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30th Annual PIAA Officials' Convention

Nearly 100 officials honored for 30-years of service

MECHANICSBURG, PA – The 30th Annual PIAA Officials Convention took place August 1st and 2nd, 2025 at the Hilton Harrisburg. The Officials' Convention was launched by current PIAA Executive Director Dr. Robert Lombardi in 1994. It started with only 75 officials in attendance and has grown to an average of more than 1,000 officials each year. This convention has also become the largest interscholastic sports officials' convention in the country and continues to hold its place! This is a chance for officials to gain educational knowledge, review rule changes for the upcoming sports season(s), and participate in numerous sessions of the recruitment, retainment and training of officials.

The conference also featured a few specials guests. With the Officials Convention gaining national recognition, the Arkansas Activities Association Associate Executive Director Dex Hill flew in to get a first-hand glimpse to take back ideas to the Arkansas' Officials Clinic. Two of the guest speakers included Robert Hartman, PIAA former vice-president, shared his experiences as an athlete, official, administrator and a PIAA executive and Fred Harris, Athletic Director at Liberty High School in Bethlehem, spoke about how to enhance the relationship between the official and athletic director. Other breakout rooms included Situational Awareness, Leadership Strategies, Junior Officials Clinic, Player Safety and a live Swimming and Diving demonstration at Red Land High School were among the near 80+ sessions.

Beverly Owens-Gaither Meritorious Service Award: Dr. Sam Monismith

This award is bestowed upon a registered or non-registered PIAA official who has consistently shown a devotion to PIAA, interscholastic athletics and the athletes we serve. The award winner shows constant and consistent devotion through their working relationship with PIAA in its many activities. This person will have gained this award through a distinctive period of service to PIAA.

Dr. Sam Monismith was born and raised in Central Pa. He is a graduate of Middletown High School, East Stroudsburg University and Penn State University. Dr. Monismith retired as an associate professor of health education at Penn State.

Dr. Monismith has been a registered Cross Country and Track and Field official since 2011 and has worked many PIAA Track and Field and Cross Country Championships. In addition, he has often worked in support of multiple PIAA Championships as a scorer and registrar, critical positions at these events. Dr. Monismith was mentored by the likes of



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Charli Hartman and Ken Dickey. This recipient has become a mainstay at PIAA events working to assist wherever and whenever asked.



Left to right: Dr. Robert Lombardi, PIAA Executive Director, Dr. Sam Monismith and Beverly Owens-Gaither.

Mario J. Donnangelo Distinguished Service Award: Audrey K. Hall

This service award is the highest award PIAA bestows on a registered sports official. This award is reserved for those registered sports officials whose leadership and efforts have been of great assistance to PIAA, interscholastic athletics, and the high school athletes of Pennsylvania.

The first of this year's recipients is Audrey K. Hall. She is a proud graduate of Southern Huntingdon High School, Lock Haven University and Penn State University. She has been a registered field hockey umpire since 1992 and a track and field official since 2005.

During Ms. Hall's officiating career, she previously worked the 1998 AA Field Hockey Championships and has worked countless Track and Field Championships. She has served on the District V Committee since 1984, and is the current District V Female Officials Representative. Ms. Hall has also held countless leadership positions in PIAA Officials' Chapters and on the PIAA Board of Directors.

After a 32-year career, Ms. Hall retired from teaching at McConnellsburg High School and has served as an American Red Cross instructor for the last 50 years. She is a current member of the Huntingdon County and Fulton County Halls of Fame. Her real claim to



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fame was as a girls' basketball coach. She amassed a record of 459 wins and 239 losses and won the 1991 PIAA Championship with a 31-0 record. Ms. Hall is a truly dedicated ambassador of all things PIAA.



Left to right: Frank Majikes, PIAA President, Audrey K. Hall and Dr. Robert Lombardi, PIAA Executive Director.

Mario J. Donnangelo Distinguished Service Award: Bruce G. Haselrig

The second recipient of the Mario J. Donnangelo Award is Bruce G. Haselrig. He's a native of Johnstown where he graduated from Greater Johnstown High School. Haselrig is also a proud graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he is also a member of their Hall of Fame as a member of the 1964 football team. This is in addition to the other six (6) Halls of Fame that he has been inducted into.

Mr. Haselrig has been a registered PIAA wrestling official since 1972 and has worked multiple Individual and Team Wrestling Championships during his time with the PIAA. He has held multiple leadership positions, both with the Cambria-Somerset Officials Chapter and PIAA District 6, where he has served as the District Interpreter for the last 35 years.

After a 34-year career with the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown, Mr. Haselrig retired as an administrator but keeps himself busy as he currently serves in multiple positions at the various PIAA Wrestling Championship events.



Left to right: Frank Majikes, PIAA President, Bruce G. Haselrig and Dr. Robert Lombardi, PIAA Executive Director.

Chapter Secretary of the Year Award: Jennifer Everett

To be nominated for this award, PIAA looks for chapter secretaries who go above and beyond the ordinary duties of recording attendance and sending notices to chapter members. The Chapter Secretary of the Year must show tremendous attention to detail, keeping records with the utmost accuracy.

