrestling official for 40 years, was the NJSIAA’s wrestling rules interpreter and state tournament assignor, and was a recipient of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement Award.

- Royce Flippin (Athlete) – A multi-sport star at Montclair High School during the early 1950s, Flippin earned 12 varsity letters … despite his alma mater then being a three-year school. What made his feat possible were regulations that permitted a student-athlete to compete in multiple sports during the same season. After earning the Newark Athletic Club’s prestigious “High School Athlete of the Year” award, Flippin went on to Princeton University, where he was captain of the 1955 football team.

- Scott Goodale (Coach) – A renowned wrestler at Jackson Memorial High School, Goodale eventually returned to his alma mater and coached the squad to a record of 155 wins and only 16 losses. He currently is the head wrestling coach at Rutgers University, where his teams have posted an impressive record of 153-55-1.

- James Rochford (Administrator) – A three-sport athlete in his days at Seton Hall Prep, Rochford has coached scholastic baseball, soccer, swimming, and wrestling. As an administrator, he has served two terms on the NJSIAA Executive Committee, been president of the Shore Conference and of the Shore Soccer Officials Association, and has been inducted into five separate halls of fame.
1988-'89 St. Anthony Basketball (Team) – Under the direction of legendary coach Bob Hurley, the 1988-'89 St. Anthony boys basketball squad recorded a perfect 32-0 season, winning all but two games by double-digits. Amazingly, three members of the team would eventually become NBA first-round draft picks.

Established in 1995 and named for Short Hills, NJ-based Bollinger Insurance, a provider of sports-related insurance products, the NJSIAA’s Gallagher Bollinger, Inc. Hall of Fame receives nominations annually from high schools across New Jersey. These submissions are reviewed by a selection committee that makes final decisions regarding inductees. Additional details – including specific criteria and the nomination form – are available by visiting this link.

About the NJSIAA
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# # #
Steroid testing of NJ scholastic athletes
during 2016-2017 yields one positive result

NJSIAA checks total of 356 male, female students representing 69 schools

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (Dec. 11, 2017) — The results are in for NJSIAA’s 2016-17 random steroid testing program for New Jersey’s scholastic athletes. Of the 502 male and female student-athletes tested, one was found to be positive for any of 80 banned substances, including anabolic steroids.

The athletes tested under the annual NJSIAA program – all of whom were drawn from teams that qualified for state tournaments – were from six boys and seven girls sports, and represent 69 different member high schools. The program was established in 2006 and one of the first in the nation.

“The more students we’re able to test, the more information we’ll have about the scope of drug problem, and the better positioned we’ll be to halt it,” says Steve Timko, NJSIAA executive director, regarding the program that’s co-funded annually by NJSIAA and the state of New Jersey, with each contributing $50,000. “It’s terrific that only one student tested positive this year, but we really need the means of testing more broadly to better assess the level of substance abuse. In particular, we’re looking to test for opioids, given the current epidemic.”

The cost-per-test is approximately $200, a price that impacts efforts to expand the scope of annual testing.

The NJSIAA is already active in addressing the opioid crisis as it relates to student-athletes, a particularly at-risk demographic. The association, along with the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey, is supporting the Garden State Pharmacy Owners’ SOAP (Stop Opioid Abuse Program) initiative, which is focused on sharing vital, relevant information with scholastic athletes.

“Ideally, rather than limiting our testing to the tournaments, we’d have random testing year-round,” Timko adds. “This would give us a broader perspective of what’s going on, since not all athletes and not all programs qualify for championship play. But, without additional financial support, that isn’t possible.”

That support has been proposed, in the form of new legislation, but has never been approved.

“We need to expand this program to further strengthen steroid abuse testing,” explains Senator Richard Codey. “We’ve been very close to providing additional funding, but a bill I co-sponsored several years ago was not passed. That was certainly a missed opportunity to improve the health and safety of student-athletes across our state.”

