Vol. 57, No. 2 2024



2024-2025 Officers

PRESIDENT

Keith McSweeney Solon

PRESIDENT ELECT

Bruce Wall Jesup

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Dean Harpenau Remsen

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hey Ankeny

CHECK THE WEBSITE

www.lowaHSBCA.net

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Message from the dugout
- Committee Assignments
- Meeting time schedule
- Clinic speaker schedule
- HOF member list
- Hall of Fame Inductees
- All-District nominations
- Fall Board minutes
- Clinic Registration Form

JOIN THE ABCA & BCA

Both are great organizations to be a part of. Get involved with high school baseball at the national level. For more information contact:

ABCA Membership

4101 Piedmont Parkway Suite C

Greensboro, NC 27410 1-800-733-8556 Cost: \$75.00

BCA Membership

Tim Saunders
5811 Dublin Road
Dublin, Ohio 43017
(614) 578-1864 Cost: \$55.00
Tsaunders@baseballcoaches.org



Happy Holidays from the dugout:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to Everyone!!

2025 IHSBCA Clinic: This years clinic will return to Des Moines at the Sheraton Hotel, 1800 50th Street, on January 17-18, 2025. You can make reservations by going to the IHSBCA website and clicking on the reservations tab within the clinic information box. We are very excited with our list of clinic speakers this year. On Friday afternoon, we will have Ryan Dupic - Concordia University, Adam Boeve - Morningside University, Alex Backhaus - Central Missouri University, Ethan Westphal - SIUE University, Mike Roberts - Pittsburg Pirates, Jacob Astor - Iowa Central CC, Nate Trosky - Milwaukee Brewers and Eric Jagers - New York Mets and our high school hot corner. On Saturday we will have Jake Hirst - New York Yankees, Nate Trosky - Milwaukee Brewers, Reed Zahradnik - Texas Rangers, Nic Mishler - DMACC, Sean Kenny and Tyler Cropley from Iowa, and our high school championship panel. We will continue to host the annual FCA Breakfast on Saturday morning starting at 7:30 am. Mike Botts is heading up the umpire side of the clinic. Our umpire sessions will follow the same time frame on both Friday and Saturday. Hope to see everyone! Vendors will be allowed to start setting up their displays on Friday morning beginning at 9:00 am. The clinic sessions will begin at 1:00 pm on Friday afternoon and continue through Saturday, concluding at 3:30 pm.

The Awards Banquet will be held at the Sheraton Hotel on Saturday evening, beginning at 6:00 pm. We are looking forward to another outstanding weekend of baseball. With the clinic fast approaching, please check to make sure your membership has been paid for the 2024-2025 season. The new membership calendar year started on September 1, 2024 and runs through August 31, 2025. If you have questions, contact Lee Toole.

The Steering Committee, Board of Directors, and each individual committee will meet prior to the start of the clinic on Friday. The Board of Directors will meet on Thursday night, January 16th at the Sheraton Hotel at 8:30 pm. The Steering Committee will meet at 6:30 pm. Committee and the district meeting will take place on Friday Morning. Please refer to the list found on page 4 of the newsletter towards times and room assignments for each committee meeting. The general session, which is open to all association members, will take place on Friday morning at 11:00 am.

2024-2025 IHSBCA COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

STEERING COMMITTEE: Sheldon Card, Pleasantville (Chairman)
**Includes all past Presidents

ALL-DISTRICT COMMITTEE:

Derek Flack, DM Christian (Chairman)

Eric Evans, Urbandale Cale Kramer, Hinton Tyler Brietzke, CB Lincoln Bruce Wall, Jesup Kory Tuesher, Dub. Wahlert Travis Wessel, Denison Chad Wiedmann, Norwalk Alex Bohl, Newman Catholic Nick Crouse, Red Oak Kevin Kelderman, North Mahaska Corey Loffswold, Sgt. Bluff-Luton Jason Holst, AHST-Avoca Mike Szalat, Fort Dodge, St. Ed Tom Hallgren, Eddville-Blakesburg

ALL-STAR COMMITTEE:

Dave Rock, Pella (Chairman)

Lee Toole, Council Bluffs Sheldon Card, Pleasantville Jesse Jablonski, Pella Mike Botts, Davenport

AUDIT/CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE:

Bret Hoyer, Cedar Rapids Kennedy (Chairman)

Randy Chamberlin, CP-Urbana Jon Heydon, Coon Rapids-Bayard Jim Jankovick, Madrid

AWARDS COMMITTEE:

Ryan Stensland, Alburnett (Chairman)

Sheldon Card, Pleasantville Jeremy Heinen, Waukee NW Jay Ryan, Davenport
Dick Smith, Ogden Taylor Morris, ACGC John Jaeger, Ottumwa
Matt Nelson, Sgt. Bluff-Luton Turner DeVore, Knoxville

CLINIC EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

Tom Hallgren, Eddyville-Blakesburg (Chairman)

Michael Barta, Johnston James Nelson, CR Prarie Steve Fish, Marion
Matt Nelson, Sgt. Bluff-Luton Lee Crawford, Sigourney Lee Gealow, Central Springs
Andy Osborne, SC Heelan Rob Meister, Algona-Garrigan Jesse Jablonski, Pella
Levi Miller, Nashua-Plainfield Matt Zoske, BCLUW