This year's recipient has displayed all those qualities and more over the last decade that she has served as the secretary for the Wilkes Barre Chapter of PIAA Basketball Officials. Ms. Jennifer Everett is a true professional. She conducts her duties with a high level of professionalism while assisting each member with their needs. Ms. Everett is constantly notifying officials of meetings dates and rescheduling meetings when necessary and has no issues setting up virtual meetings when needed.

She also serves in leadership positions with her summer recreation league all the while finding time to officiate basketball. Ms. Everett has worked two PIAA Championship contests, and most recently, this past March, as one of the Girls Basketball Championship Officials in Hershey.

Her strongest virtue could be taking a leadership position with the Junior Officials Program where she assigns mentors to newly registered officials.

For these and many other reasons we're honored to present the Wilkes Barre Chapter of PIAA Basketball Officials, Chapter Secretary, Jennifer Everett the Chapter Secretary of the Year Award.



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Left to right: Frank Majikes, PIAA President, Jennifer Everett and Dr. Robert Lombardi, PIAA Executive Director.

Chapter Recognition Award: Mr. Michael P. Heisler, York Chapter President

This award is given annually to the officials' chapter that has the largest number of convention attendees. For the second straight year, this award is presented to the York



Left to right: Frank Majikes, PIAA President, Michael Heisler, York Officials' Chapter and Dr. Robert Lombardi, PIAA Executive Director.



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Chapter of PIAA Basketball Officials. With 450 Chapters across the state, the York Chapter had 33 members attending this year's convention and have had 81 members attending over the last two years. The President of the York Chapter, Michael P. Heisler was present to accept the award.

Combined with the awards listed above, the two-day convention capped off by recognizing PIAA officials for their years of service to its member schools and student-athletes in Pennsylvania. The culminating banquet on Saturday, August 2nd honored nearly 100 officials for their 30-plus year dedication to high school athletics.

Below are the officials who received a gold watch for 30 years of service:

30-Year Official Awards

Frank Accetta
Frederick J. Agostini
James A. Anderson
Michael L. Applegate
Robert J. Banzhoff
Greg R. Bell
Samuel Bloom
Jeffrey Broad
Susan L. Brubaker
Dennis Capozzolo
Mary Linda Castano
Thomas C. Chernisky
Louise Cicerchia
Kevin D. Davis
James F. Delbaugh
Louis A. Drnjevic
James B. Evens
Daniel H. Fletcher
Todd Gallupe
Anthony Ganzak
Albert G. Gardner
Charles J. Gephart
Joseph C. Goode
Christopher W. Green
Christopher A. Hayes
William S. Hoffman
Tony Holmes
Raymond R. Hoppel, Jr.
David A. Jaap
John E. Jenkins

Jaime Johnson
Andrew J. Keenan
Michael J. Kelly
Charles Kipp
Tina K. Knepp
Patricia L. Kunkle
Scott D. Lamprey
Ralph D. Lehman
Raymond G. Leverknight
Peter P. Lupkowski
Karl F. Mack
Colin Paul McGinnis
Jarrod P. McKay
Thomas R. Meluskey
Floyd E. Metzger, Jr.
Ronald B. Mezick
Aaron Mickens
David W. Moore
James P. Moore, Sr.
Larry R. Moser
Jeffrey R. Moses
Louisa O'Brien
John Oleynik
Todd J. Parker
John A. Pero
Donald E. Pettigrew
Lenard D. Polin
Sandra S. Potocki
Paul D. Puleo
Timothy S. Ray, Sr.

Stephen Reider
David L. Reiner
Michael A. Reiss
Joyce A. Reitz
John M. Ressler
David S. Shank
Joseph D. Shick
Alan Rick Shrout
Mark Sike
James R. Smith
Rochelle Speier
Paul B. Sporter
Susan M. Stafford
Neil P. Stewart
Michael R. Stirling
Mark John Stroney
Terry J. Sullivan
Mary M. Talbot
Chris Teagarden
Lawrence A. Tomei
Mark Tortorella
Randall L. Troutman
Michael W. Turner
Joseph L. Volpe
Leslie Whalen
Andre Williams
Tim William
John M. Wisniewski, Jr.
Preston Wright



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The PIAA has over 15,000 registered sport officials across the state, but this still isn't enough. With the growing number of sports and student-athletes in Pennsylvania, there's always a need for more officials. If you or someone you know would like to become an official, visit <http://www.piaa.org/officials/become/default.aspx>.

Photo gallery by Lee Ann Blascovich: [2025 Officials Convention](#)



"Our purpose is to serve, our mission is to achieve, and our goal is excellence."

Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association

Beginning in Pittsburgh, on December 29, 1913, PIAA was given the privilege of serving its member schools and registered officials by establishing policies and adopting contest rules that emphasize the educational values of interscholastic athletics, promote safe and sportsmanlike competition, and provide uniform standards for all interscholastic levels of competition.