

Terry Williams

Terry grew up with AAU Wrestling in Montana. He began wrestling in 6th grade when an AAU program started in Sidney and he competed in the first AAU tournament in Montana in 1969. He wrestled in high school and for two years in college at Dickinson State College in North Dakota.

Terry began officiating youth wrestling tournaments while he was still in college. He realized he enjoyed this aspect of wrestling and has continued officiating wrestling events and been a member of the Montana Officials Association for over 30 years. During that time he officiated at 24 divisional and 9 state high school tournaments. He has also been honored to be selected to officiate at the AAU Scholastic Duals Wrestling Tournament in Orlando for nine years.

Terry also began his involvement as an AAU coach with the Sidney program. This led to more involvement at the state and national levels, including attending both state and national conventions. In Montana, Terry served as the Eastern Montana Division Wrestling Chairman for 20 plus years, and was the Montana AAU President from 1998 until 2002. At the national level, Terry is currently serving at the national AAU level as a member of the National Wrestling Executive Committee.

Terry has also been involved as a team leader and organizer. In 1990 he was a team leader for a group of wrestlers that traveled to Russia, and then helped organize a return visit from the Russians. In 1996 he organized the first national tournament trip for Sidney wrestlers, which then became an annual event for the wrestlers of Sidney and the surrounding area. Terry also put together the first Montana team to attend the AAU Middle School National Tournament in 2000, and has been attending them every year since. To date this has grown to 3 teams, giving 90 Montana wrestlers the opportunity to get national wrestling experience. Terry was also instrumental in getting a Montana team to attend the Scholastic Duals in Orlando.

Terry received the Montana Outstanding Contributor Award in 1998, the National Wrestling Committee's AAU Association Person of the Year in 2001, the AAU National Wrestling Committee's Willard T Vandivier Award in 2006, the AAU Presidential Leadership Award in 2006 and the AAU Outstanding Folkstyle Official in 2007.

Terry and his wife Luanne, have three children. Over the years they have all become involved in wrestling, with Luanne, and occasionally daughter Jenny, helping in the pairing room, and sons Jesse and Nathan both wrestling and serving as youth representatives at Montana state conventions. Terry continues to be involved in wrestling at the local, state and national levels. Today we are honored to welcome his as a 2009 inductee into our National AAU Wrestling Hall of Fame.