CLINIC SPEAKER SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Michael Barta (Chairman)

Rick Heller, U of Iowa Jon Fitzpatrick, Indianola Quinn O'Brien, Johnston Derek Stecklein, Pleasant Valley Derek Flack, Des Moines Christian Kris Campbell, Johnston Zach Hendrickson, Johnston Steve Hanson, Marshalltown

COMMUNICATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:

Steve Hanson, Marshalltown (Chairman)

IHSBCA Public Relations:

Ryan Stensland, Alburnett Aaron Hamann, Edgewood-Colesburg

Technology:

Jake Borton, Davenport Jake Souhrada, Wilton Jamie O'Meara, I.C. West

Grant Bohlke, Dallas Center-Grimes

2024-2025 IHSBCA COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE:

Dave Rock, Pella (Chairman)

Roger Hoel, Iowa City Gary Paulsen, Odgen Steve Hanson, Marshalltown Tom Souhrada, Davenport Emory Stewart, Oskaloosa

Denny Barton, Urbandale Dave Middleton, Polk City Andy McGaffin, Spencer Charlie Stumpff, Iowa City John Waddle, Coon-Rapids

Don Lyons, Denison Phil Katz, Linn-Mar Jay Ryan, Davenport Mike Botts, Davenport Gary Nyhus, Clear Lake

LANNY PETERSON ALL-ACADEMIC and PLAYER OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE:

Keith McSweeney, Solon (Chairman)

Dave Rock, Pella Gary Nyhus, Clear Lake Gary Paulsen, Odgen

Dan Pomeroy, Coon Rapids Tom Souhrada, Davenport

Jay Ryan, Davenport John Waddle, Coon Rapids

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Aaron Hamann, Edgewood-Colesburg (Chairman)

Eric Evans, Urbandale Kevin Kelderman, North Mahaska Dan Halter, Cedar Rapids Xavier Trevor Miller, Sioux City East Andy VanFossan, Underwood

Dan Klein, Cedar Falls Wyatt Zoske, North Polk Nathan King, Williamsburg Blake Heitmeier, Carlisle

Jay Soderberg, Essex Jason Book, ADM-Adel Todd White, Davis County Steve Schantz, Greenfield

PROSPECT SHOWCASE COMMITTEE:

Devin Schwiesow, St. Ansgar (Chairman)

Dave Dirkx, Waukee (Field Manager) Jeremy Eldred, Gilbert Mark Hey, Ankeny Centennial Sheldon Card, Pleasantville Colton Hanke, Marshalltown Bryan Mayer, St. Ansgar

Steve Hanson, Marshalltown (Registration/Media) Jared Pirkl, Wavery-Shell Rock Ryan Burkhart, Alta-Aurelia Eric Evans, Urbandale Scot Surprenant, SE Polk

Jason Book, ADM-Adel Mike Furlong, Ballard Reggie Stalzer, WDM Valley Grant Bohlke, DCG

RATING POLL COMMITTEE:

Mark Hey, Ankeny Centennial (Chairman)

Matt Zoske, BCLUW - 1A Contact Derek Flack, DM Christian - 2A Contact Cory McDonald, New Hampton Keith McSweeney, Solon - 3A Contact Troy Rood, Mason City - 4A Contact Andy VanFossan, Underwood Kurtis Hinkel, Logan-Magnolia

Jon Fitzpatrick, Martensdale-SM Casey Bryant, W. Dubuque Brad Anderson, Southeast Valley Jeff Rapp, Dubuque Hempstead Aaron Hamann, Edgewood-Colesburg

Todd Kimm – Radio Iowa Jesse Jablonski, Pella Dean Harpenau, Remsen-SM Jake Souhrada, Wilton Brett Hansen, Emmetsburg

UMPIRE COMMITTEE:

Mike Botts, Davenport (Chairman) (Elected District Reps)

Jeff Freese, Norway Bill Boyd, New Hampton Josh Ragar, West Point Steve Shantz, Greenfield Dan Klein, Cedar Falls

Joshua Baxter, Carlisle Denne Brodbeck, Calmar Chris Oberbroeckling, Marion Jared Rahe, Lake Park Mark Harris, Moville

Joel Harthoorn, Sully Jason Berning, Clarion Joe Nelson, Clarion Scott Bush, Creston

MEETING SCHEDULE, OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Committee Meetina Schedule:

<u>Committee</u>	Site: Sheraton Hotel	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Steering	Dallas Room	1/16	6:30pm
Hall of Fame	Clayton Room	1/17	8:00am
All-District	Marion Room	1/17	8:30am
Clinic Evaluation	Hancock Room	1/17	8:30am
Umpires	Dallas Room	1/17	10:00am
All-Academic Award	All-Star Series Site	TBA	TBA
Awards Committee	Hancock Room	1/17	9:30am
Audit/Constitution	Polk Room	1/17	9:00am
Rating Poll	Webster Room	1/17	9:00am
Membership	Dallas Room	1/17	9:00am
Prospect Showcase	Marion Room	1/17	9:30am
General Session	Hancock Room	1/17	11:00am



Committee chairman will be responsible towards reporting back from their committees meeting during the general session meeting on Friday, January 17th, at 11:00am. Attendance will be taken. Any member can sit in on any of the committee meetings.

