

Jim Meyerhoff (Washington)

Jim is currently the Assistant Executive Director of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association where one of his primary areas of responsibility is serving as the liaison for the sports of wrestling, football and soccer. He has served as athletic director, physical education instructor and wrestling coach in western Washington since 1970. He has published a class manual for Physical Education classes, and in the past several years has been an instructor for various coaching principles and education courses.

In June of 1976, Jim attended an organizational meeting and was involved in the decision to start an active AAU wrestling program in Washington. By the spring of 1977 he had organized the Pacific Northwest Wrestling Committee, hosted a cultural exchange qualifying tournament and an association championship tournament. He was also elected the committee chairman. Resuming cultural exchanges, which were very popular in Washington, was the driving force behind the establishment of the new wrestling committee. Jim was involved with many of these exchanges as team leader.

Jim began working at the national level of AAU in 1979 when he was asked to be the National Office Liaison at a zone tournament. By summer's end he had attended so many AAU events that he was home for only four days. That summer was only a start. Jim continued working for the National Wrestling Division for over ten years. Jim's involvement at the national level decreased as USWF became the national governing body. Two highlights of his involvement with wrestling at the national level include being a co-manager for the pre-Olympic event in 1983 and working at the wrestling competition at the 1984 Olympic Games as a staff member.

In 1985 Jim started coaching at the college level and turned the chairmanship of the Pacific Northwest Association over to others, although he continued to direct the State Cultural Exchange Program in Washington until 1992.

Some of Jim's honors include: induction into the Washington Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame (2003), induction into WSAAA Athletic Directors Hall of Fame (2001); presented the "Dr. William Tomaras Award" by the Washington State Wrestling Coaches Association (1989); induction into the Washington State Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame (1989), named Wrestling USA's "National Man of the Year" (1984), named AAU-Wrestling Division's National "Organizer of the Year"(1980 and 1983), and Washington State 'AA' Wrestling "Coach of the Year" (1982).