

HONORARY REFEREES

2016 State Finals



MIKE SULLIVAN

Mike Sullivan graduated from Niles Township High School, where he participated in cross country and track & field. He attended Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and then began his teaching and coaching career at Sterling High School. During his time in Sterling he coached girls' and boys' cross country and was an assistant boys' track & field coach for the distance runners for nearly 30 years.

As cross country coach, his teams won five North Central Illinois Conference championships, three Regional championships and one Sectional crown. Three of his Golden Warrior teams recorded Top 10 finishes at the IHSA state meet, while also tallying 302 combined dual- and tri-meet victories in his career.

Another part of his legacy at Sterling remains in the cross country course he designed in 1974 that closely resembles that of Peoria's Detweiller Park and is still in use by the high school today.

After retiring from coaching, Mike followed the advice of friends by getting involved in officiating. He was first licensed in 2002 and continues to work a full schedule of meets in Northern Illinois, while also working the IHSA state finals for the past 20 years in a variety of roles from timing to the clerk's tent.

Mike and his wife have three children and five grandchildren. In retirement, his passion for the sport continues as he still coaches the cross country teams at Sauk Valley Community College.



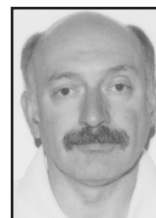
JOHN WEHMEIER

John Wehmeier began his track & field officiating career as a field judge in the St. Louis Public School system in 1962 and went on to become a registered IHSA official in 1966 when he began teaching and coaching in the Belleville school district. 50 years later he is still going strong, as the Millstadt native continues to work track meets in Southern Illinois as a referee and starter.

When the IHSA added girls track in 1973, John was the referee-starter for the inaugural IHSA Girls Sectional meet in Southern Illinois and has gone on to serve as a Starter, Assistant Starter, and Referee at countless boys and girls sectional meets throughout the years.

John also officiates high school cross country in Illinois, earning numerous accolades along the way. In 2007, he served as the starter for the IHSA Class 1A Girls Cross Country State Final race and a year later was named the Illinois honoree for the NFHS Cross Country Official of the Year award.

One of the things that John is most proud of from his storied career is that many of the individuals he has encouraged to become officials during his 50 years of service have gone on to not only officiate, but to excel at the state final level.



GEZA EHRENTREU

Geza became an IHSA licensed official 39 years ago with the help of his high school track coach Phil Salzer. In that time, he has officiated over 60 sectionals, served as a starter and referee at both IHSA Spring Spectacular state final meets, and has served as the Coordinator of Officials for the girls and boys state meets for the past 11 years. He has also served as the Coordinator of Officials for the State Cross Country meet for the past seven years.

Geza founded the Illinois Track and Cross Country Officials Association 20 years ago and served as its first President and is still actively involved in mentoring officials.

Geza has served as the Head Clinician for IHSA Track & Field and Cross Country since the inception of the clinician program. He has been inducted into the Peoria High School Athletic Hall of Fame and the ITCCOA Hall of Fame. He was the recipient of the NFOA Illinois Cross Country Official of the Year in 1999 and 2000, the NFOA Girls Track Official of the Year in 2012 and the Boys Track Official of the Year in 2015.

Geza was also named the Honorary Referee for the State Cross Country Meet in 2002 and for the Girls State Track Meet in 2007. In 2008, Geza was recognized with the IHSA's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, which is awarded to individuals who have gone above and beyond to give back to young people in Illinois through IHSA sports and activities.

Honor Roll of Boys Track and Field Honorary Referees

1960	Robert S. Woodruff, Oak Park	1981	Jack D. May, Urbana	2002	John Craft, Charleston	2008	Mark Jostes, East Peoria
1961	Shelby Himes, Urbana	1982	Richard K. Welty, Palatine	2003	Glenn Cothorn, Gibson City	2009	James Lewis, Northwoods
1962	Harry Hill, Gridley	1983	Gene Masters, Normal		Renny Garshelis, Charleston		Doug Chapman, Belvidere
1963	C.L. Harriss, Carlyle	1984	Russ Deason, LaGrange		Ralph Krupke, Roselle	2010	Larry Clear, Gordonville, MO
1964	Clarence East, Elmhurst	1985	Bill Brandvold, Mattoon		Jerry McGuire, Oak Park		Art Sievers, Monticello
1965	Milt F. Sprunger, Washington	1986	Gail Borton, West Frankfort	2004	Joyce Carlson, Lemont	2011	John Cheney, Oak Park
1966	Ross Anderson, Oak Park	1987	Taylor Thomas, Urbana		Bob Hout, Effingham		Carl Magsamen, Schaumburg
1967	Emil G. "Heinie" Schultz, Evanston	1988	Charles Feutz, Hoffman Estates		Dr. Ken Kite, Hoffman Estates		Tom Miller, Dundee
1968	W. W. Downing, East St. Louis	1989	Leonard Wilson, Urbana		Warren McGhee, Canton	2012	Harry Fletcher, Oregon
1969	Roy S. Anderson, Lincoln	1990	Glen Hamilton, Pinckneyville		Joe Newton, Elmhurst		Darrell Prince, Dyer, IN
1970	Jim Evers, Centralia	1991	Tony Sacco, River Forest		John Polka, Oak Park		Chris Perry, Peoria
1971	A. G. "Frenchie" Haussler, Peoria	1992	Chic Anderson, Palatine	2005	Bill Bulat, Rock Island	2013	David Axelrod, Highland Park
1972	Leo L. Singer, Waukegan	1993	Walter Elmore, Charleston		Larry Miller, Ottawa		David Daugherty, Carlinville
1973	Harry E. Gaines, Mattoon	1994	100th Celebration		Ben Ward, Chicago	2014	Dwayne Foote, Libertyville
1974	Harold G. Monilaw, LaGrange	1995	Harold "Tuffy" Bowen, Farmington	2006	Floyd Rogers, Crystal Lake		Paul Neakrase, Washington
1975	Clarence B. "Babe" Pierce, Sparta	1996	Phil Salzer, Peoria		Loyd Grafford, Wood River		Jerzy Marszalek, Sheridan
1976	John S. Gill, Elmhurst	1997	Carlin Nalley, Lisle		Ron Campbell, Skokie	2015	Crenden Keller, Crystal Lake
1977	Eugene (Gene) Armer, Urbana	1998	Willie May, Chicago		Angelo Rinchioso, Decatur		Charles Rod Shurtz, Waltonville
1978	Roy Gummerson, Oak Park	1999	Dick Hamann, Carrollton	2007	John Mills, Sullivan	2016	Mike Sullivan, Sterling
1979	Ira Scott, Naperville	2000	Ron Helberg, Huntley		Dan Moy, Jacksonville		John Wehmeier, Millstadt
1980	George Dekan, Carol Stream	2001	Ray Collier, Aurora		Jerry Parsons, Normal		Geza Ehrentreu, Rockford