Committee Members:

We would like for each committee member to check when their committee meeting will be held. It is important for the Chairman to take roll at there committee meeting. If a member has been absent two consecutive years, he will be dropped from that committee unless he appeals his removal in writing to the Vice-President providing proper reasoning behind his attendance issues for two consecutive committee meetings.

Optional places to stay in Des Moines:

If you are looking for reservations somewhere other than the Marriott Hotel, here is a list to look through:

Sheraton Hotel 1800 50th St. (515) 223-1800
Baymont Inn 6221 SW Army Post Rd (515) 285-0654
Comfort Inn 5231 Fleur Drive (515) 287-3434
Drury Inn 5505 Mills Civic Pkwy (515) 457-9500
Fairfield Inn 6880 Fleur Drive (515) 309-4444
Hampton Inn 7060 Lake Drive (515) 223-4700
Heartland Inn 11414 Forest Ave (515) 226-0414
Holiday Inn Airport 6111 Fleur Dr (515) 287-2400
Marriott West 1250 Jordan Creek (515) 267-1500
Residence Inn 160 S. Jordan Creek (515) 267-0338

Candlewood Suites 7625 Office Plaza Dr N. (515) 221-0001 Courtyard By Marriott 410 S. 68th St. (515) 223-9800 Hampton Inn 5001 Fleur Drive (515) 287-7300 Fairfield Inn 7225 Vista Drive (515) 225-6100 Hilton Garden Inn 205 S. 64th Street (515) 223-0571 Holiday Inn 6075 Mills Civic Pkwy. (515) 309-3900 Spring Hill Suites 1236 Jordan Crek Pkwy. (515) 223-9005 Motel 6 7655 Office Plaza Dr N. (515) 267-8885

Longevity Awards/Membership Awards & Win Club Awards:

Please take time to email Lee Toole towards win club, years service club, and conference champs. We need to get this information collected for the January clinic and banquet awards.

Committee Assignments:

President–elect Bruce Wall will be assigning members to the different committees during the clinic. If you have an interest in serving on one of the committees, contact Bruce. Please get involved.

All-Star Coaches Needed:

Coaches, please fill out the questionnaire on the website if you are interested in coaching in the 47th All-Star Series this coming summer. Dates are July 31-August 2, 2025, in Des Moines. The All-Star Coaches are selected by the Steering committee during the January clinic. We are always looking for coaches to help with this great event. A past head coach must sit out for our years before coaching again. An assistant coach must sit out one year before he can apply again for a coaching position. We need coaches from all over the state to get a good balance. Please consider helping the association by coaching in a future all-star series.

Join the ABCA and BCA:

Both are great organizations to be a part of. Get involved with high school baseball at the national level. For more information, contact:

BCA Membership
Tim Saunders
5811 Dublin Road
Dublin, Ohio 43017
Tsaunders Chaseballsoaches

Tsaunders@baseballcoaches.org

(614) 578-1864 Cost: \$55.00 ABCA Membership 4101 Piedmont Parkway Greensboro. NC. 27410 (336) 821-3140 Fax (336) 886-0000 Cost: \$75.00



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION CLINIC

2025 DES MOINES SPEAKER LINE-UP FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 17TH					
DAY ONE	TIME SLOT	СОАСН	TEAM	AREA	TOPIC
11:30-12:50	GENERAL SESSION MEETING				
THE LEAD-OFF MAN	12:50-1:30	RYAN DUPIC	CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	BUILDING YOUR PROGRAM	BUILDING PROGRAM SUCCESS FROM SCRATCH THROUGH CHAMPIONSHIP CULTURE
1:30-1:45	VENDOR VISIT				
	1:45-2:25	ADAM BOEVE	MORNINGSIDE UNIVERSITY	OUTFIELD	SAVING RUNS: TRAINING OUR OUTFIELDERS AT AN ELITE LEVEL
SPEAKER SESSION ONE	2:25-3:05	ALEX BACKHAUS	CENTRAL MISSOURI UNIVERSITY	HITTING	DEVELOPMENT OF TEAM OFFENSE
	3:05-3:45	ETHAN WESTPHAL	SIU EDWSVILLE UNIVERSITY	PITCHING	A PITCHING DEVELOPMENT BLUEPRINT: FROM MOVEMENT TO MINDSET
3:45-4:00	VENDOR VISIT				
c.i	4:00-4:30	DJ DUVE	BONDURANT HIGH SCHOOL	PITCHING	MAXIMIZING PREDICTABILITY TO CREATE CONSISTENT PERFORMANCE
HIGH SCHOOL HOT CORNER	4:00-4:30	RYAN BURKHART	ALTA-AURELIA HIGH SCHOOL	FUNDRAISING	SLEEPING GIANT: HARNESSING THE POWER OF YOUR COMMUNITY TO BUILD YOUR PROGRAM
	4:00-4:30	JOHN WADDLE	COON RAPIDS BAYARD	HITTING	A VIABLE PLAN AT OUR LEVEL; A FOUNDATION-PHILOSOPHY-DRILLS INCORPORATION
4:30-5:00 CALL TO THE PEN FOR PIZZA = (PIZZA PROVIDED BY VENDOR)					
	5:00-5:40	MIKE ROBERTS	PITTSBURG PIRATES	BASERUNNING	ADVANCED BASERUNNING AND BASESTEALING
SPEAKER SESSION TWO	5:40-6:20	JACOB ASTOR	IOWA CENTRAL CC	HITTING	ADDDING EXTRA BASE HITS BY MAKING HITTERS MORE EXPLOSIVE
	6:20-7:00	NATE TROSKY	MILWAUKEE BREWERS	INFIELD	BLACK BELT THROWING SYSTEM
7:00-7:10			SEVEN O	CLOCK STRE	тсн
KEYNOTE CLOSER	7:10-8:00	ERIC JAGERS	NEW YORK METS	PITCHING	PITCHING DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES: SOLUTIONS THAT SCALE FROM HS TO MLB

