

63rd Annual

William F. Powley Memorial Service to Wrestling Award

presented to

Joe Ryan

The Powley award recognizes decades of dedication to wrestling

It's an honor to receive the William Powley Award especially being a River Dell graduate. As a kid, I used to walk to this tournament. Not only did I compete as a wrestler, but I have experienced this tournament as a Coach, College Coach Recruiting, fan, and sponsor. Traveling the country as a college Coach, this has always been one of the best of the High School Holiday Tournaments. It holds a special place in my heart, and I always look forward to coming back and seeing old friends each year.

Joe Ryan's over 30 years coaching career includes roles at Army West Point, The Ohio State University, Rutgers University, Wagner College, Seton Hall University and Northern Valley Regional Demarest High School.

Ryan coached under Chuck Barbie at the United States Military Academy at West Point where they had several NCAA Qualifiers and All Americans. At Ohio State, Ryan assisted under Tom Ryan and helped guide several Buckeyes to become All Americans and NCAA Champions. The team had their highest NCAA finish at the time. Ryan also worked with the team in film study and was the director of summer camps.

Ryan was The Head Assistant Coach at Rutgers University under Hall of Fame Head Coach John Sacchi. He worked with the Student Athletes as well as the program's recruiting coordinator to help Rutgers achieve their first and second Top-20 recruiting classes. Ryan is also credited with saving Rutgers wrestling from elimination when he wrote a 50-page study on Rutgers Wrestling.

At Wagner College, Ryan re-established the program as their head coach for 4 seasons. Prior to Wagner,

Ryan spent four seasons at nearby Seton Hall University, including three seasons as Head Coach. Under his tutelage, Seton Hall posted a 35-13 record from 1998-2001 with six NCAA qualifiers and four Academic All-Americans during that span. The Pirates were ranked among the Top-25 on the National Wrestling Coaches Association All-Academic list, with three individuals earning Student-Athlete of the Year honors. Ryan guided the 2000 SHU squad to a 15-4 overall record and a No. 30 national ranking in the final poll. Ryan's recruiting efforts landed High School All-Americans and State Champions from New Jersey and around the country. The Pirates wrestled a challenging schedule with Ryan at the helm, facing off against several nationally ranked teams such as Oklahoma, NCAA National Champions Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

Prior to joining the Seton Hall coaching staff, Ryan spent seven years as the head wrestling coach at Northern Valley Regional High School in Demarest, NJ. He guided Northern Valley Regional to five conference titles and 59 consecutive match victories. Ryan was named the NJSIAA District VIII Coach of the Year on three different occasions. Prior to taking over as the head coach, he served five years as the assistant wrestling coach. Ryan is in three Hall of Fames: River Dell High School, NJ Coaches Association, and Northern Valley Regional Demarest High School.

Ryan was a three-year starter for national power Lock Haven University, where he placed in several tournaments. He graduated from River Dell Regional High School in Oradell, NJ, where he was a two-time captain, two-time state qualifier and Regional Champion, as well as a Freestyle State Champion and Greco-Roman National Champion.