



IDAHO HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

Serving Idaho's Youth Since 1926

Ty Jones, Executive Director

Julie Hammons, Assistant Director Mike Federico, Assistant Director

8011 Ustick Road Boise, ID 83704

Phone #: (208) 375-7027 Fax #: (208) 322-5505

website: idhsaa.org e-mail: admin@idhsaa.org

IHSAA TO INDUCT TWO INTO HALL OF FAME

The Idaho High School Activities Association's Hall of Fame annually honors individuals who have given many years of exemplary service to Idaho's youth. Two such individuals will be inducted as the Hall of Fame Class of 2023. Bruce Benson (Madison) and Randy Potter (Columbia) will be honored at ceremonies during the 43rd annual Hall of Fame banquet Wednesday, August 2nd, 6:30 p.m. at the Boise Centre in downtown Boise. Ticket information will be posted on the IHSAA website in early June.

Other awards to be presented at the banquet include the Dick Fleischmann Memorial Award, the Wes Lowe Memorial Award and the Duane D. Wolfe Memorial Award. Distinguished Service Awards for each of the six activity districts, the Spirit of Sport Award and Official of the Year will also be presented. Those recipients will be announced at a later date.

Hall of Fame - Class of 2023

Bruce Benson, Madison Bruce Benson spent thirty years as a teacher and coach at Madison High School and is one of the most well-respected speech arts coaches in the state of Idaho. After working as a teacher and coach at Grantsville High School in Utah for one year, Bruce moved to Madison in 1986. He was a 9th grade assistant football coach for four years, the head speech coach for twenty-seven years and the head debate coach for twenty-five years. In addition, he served numerous terms on the Idaho Speech Arts Teachers Association executive board as well as the District VI Board of Control. Over the course of his career, Bruce helped modify how the State Debate tournament was scored and was instrumental in bringing Congressional Debate to Idaho's schools. His teams placed in the top four at State Speech and State Debate an amazing eleven times with his debate team winning two state titles (2014 and 2015) and his speech team winning one (2018). Bruce received many awards over the course of his career including Debate Teacher of the Year, Speech Teacher of the Year, Speech Arts Teacher of the Year and the NFHS Outstanding Speech Arts Educator award. He was inducted into the ISATA Hall of Fame in 2010.

Randy Potter, Columbia During his thirty-six years in education, Randy Potter has impacted literally thousands of young people across the state of Idaho. He started his career at Kimberly High School in 1986 teaching business and PE and coaching football, track and basketball. After eight years in Kimberly, he moved to Homedale and spent eleven years there as a teacher, coach and eventually, athletic director. He served as Skyview's AD for one year before being named Columbia High School's AD when it opened in 2006. Randy would finish his career at Columbia in 2022. Throughout his stellar career Randy worked diligently to bring a sense of community and pride to his schools and also served as a mentor and role model to countless coaches and AD's working in our schools today. He has received numerous awards for his dedication and service including five Coach of the Year awards, six district Athletic Director of the Year awards and four state Athletic Director of the Year awards. Randy earned the IHSAA Dick Fleischmann award in 2021, the NIAAA Distinguished Service award in 2022 and was inducted into the IAAA Hall of Fame in 2023.