IOWA HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION CLINIC

2025 DES MOINES SPEAKER LINE-UP FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH					
DAY TWO	TIME SLOT	СОАСН	TEAM	AREA	TOPIC
7:30-9:00			FCA	BREAKFAS	т
THE TABLE SETTER	9:00-9:45	ANDY UMTHUN	IAHSAA	RULES	ANNUAL IOWA HIGH SCHOOL RULES MEETING
9:45-10:00	VENDOR VISIT				
	10:00-10:40	NATE TROSKY	MILWAUKEE BREWERS	INFIELD	THE HIGHEST RETURN ON INFIELD TRAINING
SPEAKER SESSION THREE	10:40-11:20	JAKE HIRST	NEW YORK YANKEES	HITTING	OFFENSIVE TRAINING DESIGN AND FEEDBACK STRATEGIES
	11:20-12:00	REED ZAHRADNIK	TEXAS RANGERS	ANALYTICS	ANALYTICAL BASEBALL TRUTHS: DATA THAT CAN SUPPORT HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS
12:00-12:30	STEAL A BAGLUNCH AND VENDOR VISIT				
HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPION	COACH SCOTT ALBERTS = LYNNVILLE-SULLY COACH ANDY VANFOSSAN = UNDERWOOD 12:30-1:30 COACH WYATT ZOSKE = NORTH POLK		STATE CHAMPION IOWA HIGH SCHOOL COACHES FROM 1A, 2A, 3A, & 4A		
COACHES		COACH BRET HOYER = CR KENNEDY			EACH WILL GIVE A 15 MINUTE PRESENTATION ABOUT SOMETHING UNIQUE WITHIN THEIR PROGRAM
ENTER SANDMAN SPEAKERS TO CLOSE US OUT					
	1:30-2:10	NIC MISHLER	DMACC	WINNING CULTURE	PREPARING FOR WINNING TIME
SPEAKER SESSION FOUR	2:10-2:50	SEAN KENNY	IOWA	PITCHING	BRIDGING OLD SCHOOL TO NEW SCHOOL: PRIORITIZING HABITS THAT WIN
	2:50-3:30	TYLER CROPLEY	IOWA	CATCHING	CATCHING DRILL WORK FOR ALL LEVELS
3:30-6:00 BREAK = THEN BONUS BASEBALL					
6:00-8:00		IOWA HIGH		SEBALL COA	ACHES ASSOCIATION ET



FCA Breakfast Guest Speaker - Casey Blake

Casey Blake graduated from Indianola High School where he was a four-sport athlete. He was named one of the top ten high school athletes in the history of Iowa. Blake went on to Wichita State University where he was a three-time All American, two-time Academic All American and participated in the College World Series. Casey was selected by the Toronto Blue Jays in the seventh round of the 1996 Major League draft and made his major league debut on August 4, 1999. In addition to the Toronto Blue Jays, Blake's major league career included playing for the Minnesota Twins, Baltimore Orioles, Cleveland Indians, and Los Angeles Dodgers. His major league baseball career ran from 1999 to 2011. His career stats include a batting average of .264; 167 home runs; and 616 runs batted in. Casey lives exclusively in Indianola where he is active in community youth programs and / coaching his younger children. He and Abby have five daughters and one son.

Agenda

2025 Umpire Clinic

Friday, January 17, 2025

12:45pm – 1:00pm	Welcome and Introductions Mike Botts
1:00pm – 1:30pm	Bench Decorum Josh Baxter
1:30pm – 2:15pm	Two-Person Mechanics Travis Fuller and Billy Connolly
2:15pm – 2:30pm	BREAK
2:30pm – 3:00pm	Balks and Pitching Jeff Frese
3:00pm – 3:45pm	Video Plays Dan Klein
3:45pm – 4:15pm	Getting the Call Right Denne Brodbeck
4:15pm – 4:45pm	Income Tax Deductions Ricardo Alvario
4:45pm – 5:00pm	Wrap up Chris Oberbroeckling and Mike Botts

Agenda

2025 Umpire Clinic

Saturday, January 18, 2025

9:00am – 10:15am IHSAA Clinic

10:30am – 11:45pm Theo Arndt, Minor League umpire

12:00pm – 1:00pm **LUNCH**

1:15pm – 4:00pm Cage Work

Johnston Middle School

Zephys



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2024 Conference Champs:

