

Officials' Appreciation Week Profile:

Harry Silverstein

Harry Silverstein brings plenty of experience to his role as an official and assignor in the sport of boys tennis.

His job is rooted in spending 45 years as a player and coach. He's been the head women's coach at Stockton University for the last nine years, having posted winning records in each season.

Prior to that, he spent 30 years as a tennis coach at Vineland High School. He totaled 465 wins coaching the girls from 1984 through 20-4, and added 172 more victories leading the boys from 2002-14. His girls teams won four Cape Atlantic League championships, while the boys won two titles.

He is a 1979 graduate of Glassboro State College, and a 1998 inductee into the New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He was also selected New Jersey Boys Tennis Coach of the Year in 2007.

Silverstein received another honor in 2022, when the newly-formed New Jersey Scholastic Officials Association named him Official of the Year for tennis.

In addition to his duties with the NJSIAA, he has also coordinated numerous USTA and local junior tournaments.

He also took a lead role in the formation of a South Jersey Tennis Hall of Fame, which inducted its first class in 2021.

What do you in your job as an assignor?

I assign tennis matches and interpret rules, and go over rules with coaches.

What do you enjoy most about being an official?

Making the playing field even and enforcing the rules.

What's the best part about any given day of officiating?

To get a 'Thank You' from the players.

What's the biggest misconception about the job of being an official?

That you want a team to win.

What would you say to anyone thinking about becoming an official?

Have a thick skin.



***Think you might be interested in becoming a high school sports official?
Check out this link to learn more: <https://www.njsiaa.org/officials/become-official>***