

Jack O'Brien Bio

A Cum Laude graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst (Bachelor of Science - 1977), Jack has dedicated his life to working with young people in many different athletic capacities. Jack started his career as Physical and Gymnastics Camp Director at the Brockton YMCA before teaching physical education (PE) in the Rockland Public Schools and at Acton-Boxborough Regional High. During his Acton-Boxborough tenure, Jack coached the boys varsity lacrosse team and in the spring of 1987, led his team to an undefeated season and the MIAA Division II State Championship. For this accomplishment, Jack was recognized by the Boston Globe and the Lowell Sun as All Scholastic Coach of the Year. In 2011, he was inducted into the Acton-Boxborough Hall of Fame.

Upon his arrival at Prospect Hill Academy Charter School in 1999, Jack created the position of Athletic Director and taught physical education. For the next few years, Jack began to build an athletic program and in the fall of 2002, he convened a group of dedicated charter school PE teachers and founded the Massachusetts Charter School Basketball League (MCSBL). As the League grew, Jack and his colleagues, in 2005, transformed the MCSBL into the Massachusetts Charter School Athletic Organization (MCSAO) which is now the governing body for charter school interscholastic sports which now includes eight separate disciplines in the state of Massachusetts and is still growing. Jack served as Executive Director between 2002 and 2013. Through his passion and leadership, he created a world of possibilities for generations of charter school student/athletes throughout the Commonwealth.

Jack's personal athletic participation ranged from high school football and track to CYO hockey. While attending UMass Amherst, he was a member of the nationally ranked (top 10) varsity lacrosse team which qualified for two Division I NCAA tournaments. While working at Prospect Hill Academy, he coached varsity cross country, girls varsity basketball, and varsity track. As girls varsity basketball head coach, Jack's teams qualified every year for tournament play, winning four championships and were runner-ups on two occasions. For the first 2 years after starting the girls basketball program (middle school level), his teams won 2 other tournament championships. In 2006, the Prospect Hill Academy Foundation established an athletic scholarship in his honor to be presented annually to the graduating student who best typifies the scholar athlete. He has also coached youth soccer, lacrosse, hockey, and basketball in his South Boston community.

Jack's hobbies and interests include walking, hiking, swimming, watching the Patriots with his sons, and spending time with his family.