	401	ilerence e	iliuliips.
Conference		<u>School</u>	<u>Coach</u>
Iowa Alliance (Nort	h)	Ames	Nick Steenhagen
(Sout	h)	DM Roosevelt	Randy Wee
Bluegrass		Ankeny Christian Acade	-
CIML		Johnston	Michael Barta
Corner		Stanton	Alex Cabbage
Hawkeye Ten		Clarinda	Rod Eberly
Heart of Iowa		West Marshall	Jerod Brown
Iowa Star (North)		Don Bosco Catholic	Joel Schares
		Janesville	Ryan Destival
(South)		North Tama	Dalton Hulme
Lakes		Estherville-LC	Lee Evans
Little Hawkeye		Dallas Center-Grimes	Curt Castenson
Mississippi Athletic		Davenport North	Colin Carstens
Mississippi Valley -	. ,,	CR Kennedy	Bret Hoyer
Mississippi Valley -	(Miss.)	Walhert Catholic	Kory Tuescher
Missouri River		Bishop Heelan	Andy Osborne
North Central		Algona	Chad Slagle
North Iowa Cedar -	(West)	Grundy Center	Patrick Brown
		South Hardin	Nathan Weig
	(East)	Sumner-Fredericksbur	g Tom Nuss
	(Central)	Columbus Catholic	Bob Etringer
Northeast Iowa		New Hampton	Cory McDonald
Pride of Iowa		Martensdale-St. Mary'	s Jon Fitzpatrick
Raccoon River		North Polk	Wyatt Zoske
River Valley		Mid-Prairie	Kyle Mullet
Rolling Valley		Coon Rapids-Bayard	John Waddle
SEISC - (North)		Hillcrest Academy	Dan Hershbrger
(South)		Notre Dame, Burlingt	•
Siouxland		MOC-Floyd Valley	Matt McCarty
South Central		Chariton	Turner DeVore
South Iowa Cedar		Lynnville-Sully	Scott Alberts
Southeast		Burlington	Griffin Dean
Top of lowa		Forest City	Jeff Jerome
		Bishop Garrigan	Rob Meister
Tri-Rivers		Alburnett	Ryan Stensland
		North Linn	Travis Griffith
Twin Lakes		Alta-Aurelia	Ryan Burkhart
Upper Iowa		South Winneshiek	Alex Smith
WAMAC - (East)		Marion	Steve Fish
(West)		Grinnell	Tony Stenberg
War Eagle		Akron-Westfield	Gordon Johnson
West Central		Van Meter	Eben Baumhover
		Des Moines Christian	
Western Iowa		Underwood	Andy VanFossan
Western Valley		Woodbury Central	Andy Compton
•		•	, ,

DISTRICT MEDIA AWARD WINNERS:

West District: Matt Gengler Missouri Valley Times
Central District: Andrew Swadner KNIA Radio-Indianola
East District: Kristi Nixon St. Ansgar EJ Newspaper

IHSBCA Award Winners:

Bill & Sherry Freese Contributors Award to Jesse Jablonski:

We would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest appreciation to Jesse Jablonski for his endless work and contributions he made which cleared the way for the All-Star Series to go on as planned this past summer in Pella. His tireless efforts allowed us to hold the series after days of severe weather in the Pella area. Three days before the series was to begin torrential rains and high winds hit the area two days in a row. The field become a lake and the outfield fence was blown over. With only days before the All-Star Series was to begin, Jesse and his crew went to work to clear the water from the infield and repaired the outfield fence. Once the playing area dried, he had a day to mow the grass and groom the dirt areas. Then to make matters worse, strong storms moved back into the area the night before the series was to begin, but fortunately, the high winds and heavy rains stayed south of Pella. Jesse's work ethic and dedication to meet a deadline says everything about his character and his love for the game of baseball. Congratulations to Jesse Jablonski for being named our 2024 Bill and Sherry Freese Contributors Award winner.

President's Award to Scott Parcher:

We would like to take this opportunity to recognize one of our long time friends and supporters of lowa high school baseball,

Scott Parcher from Carroll. Scott has been the Park Superintendent for the community of Carroll since 1980. Along with other city park duties, Scott also took on the job of the grounds crew management supervisor for the historic Merchants Park Baseball field. Scott put his years of knowledge in turf-grass management, dendrology, horticulture and landscape design to good use. He turned an already nice facility into an outstanding baseball facility. Merchants Park has become the site for the Class 1A and 2A State Tournaments and has hosted four All-Star Series. Without his knowledge, dedication, and commitment to his craft, the city of Carroll and lowa high school baseball would not be blessed with such an outstanding baseball facility and a venue that everyone wants to play at. Thanks to Scott, Merchants Park is truly Carroll's "Field of Dreams". On behalf of the lowa High School Baseball Coaches Association, we would like to congratulate Scott Parcher for being named the 2024 President's Award Winner.