Of the students tested by NJSIAA during the 2016-17 school year, 356 were boys and 146 were girls. Boys were tested in six different sports: football (194 tests), baseball (60 tests), basketball (30 tests), winter track (12 tests), soccer (24 tests), and lacrosse (36 tests). Girls also were tested in seven different sports: softball (30 tests), basketball (24 tests), field hockey (24 tests), swimming (30 tests), soccer (24 tests), winter track (12 tests), and spring track (2 tests).
NJSIAA REPORT SAYS SENATE, ASSEMBLY BILLS WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON NEW JERSEY HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (December 21, 2017) – A pair of bills awaiting final passage by the legislature would negatively impact high school sports in New Jersey – including the state’s nearly 300,000 student-athletes – according to a position paper issued by the NJSIAA, the state’s governing body for high school sports, which represents approximately 435 member schools.

Bills A5254 and S3447 both would allow schools within the same school district to merge teams for any sport at the varsity level, without oversight or review. “Both bills, as written, will allow schools to drop programs and limit playing opportunities, rather than create them – and the legislation would actually be replacing a level playing field with competitive imbalance,” explained Larry White, NJSIAA assistant director who will become the Association’s Executive Director in January. “Fewer teams mean fewer opportunities for students to experience education-based athletics. Removing any oversight or review will give districts the green light to create all-star teams from a combined school district talent pool. Every student, parent, administrator and coach should be very, very concerned.”

More than 20 school districts in New Jersey have more than a single high school, with one district having as many as 12 high schools.

The Senate bill, as amended on December 18, 2017, states:

- require school districts, other than county vocational school districts, to allow students who attend nonpublic schools to try out for, and participate in, interscholastic athletics in the student’s district of residence if the nonpublic school does not sponsor an interscholastic sports team or squad in the sport in which the student wishes to participate;
- require school districts, other than county vocational school districts, to allow students who are homeschooled to try out for, and participate in, interscholastic athletics in the student’s district of residence; and
- require school districts, other than county vocational school districts, to allow a student who attends a charter school to try out for, and participate in, interscholastic athletics in his resident district if the student’s charter school does not sponsor an interscholastic sports team in the sport in which the student wishes to participate. There is a reciprocal provision for students enrolled in public schools who may want to participate in interscholastic athletics sponsored by charter schools.

(MORE)
“The amended Senate bill is even more problematic and would place an enormous burden on public schools, with student-athletes in their schools being displaced,” White said. “It will also serve to further complicate the issues as related to athletic recruiting, athletic advantage and transfers.”

For 30 years, NJSIAA has provided a remedy for schools facing challenges related to fielding teams due to declining interest. It has permitted member schools, in cases where one or two schools have an insufficient number of players, to form Cooperative Sports Programs. Last year alone, more than 116 schools joined to form cooperative teams. Programs simply need to demonstrate a decline in interest or participation in the sport and secure approval from their Leagues or Conferences and the NJSIAA Executive Committee.

The NJSIAA allows Cooperative Sports Programs in the following sports: bowling, cross country, field hockey, fencing, football, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, volleyball, winter track and wrestling. Since inception in 1985, the cooperative sports program has evolved to meet the needs of our member schools. For instance, this past year, member schools voted to expand cooperative sports program in football.

“For 100 years, NJSIAA members – coaches, athletic directors, principals, superintendents, and officials – have written, implemented and enforced the rules governing NJSIAA high school sports, and have proven they are best suited to understand the complexities of interscholastic sports and the needs of our students,” said White. “The NJSIAA and its member schools have worked together to provide solutions to these complexities”.

**About the NJSIAA**

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Under program rules, all scholastic athletes must accept the possibility of a test by signing a consent form prior to the start of their season. Any student who tests positive automatically forfeits one year of athletic eligibility.

The test utilized by NJSIAA is a urinalysis, and can identify more than 80 banned substances. Athletes randomly selected for testing are chosen by a National Center for Drug-Free Sport computer program and are analyzed by the Los Angeles Olympic Analytical Laboratory, at the University of California, Los Angeles – the same lab utilized by the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) for its testing needs.

As a component of the annual testing program, the NJSIAA provides student-athletes, parents and coaches access to an online site – www.drugfreesport.com/rec -- that will identify whether or not a particular athletic supplement contains any ingredients not approved by the association. The typical response time for an inquiry is within 48 business hours.

