

Roy Hill III

Lifetime Service to Wrestling

Roy Hill's exceptional career as a wrestling coach alone is more than enough to merit Hall of Fame recognition, but when one considers his contributions as a steward of the sport, his success in other sports, and his extraordinary accomplishments as a classroom teacher, the picture emerges of a man dedicated to the service of young people.

Coach Hill has been a loyal son of Hayfield Secondary School since 1980. As a student-athlete (Class of '84), he excelled in three sports, as an All-District performer in football and baseball and a district champion/state qualifier in wrestling. He then became a three-sport VMI Keydet, receiving his B.S. degree in 1988.

Returning to Hayfield, he was a full-time biology teacher and head wrestling coach by 1992. He proceeded to build one of the dominant wrestling programs in the Northern Region: his Hawks won 11 district/conference championships, 6 regional championships, and 4 top-five finishes at the state level. In 2013, he won his 300th dual-meet victory. For his sustained excellence, resulting in many of his wrestlers winning scholarships at dozens of colleges, Roy has been recognized throughout the years with honors too numerous to list completely, including the Washington Post All-Metropolitan Coach of the Year (2004) and the VHSL Order of Merit Award (2006).

His commitment to coaching extended to the "off-season" and Olympic-style wrestling also. He has served as Director of the Gunston Wrestling Club since 1994; his teams have won numerous Greco-Roman and Freestyle state team and individual titles. He has held several coaching positions for Virginia USA Wrestling, AAU, and Junior National levels with great success.

The wrestling community quickly identified Coach Hill as a leader and entrusted him with many positions of responsibility. Just two examples of many: he

represented Virginia on the National High School Wrestling Rules Committee from 1997-2000, and was elected by his peers to be President of the Northern Virginia Wrestling Coaches Association since 1998.

One particularly noteworthy episode that shows him to be the ultimate “full-service” coach was a sudden vacancy that he filled in 2009, when he stepped in mid-season to the high-profile job of head football coach. After finishing that season with four wins and a loss, Coach Hill took his 2010 squad to the regional football final and playoff appearances in the three years following before stepping down as Hayfield’s winningest football coach by percentage.

Finally, Roy Hill is a terrific teacher. He was the 1997 Teacher of the Year at Hayfield, and most impressively, a finalist for Fairfax County Public Schools Teacher of the Year in 2002.