Harold "Pinky" Primrose Award to Lyle "Butch" Baer:

Staying with something for a long period of time is a characteristic that you don't see very much anymore. It's a thing of the past. But, for the past 32 years Lyle "Butch" Baer has been the Public Address voice of Marshalltown High School. Although he has worked nearly every sport the school has to offer - it has been baseball that has brought Butch wide-spread notoriety around the state of lowa. In 1993 the 4-class state tournament was held in Marshalltown and delayed by rain until the next Monday. Butch volunteered to pinch hit for the assigned PA man who would be out of town - and Butch hasn't left the State Baseball microphone since. Butch worked the state championships from 1993 until 2004 in Marshalltown then followed the tourney to Principal Park in Des Moines. Most recently he continued his work with the 3A/4A tournament at Duane Banks Field in lowa City and will be one of the announcers at this summer's championship series at Veteran's Memorial Stadium in Cedar Rapids. He has filled in for the U of Iowa the past couple seasons, as well. Butch gets to know the coaches and umpires who cross his path on a personal level - he's one of those guys who "never forgets a face" -and he's worked with 30+ years of coaches and umpires at a variety of levels. He's a guy who insists on getting things right - from the names of coaches on a staff to the hometowns of umpires right down to the pronunciation of the 21st player's last name. There are few people in our state who have given as much time and effort to the sport of baseball that Butch has. On behalf of the IHSBCA, we would like to honor and congratulate Lyle "Butch" Baer with our 2024 Harold "Pinky"Primrose Award.



True Pitch Inc. thanks IHSBCA members for being a consistent and loyal customer. Your generous support of our products, especially Flex-A-Clay has allowed us to proudly donate thousands to the association to support IHSBCA endeavors.



IHSBCA SPECIAL

- Each IHSBCA member receives a \$1.00 off Flex-A-Clay
- > True Pitch, Inc. donates \$1 to association for each bag sold

TRUE PITCH, INC.

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IHSBCA MEMBERS OF THE HALL OF FAME

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(C) – Coach (P) – Player (U) - Umpire (Ct) – Contributor * - Deceased



Five Selected to Enter the IHSBCA Hall of Fame

This year, the IHSBCA Hall of Fame Class of 2025 will induct two coaches, one player, one contributor, and one umpire. This year's inductees are: Casey Bryant (Coach) from Western Dubuque, Todd Rima (Coach) from Cedar Rapids, Ryan Sweeney (Player) from Cedar Rapids, Merl Eberly (Contributor) from Clarinda, and Ricardo Alverio (Umpire) from Norwalk. The Hall of Fame class of 2024 will be inducted during the IHSBCA Awards Banquet on Saturday, January 18, 2025, in Des Moines. They will join the 308 previously inducted members.

Casey Bryant (Coach) — Casey played his high school baseball at Creston High School. He was a 5-year starter where he played SS and pitched. Casey was an All-Conference and All-District selection. He earned All-State honors his senior season and played in the 1986 All-Star Series for the Small West squad. Casey went on to college and played for 3 years at the University of Dubuque. He played 3B, SS, 2B and pitched while attending the University of Dubuque. While at the University of Dubuque, Casey set the record for strike outs in a game with 15 K's. Casey switched schools to Mt. Mercy College to finish his college baseball career and graduated in 1991. Casey earned All-American honors at Mt. Mercy. Casey's first teaching/coaching position came in the fall of 1991 with the Wahlert Catholic school system. He coached freshman baseball under Hall of Famer Coach Ed Feyen. He moved to Western Dubuque in 2000 and took over the baseball program. Over this span, Casey has won over 600 games, 6 conference titles, 7 trips to the State Tournament with 2 State Championship titles. Casey has been selected District Coach of the Year 3 times, and State Coach of the Year twice. Casey has been a member of the association for 27 years. He has attended every clinic and every district meeting. Casey has presented at our annual clinic several times. He has helped with the All-State meetings, All-District meetings, and served on the Ratings committee. Casey has also coached in four All-Star Series. Casey is heavily involved with the Youth Baseball programs in his community, hosting clinics and running youth tournaments yearly. Casey developed and founded the Western Dubuque Youth Baseball Club (WDYBC) for 8U-14U baseball players in his area. Casey has also been honored by the Telegraph Herald Newspaper in Dubuque as the Coach of the Year 7 times.

Todd Rima (Coach) – Todd has been the head baseball coach at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids since 2012. Since that time, Todd has led the Eagles to a 378-197 record in 12 seasons. The Eagles have qualified for the NJCAA World Series in three of the last five years and in back-to-back years in 2021 and 2022. Todd has taken the Kirkwood baseball program to a NJCAA nationally known program, and he has done it mainly with home grown Iowa players. Todd played his high school career at Oelwein High School where he played for 5 years. He played his college baseball at the University of Northern Iowa for Coach Rick Heller where he was a two-time team captain, a 4-year starter, and helped the team to their first NCAA D-I regional post-season tournament. He took the step into coaching at UNI after he graduated and became an assistant coach. He coached at UNI for three years before moving on to North Iowa Area Community College as the head coach. He spent 11 seasons at NIACC where he won 321 games. He then took his talents to Kirkwood Community College where he is currently the head baseball coach and the Athletic Director. Todd has also added some high school success to his resume. He coached at Cedar Rapids Prairie High School for four years, winning a State Championship in 2016. Todd was named Iowa High School Coach of the Year in 2016. He has been named Missouri Valley Conference and Metro Coach of the Year, is a 3-time NJCAA District Coach of the Year, a 4-time IHSBCA 2-year Coach of the Year, and 2-time ICCAC Coach of the Year. Under Coach Rima, the Eagles have put an emphasis on player development and placement. Last year, he had 16 players commit to DI schools, and a total of 18 players moved on to 4-year schools. Kirkwood has had 7 freshmen commit to Power 5 schools after their first year at Kirkwood. Coach Rima has sent over 90 players to Division I schools in the past 12 years.

