



POPOLIZIO NAMED NWCA NY STATE ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR

Shenendehowa Assistant Coach Founded Journeymen Wrestling

(June 5, 2009) The National Wrestling Coaches Association has named Coach Frank Popolizio the 2009 New York State Assistant Coach of the Year.

An assistant coach at Shenendehowa High School and founder of the highly successful Journeymen Wrestling Club, Popolizio has helped coach multiple High School All Americans, NY State champions, NY State place finishers and four National Champions.

“Frank Popolizio is an outstanding coach and terrific promoter of scholastic and collegiate wrestling. His record of service to wrestling reaches beyond the borders of Section II and New York State,” said Rich Romeo, NWCA NYS Representative and President of the NYS Wrestling Coaches Association. “His contributions to the sport and dedication to his student-athletes has provided new opportunities for wrestlers and advanced the sport in ways many thought not possible”.

Popolizio is the creator of two prestigious and nationally recognized collegiate wrestling events hosted in NY State: Journeymen’s Sprawl & Brawl and The Journeymen / BRUTE Northeast Collegiate Duals. These two highly successful events have attracted storied collegiate wrestling programs like Iowa, Minnesota, Iowa State, Oklahoma State and Penn State to compete at venues in New York State offering aspiring high school athletes and fans the opportunity to see national championship caliber wrestling. In addition, Frank has created partnerships with National Championship wrestling programs from University of Iowa and Oklahoma State University to bring their summer camp operations to New York State exposing New York’s scholastic wrestlers to the very best technique and training methods in the country.

Speaking on behalf of the NWCA, Executive Director Mike Moyer said, “The coaches and wrestlers receiving the NWCA State Scholastic Awards have shown the type of work ethic and commitment needed to achieve success on and off the mat. The NWCA applauds the efforts and the achievements of the honorees”.

The National Wrestling Coaches Association, established in 1928, is a professional organization dedicated to serve and provide leadership for the advancement of all levels of the sport of wrestling with primary emphasis on scholastic and collegiate programs. The membership embraces all people interested in amateur wrestling. The NWCA, through its organizational structure, promotes communication, recognizes achievement, recommends rules and regulations, sponsors events, and serve as an educational and informational source. Additionally, the NWCA strives to foster the sportsmanship and integrity that are the cornerstones of athletic competition.

Past NWCA Assistant Coach of the Year award winners:

- 2008 Lou Lombardo, Greece Olympia HS
- 2007 Dale Oliver, Canandaigua Academy