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BILLS GRANT SUPER POWERS TO 20 SCHOOLS; UPCOMING VOTE PUTS KIDS AT RISK

By Larry White, executive director, NJSIAA
January 4, 2018

As a 100-year-old, independent, private, and voluntary non-profit association serving the needs of 435 public and non-public high schools and nearly 300,000 student athletes, we have an unwavering commitment to promoting and protecting education-based interscholastic athletics. At our core, we are committed to ensuring a safe and competitive environment, while also enhancing the educational experience by expanding participation. Our member schools – administrators, teachers, coaches, athletic trainers, and officials – make, interpret and enforce our rules. NJSIAA is not a seat of authority, it’s a community of dedicated professionals with a special perspective, and a keen focus on and understanding of interscholastic sports, who make decisions for the greater good of more than a quarter-million children.

We honor and respect the independence of our member schools and their right to make decisions that they believe best serve their students, but because high school sports necessarily involves competition between schools, it is unique in the world of scholastic education. Unlike various components of in-class instruction, decisions related to high school sports impact other schools, towns, and – most significantly – other children. Some teams in certain sports will face as many as 20 different competitors in a given season. So, a sports-focused decision by a school board or group of trustees will almost certainly impact a large number of students from other schools who had no say in the matter. Factor in that many of our members are non-public schools and don’t fall under the auspices of state government, it’s clear that an independent non-government, peer-driven authority is essential in ensuring fair play and competitive balance.

A pair of bills are awaiting a vote by the New Jersey General Assembly and Senate that we believe put children at risk, will shrink opportunities for young people, and create a competitive imbalance. Of even greater concern is that these current bills ignore the unique aspect of interscholastic sports and allow school districts to make decisions that will expose other children – who they in no way represent – to risk. In short, removing peer oversight and review of important decisions can impact 300,000 student athletes.

As background, these bills would allow schools within the same school district to merge teams for any varsity-level sport, with neither external oversight nor review. The result would grant 20 multi-school districts, unilateral, unchecked super powers over 415 other schools and hundreds of thousands of children.

(more)
For those living within one of 20 school districts with multiple high schools, the proposed legislation could close the door to playing opportunities for your kids. For those residing outside one of the aforementioned school districts, this legislation will give those 20 districts authority and powers you simply do not have, as they expose your children to unfair competition, all without oversight or review.

Having spent most of my life on or around the field of play, one of the universal concerns of every parent, coach, and player is what transpires when politics enters the realm of sports. If, like most of us, you share an uneasiness about politicians playing “ball” with interscholastic sports that have enjoyed independent oversight for 100 years, it’s essential we all take a stand.

# # #
NJSIAA convening Student Advisory Council, 
seeks input from students-athletes’ perspective

First meeting will be held at next League & Conference Officer meeting, 
April 12, at 9:30 a.m., at NJSIAA HQ, Robbinsville

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (March 29, 2018) – To gain direct input from the student-athletes it serves, the NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association) will convene a Student Advisory Council at its next League & Conference Officer meeting. Students, who will represent the NJSIAA’s various leagues and conferences, will have an opportunity give input on a broad range of topics, including transgender policies, sportsmanship, summer recess, website resources, and the length of their seasons. In addition, the student-athletes will gain a better understanding of the NJSIAA by learning how the organization functions as well as sports participation throughout the state. The meeting will conclude with a leadership presentation that is geared to athletic success, both on and off the playing field.

The session will be held at NJSIAA headquarters, in Robbinsville, on April 12 – beginning at 9:30 a.m.

“This new program will give student-athletes – who are the focus of everything we do as an organization – a true voice in our planning for the future,” explains the NJSIAA’s Director of Finance and Administration, Colleen Maguire. “I anticipate that the student-athletes who are selected to participate will have a great deal to contribute and we’re all looking forward to the new perspective they’ll provide.”

Officers from each League & Conference have been asked to bring student-athletes from their school to the preliminary gathering of the Student Advisory Council. While specific plans are still in development, the NJSIAA envisions expanding the scope of the Student Advisory Council to provide more opportunities to meet and contribute valuable feedback during the upcoming 2018-19 school year as well as participate in valuable leadership workshops.

MEDIA IS WELCOME – The first Student Advisory Council meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 12, at the NJSIAA’s Robbinsville offices. The meeting will conclude by 11:30 a.m.

About the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association
Established in 1918, the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletics Association (NJSIAA) is a voluntary, non-profit organization comprised of 436 accredited public, private, and parochial high schools. A member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, the NJSIAA conducts tournaments and crowns champions in 32 sports. Championship competition for girls is sponsored in basketball, bowling, cross country, fencing, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, winter track, and volleyball. Boys’ championships are determined in baseball, basketball, bowling, cross country, fencing, football, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, winter track, volleyball, and wrestling.