Ryan Sweeney (Player) — Ryan played his high school baseball at Cedar Rapids Jefferson High School from 1999-2001 and finished his high school career at Xavier High School (2001-2003) where he graduated as the Gatorade National Player of the Year. Ryan also was honored by Louisville Slugger as the National Player of the Year his senior season. He played 5 years of high school baseball as an outfielder and pitcher. His junior season, Ryan was 9-0 on the mound with a 0.35 ERA. During his very successful high school years, Ryan was an All-Conference selection for 4 years, an All-District selection for 4 years, and selected All-State for 4 years. His junior and senior years he was selected to the "Super Team" All-State Team. Ryan was drafted in 2003 in the second round by the Chicago White Sox. Ryan had committed to play college baseball at San Diego State University for Head Coach Tony Gwynn. Ryan played 9 years in the major leagues with 4 different teams. He played with the White Sox, Oakland Athletics, Boston Red Sox, and the Chicago Cubs. Ryans best three years came in Oakland from 2008 — 2010. He hit 69 doubles, 7 triples, 12 homeruns, 134 RBI's and hit .291. Ryan has a career batting average of .276 in 2118 at bats with 584 hits while playing in 682 major league games. He finished his MLB career with 124 doubles, 23 home runs, and 224 RBI's. Ryan is currently working with the Marquee Sports Network and Major League Baseball as an analyst for the Chicago Cubs. Ryan is married to his wife Natasha and has 2 sons, Myer and Hayes.

Merl Eberly (Contributor) – Merl was the long-time coach, general manager, bus driver and team fundraiser for the Clarinda A's summer collegiate baseball program in Clarinda, Iowa for over 50 years. If you ever wanted to know where the term, "the boys of summer" holds true, then go to Clarinda and spend a weekend watching summer league baseball. Merl was a graduate of Clarinda High School and Clarinda Junior College where he obtained a teaching degree. It was during those years his love of athletics developed. A four-sport athlete in high school, he played basketball in junior college and minor league baseball for the Chicago White Sox from 1956-1957. Merl had a 30-year career at the Clarinda Herald Journal where he started in the back shop, wrote sports, was an advertising salesman and stockholder. His column "Sport Shorts by ME" was always a favorite of his and his readers. He also was a volunteer baseball coach at IWCC. Opportunities to leave Clarinda came in both the publishing and baseball fields, but this was his home, and he was proud of it for the friendliness, work ethic and community spirit. He felt it was also the right place to raise his family. His association with the Clarinda A's baseball program began in 1954 when he was a player, then manager from 1961-1997, serving as the General Manager at the time of his passing in 2011. When the team changed from the town team to the collegiate concept in the early 70's, he told board president Dr. C.E. Nichols he would manage for two years, but his love of the game and working with young people kept him there quite a bit longer. Merl has coached many players who went on to have outstanding major league careers. The most well-known is Ozzie Smith who played for the St. Louis Cardinals and won a World Series in 1982. Others that passed through Clarinda on their way to the major leagues are Chuck Knoblauch (Twins/Yankees), Von Hays (Phillies), and Buddy Black (Royals). There have been many awards bestowed upon Merl through the years. He is in a handful of Halls of Fame, recognized as Citizen of the Year and Lifetime Achievement among others from Clarinda Chamber of Commerce, has earned IWCC recognition, National Baseball Congress Awards, Midwest Professional Scouts and Cardinal Booster Club recognition. All this was capped by the naming of the baseball diamond in Clarinda as Eberly Field in 2010. All these he accepted with humility on behalf of his family, his co-workers at the Herald Journal, the community and A's alumnus who have all supported his work with youth and activities in Clarinda. That not only included his own children, but the many from across the country who have played for him, parents of the players, the local people who opened their doors to the "boys of summer" and the many managers, coaches, scouts and umpires who crossed his path through the years. Merl married Patricia Lee Heil in 1954. They have six children – Julie Kae, Ricky Jay, Jill Anne, Joy Sue, Ryan James and Rodney Jacob. There are 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. His family has been the center of his life through the years with all the children being involved with his interest in sports, as well as hunting, fishing and love of the land. Holidays and family gatherings were always a special time with the growing numbers adding to the fun.

Ricardo Alverio (Umpire) – Ricardo has been umpiring high school baseball for 38 plus years. He spends most of his time umpiring in the CIML, Little Hawkeye, and Raccoon River Conferences. Ricardo has umpired district and sub-state baseball action for the past 20 years. He has umpired in 14 State Tournaments and 7 All-Star Series. Ricardo has been a member of the association for 16 years and has also been a long-time member of the umpires committee. Ricardo has been named the Dave Harty Newcomer Umpire of the Year, District Umpire of the Year, and State Umpire of the Year in 2014. Ricardo has been actively involved within the association and attends the clinic on a regular basis. He has been an asset serving on the associations umpire committee. Ricardo brings a wealth of baseball knowledge as an umpire to the game. His personality and understanding demeanor are characteristics that make him a sought-after umpire at all levels of the game. Knowledge, fairness, and consistency are regular comments made by school administration and high school coaches when talking about Ricardo. He brings control and organization to the ballpark. Ricardo emphasizes the importance of building relationships with coaches/admin and always leads by example on and off the field.



Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association

Coaches Clinic – January 17-18, 2025 – Des Moines

Sheraton Hotel Reservations: Go to the website to reserve rooms for the clinic.

