

Eric Kopsch (Michigan)

Eric was a high school wrestler at Southfield High School in Michigan for four years. He also wrestled Greco Roman for fifteen years.

Eric was one of the founders of the Amateur Michigan Wrestling Club in 1965. He was also a president, director, coach, wrestler and referee for the club which was a premier Greco Roman Club in the United States. In addition he started an age group wrestling program in Berkley, MI. He worked as a volunteer coach with several Detroit area YMCA wrestling programs and several local AAU programs for over 20 years. Eric was the Michigan AAU Wrestling Chairman for five years and the state cultural exchange chairman. He was the head wrestling coach for twelve years at Southfield Lathrup High School and also served as an assistant football coach. He organized and officiated the Macabee Wrestling Games in Michigan.

Eric taught and promoted sports psychology. The use of visualization was a tool developed by Coach Kopsch that was recognized and used by teams worldwide to prep their athletes to peak at just the right time.

Eric was a highly ranked official in the International Officials Association FILA and traveled to many countries as an official for the United States. In 1990, he was named the National Wrestling Officials Association "Official of the Year". He officiated all age group levels, junior and senior in Michigan, the United States and Canada. He officiated at Olympic Trials, World Championships, Pan American Championships, top tournaments in Europe and around the world. He also officiated at many armed forces and police and fire wrestling championships. In order to help advance and teach wrestling officiating skills, Eric developed films on the techniques and strategies of officiating that have been used for many years.

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