# # #
New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association, New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association host Hall of Fame 2018 awards event

Inductees from 16 New Jersey counties

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (April 9, 2018) – The New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association (NJSCA) – in cooperation with the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) – recently hosted its annual Hall of Fame awards luncheon at the Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village, in Princeton. Forty-two high school coaches and one athletic trainer, representing schools from 16 different New Jersey counties, were inducted during the event.

The Hall of Fame program, sponsored by Wilson Sporting goods, honors coaches from all sports, and from public and non-public secondary schools. All inductees exhibited exceptional coaching skills during their careers, along with strong ethics and integrity.

A complete list of 2018 Hall of Fame inductees – as well as a list of New Jersey-based coaches and other individuals being recognized as Coach of the Year by the National Federation Coaches Association (NFCA) – is available by following this link.

“For those of us with a long-standing connection to New Jersey scholastic sports, this annual event brings back a host of memories,” says Larry White, NJSIAA executive director. “Most of these individuals who were inducted worked with hundreds or even thousands of young people, and had a profoundly positive impact on so many lives. They’re truly heroes.”

In addition to the 2018 Hall of Fame inductees, and those honored for NFCA recognition, the awards event also featured former New Jersey Devil Jim Dowd being celebrated as this year’s honored guest. Dowd, who starred at Brick Township High School, played in the NHL for 17 seasons, on 10 different teams, and is the only New Jersey native to win a high school state championship, NCAA championship, and the Stanley Cup.

The luncheon also featured Bergen County Umpire Association member Joe Belger, Sr. being presented with this year’s Stuart L. Leon Umpire Award. In addition, 28 officials were selected by the National Federation Officials Association as Official of the Year. A complete list is available at this link.

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# # #
Website continues providing student-athletes, parents, and coaches essential information on banned substances

NJSIAA continues offering access to online program, Drug Free Sport AXIS™, focused on assessing performance-enhancing drugs and supplements

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (April 23, 2018) – NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association) and Drug Free Sport are continuing their well-established partnership that provides parents, coaches, and student-athletes with information – through the Drug Free Sport AXIS™ online program – about supplements containing ingredients banned by the NJSIAA.

After accessing the AXIS site (this link), visitors may select “NJSIAA” from the drop-down menu, and then enter “njsports” as the password. Once an inquiry is submitted, a response is typically provided within 1-2 business days. The site's assessment of supplements is specifically intended to help prevent student-athletes from being suspended for unknowingly consuming banned substances. Access to the AXIS site is also available online, via NJSIAA, at this link.

“With the help of AXIS, our goal is to accurately inform athletes and their families about potential risks from performance enhancing supplements and other types of drugs,” comments Larry White, NJSIAA executive director. “Along similar lines, we’re working with Garden State Pharmacy Owners in support of its Stop Opioid Abuse Program – known by the SOAP acronym – which regularly shares information on opioid abuse with athletic departments in all NJSIAA member public, private, and parochial high schools across New Jersey.”

Select materials shared through the SOAP initiative – along with other relevant details about opioid abuse – are available online from NJSIAA, at this link. Also available online is the complete list of NJSIAA-banned substances, at this link.

The AXIS portal features a Dietary Supplement Inquiry function, as well as general nutritional information. Both of these resources are prepared by sports nutrition experts.

About Drug Free Sport
The National Center for Drug Free Sport, Inc. (Drug Free Sport®) is a world-wide leader in the sport drug-testing industry. Drug Free Sport administers comprehensive drug-testing programs, manages national and international collections, develops drug-testing policies and provides educational services to a wide range of clients in sport, including MLB, NFL, NBA, WNBA, PGA Tour, LPGA, USGA, CrossFit Games, NCAA, the Big Ten Conference, NAIA, World of Outlaws racing and more than 300 colleges, universities, and amateur athletics organizations around the world. World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)-compliant testing for performance-enhancing substances and industry-innovating sport drug testing collection and education technologies are just a part of the comprehensive and confidential total solution Drug Free Sport provides for drug prevention needs. Drug Free Sport boasts a highly educated, experienced and diverse staff that is committed to technical innovation and maintaining the most extensive network of highly trained certified sport drug-testing collectors in the industry. Drug Free Sport is based in Kansas City, Missouri. For more information, visit drugfreesport.com or find us on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.
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NJSIAA Student Ambassadors to lead peer advisory council

**Goal is giving NJ scholastic athletes a voice in developing positive athletic experiences**

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (May 21, 2018) – The NJSIAA (New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association) will convene a Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) for the 2018-2019 academic year, to provide scholastic-athletes a direct voice on topics relevant to high school sports.