Registration Information:

Name	Years Coached		
Mailing Address Years Umpired			
City State	Zip Code		
E-mail Address	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
(Please Circle) – Head Coach (HS or College), Asst. Coach (H	S or College), Umpire, Fan, Player		
School Conference	Conference		
Home Phone Cell Phone Se	chool Phone		
2024 Team Record Career Varsity Coac	ching Record		
District: NE SE NC SC C NW SW W	<u>Class:</u> 4A 3A 2A 1A		
2025 Clinic Fees:			
Membership	\$35		
(coaches and umpires must be members - membership years runs Sep			
Clinic registration for weekend			
(includes FCA Breakfast, Saturday Lunch, Awards B			
Clinic Only for weekend (no meals included)			
Clinic registration for one day			
Awards Banquet Ticket			
High School student attending clinic	(
Late registration or paying at the door add			
late fee applies if received af Saturday Lunch Ticket	-		
	Total		

Send to: Lee Toole 301 Wildwood Road Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503 Cell # (402) 689-8271

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Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association Fall Meeting Notes November 10, 2024 - Des Moines, IA - Sheraton Hotel

Members Present: Cory McDonald, Dan Klein, Matt Nelson, Lee Evans, Dick Smith, Joshua Baxter, Sheldon Card, Phil Katz, Jake Souhrada, Dennis Barton, Aaron Hamann, Michael Barta, Lee Crawford, Jon Heydon, Andy VanFossan, Steve Shantz, Bruce Wall, Mark Hey, Jon Fitzpatrick, Lee Toole, Steve Hanson, John Waddle, Bret Hoyer, Dave Rock, Ryan Stensland, Dave Middleton, Andy McGaffin, Fr. Craig Collison

Order of Business

- 1. Report from the President
 - a. Call to Order 11:36
 - i. Roll was taken
 - b. Minutes
 - i. Motion to accept the minutes: Sheldon Card; Second: Cory McDonald (passed)
- 2. Financial Report by the Executive Director
 - a. Motion to accept the report: Dave Middleton; Second: Dick Smith (passed)
- 3. Report of Officers and Committees
 - a. President's Report
 - Proposal for \$10,000 cap for speakers at the clinic (\$200 for Main Stage Speakers with \$300 travel expense from Iowa or neighboring states and \$500 travel expense for others)
 - 1. Motion: Jon Fitzpatrick; Second: Fr. Collison (passed)
 - b. Executive Director's Report
 - i. Proposal to increase clinic fees to \$125
 - 1. Motion: Lee Toole; Second: John Waddle (passed)
 - ii. Proposal to recognize award winners for the Bill & Sherri Freese Award, the President's Award, and the Primrose Award
 - 1. Motion to accept nominations: Dave Middleton; Second: Fr. Collison (passed)
 - iii. Motion to Change the Captain of Super Team. The player no longer has to be at the All-Star Series and can be any grade.
 - 1. Motion: Andy VanFossan; Second: Lee Crawford (passed)
 - c. Hall of Fame Committee Report
 - i. Proposal to accept Hall of Fame nominations
 - 1. Motion: Ryan Stensland; Second: Fr. Collison (passed)
 - d. All-District Committee Report
 - i. Discussion that all districts need to use the form sent and include stats and the number of votes to make the process more efficient.
 - e. Awards Committee Report
 - i. Proposal to eliminate the 2-year and 4-year college coach awards.
 - 1. Motion: John Waddle; Second: Dave Middleton (passed)
 - ii. Proposal to change the name of the All-Academic Award (to be determined once there is a sponsor)
 - 1. Motion to drop the name: Andy McGaffin; Second: Dave Middleton (passed)
 - f. All-Star Committee Report
 - i. Sheraton Hotel in Des Moines will host the series, fields TBD.
 - g. Umpires Committee Report
 - h. Lanny Peterson Academic Award Report
 - i. Academic Captain Gehrig Turner (Solon HS)

- i. IHSBCA/Game One Player of the Year Report
 - i. Player of the Year Joey Oakie (Ankeny Centennial)
- j. State Ratings Poll Committee Report
 - i. Discussion that a new 2A point man will be determined in January
- k. Membership Committee Report
 - i. Discussion that 89% of coaches are members
- I. Clinic Survey/Mini Clinic Committee Report
- m. Prospect Showcase Report
- n. Communications/"PR"/History Committee Report
 - i. Discussion that old newsletters are now on the website
 - ii. Discussion that the Twitter (X) account has over 4,600 followers as of November 2024
- o. IHSAA Advisory Committee Report
 - i. Discussion that the 3A/4A state tournament site is still undecided.
 - ii. Discussion that the 25-pitch rule might be amended.
- p. Clinic Speaker Committee Report
 - i. Discussion that the speaker lineup for January is set.
- 4. Communications
 - a. Discussion that the association receives a lot of thank you letters from parents for the All-Star Series
- 5. Old Business
- 6. New Business
- 7. Motion to adjourn into District Meeting by Jon Fitzpatrick; Second: Dave Middleton (passed)

Respectfully submitted by Mark Hey



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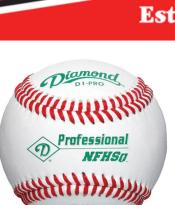
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