The SAAC will include one student athlete from each NJSIAA member school, as well as 24 Student Ambassadors, who will serve as liaisons between SAAC and NJSIAA. All Student Ambassadors – who must attend five meetings each year, participate in regular conference calls, and agree to serve a two-year term – will be appointed by the NJSIAA, based on applications they must submit no later than June 30, 2018.

Applications for Student Ambassador positions are available at www.njsiaa.org. Final notification of a decision will be sent to all applicants on or prior to August 1, 2018.

Student Ambassadors must be rising high school sophomores or juniors and meet all qualifications outlined in the application form. These reflect leadership and teamwork skills, exceptional academic achievement, and willingness to welcome student-athletes of varying backgrounds.

The duties of the Student Representatives – all of whom are appointed by either the principal or director of athletics at their individual schools – include promoting SAAC information, along with sharing the opinions of their classmates and teammates with their peers at SAAC.

Two in-person SAAC meetings will be held during the 2018-2019 school year at the Woodbridge Community Center, Woodbridge, NJ.

“The ultimate purpose of the SAAC is to unite student-athletes across the state to explore the wide range of issues that high school student-athletes face,” explains Colleen Maguire, NJSIAA’s director of Finance and Administration. “We’re confident the participating students will develop ideas that will help future scholastic-athletes succeed both in the classroom, on the field, and as human beings.”

Issues to be addressed by the SAAC will include sportsmanship, leadership, and the health and safety of student-athletes. In addition, the SAAC meetings will give opportunities for members of the NJSIAA’s Medical Advisory Committee, officials’ representatives, and other related organizations to speak directly to the SAAC representatives about current topics surrounding high school athletics.

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NJSIAA recognizes graduating scholastic-athletes

25th annual luncheon event honors students from every New Jersey county

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (May 22, 2018) – At its 25th Annual Scholar/Athlete Awards Program and Luncheon, held recently at Pines Manor in Edison, NJ, the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) honored 364 high school student-athletes with a total of $201,000 in college scholarships. Four of the students received $2,500 scholarships from the New Jersey Devils National Hockey League franchise.

Under the ongoing scholar-athlete program, each NJSIAA member high school has the opportunity to choose one senior student as its scholar-athlete of the year. Each selected student who attends the luncheon event is then awarded, at minimum, a $500 college scholarship in recognition of their accomplishments.

“This luncheon has developed into a time-honored tradition that provides us an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the academic achievements of so many student-athletes,” says Larry White, the NJSIAA’s executive director. “We wish each of our scholarship recipients the best of luck as they embark on their future endeavors.”

In the past quarter century – since 1994 – NJSIAA has honored 7,700 New Jersey high school students and distributed more than $2.1 million in college scholarships through its scholar program.

Available at this link is a spreadsheet – divided by county – of all 364 New Jersey student-athletes who were designated by their schools

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New Jersey coach being inducted into National High School Hall of Fame

Miller Bugliari of Pingry School among five coaches to be recognized during ceremony

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (June 21, 2018) — Miller Bugliari, the boys’ soccer coach at the Pingry School in Basking Ridge, NJ, is among five coaches who will be inducted into the 2018 class of the National High School Hall of Fame during the 36th annual induction ceremony.

Bugliari ranks second nationally in boys soccer coaching victories. During the past 58 years at the Pingry School, Bugliari has achieved a record of 850 wins, against only 116 defeats and 75 ties.

The ceremony will be held in Chicago on July 2, at 6 p.m., at the Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. The event will take place during the National Federation of State High School Associations’ 99th annual Summer Meeting, which runs from June 28 through July 2.

A dozen individuals will be inducted this year, in recognition of exceptional athletic and coaching achievements. Bugliari will become the 11th NJSIAA Hall of Fame member to be inducted into the National High School Hall of Fame.

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