



National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum Florida Chapter

NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 3

Fall 2019

About the Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame
was established in 2000.

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Mark your calendar
The *Class of 2020*
will be announced on
February 1, 2020!

The President's Podium

On September 28th and 29th, the Florida Chapter held its Annual Retreat to evaluate our 2019 year. It certainly was a banner year for the Chapter! A guest speaker at the State Wrestling Championships, expansion of the Florida Wrestling Museum, clinicians at our Wrestling Tournament, our first all-girls wrestling event, participation at all the Regional High School Tournaments, a 20th anniversary event for our Alumni during Honors Weekend, and a very successful Honors Weekend where we celebrated the induction of six of Florida's finest coaches and officials kept the Chapter's Board of Directors and Ambassadors on the go.

Plans are currently underway for the 2020 Florida Chapter schedule. We had many exciting and successful events in 2019 that will continue for the coming year and new events will be added for 2020. The Florida Chapter 2020 event schedule be announced in January.

Excellence is a strong and powerful word and difficult to live up to. How do we get there? We have to make the decision about direction, put a plan in place, set goals, create a desire and work and continue to work.

Obstacles are always a problem. "I'm tired!" "I can't do this." "It's a waste of time." Internal and external voices may be discouraging, but you must keep focus to achieve your goals. You make new goals. You work harder. You surround yourself with good, positive people to encourage and work with you and you will grow and be a better person, athlete, or organization.

Will you ever reach that Excellence? Not to sound negative, probably not. To achieve success in an organization or become a great athlete, you need to stay focused. Take that extra step to be the best, then you want more. It's that drive we develop to reach that word **Excellence = and then we want more.**

I look at the Florida Chapter this way, where we started out 20 years ago until our present time and how this Board of Directors works to achieve **Excellence** by supporting our coaches, officials, and the wrestling community. I hope we never stop working to reach the **Excellence Desired.**

***Remember, when we do it, we do it with class,
for we are honoring the best of the best.***


Thank you

Gary Townsend

BREAKING NEWS!
Wrestling Scholarship is Now Available

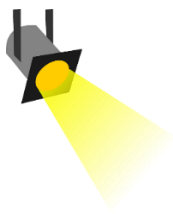
The South and Central Florida Law Offices of *Kleinman & Lessmann*, are sponsoring a \$1000 ***Next Level Scholarship*** to be awarded to one qualified Florida high school senior who will wrestle in college. For complete information, please visit:

<https://nwhof.org/florida/2019/10/29/next-level-wrestling-scholarship-is-here/>



I'm a big believer in starting with high standards and raising them. We make progress only when we push ourselves to the highest level. If we don't progress, we backslide into bad habits, laziness and poor attitude.

----Dan Gable



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Greg Bondurant

Class of 2002

Greg recently spoke with Alan Solomon '16 and shared what he has been doing since being inducted in 2002.

Greg and his wife Diane (40 years!) are enjoying life! Greg retired in 2016 from the Polk County School District after 38 years. Besides still officiating, Greg is mentoring new officials in his local association. He enjoys fishing in Florida in the spring and hunting in Tennessee in the fall. The Bondurants have a 5th Wheel RV and travel to North Carolina and Tennessee and would like to take a trip out West in the future.

Greg and Diane are very proud of their two children. Son, Robbie, has his Ph.D., is a nutritionist, is married and has a three-month-old daughter. Daughter Elizabeth has a Master's degree, is a nurse-practitioner, is married and has three-year-old twin boys. Yes, the Bondurants love being grandparents!

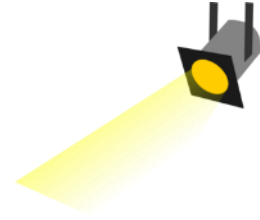
Greg attends the Saturday evening events during Honors Weekend and enjoys visiting with other alumni. He hopes to see more alumni next year!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

David Frayer

Class of 2002



David also recently spoke with Alan Solomon.

David and his wife Vicki (47 years!) are also enjoying life! After David retired, he did some volunteer coaching. He is frequently asked to teach his cradle series. Boating, fishing, woodworking – mostly building things for the grandchildren! - keep him busy when at home.



Travel has been, is, and will be part of the Frayer's retired life, as their two children, son, Jared, and daughter, Jamie, and their families, live

in Virginia. David and Vicki had a spectacular trip to Alaska to visit Vicki's brother and family. Their longest trip was in 2012 to see Jared compete in the Summer Olympics in London. The trips to Virginia are so often that they don't feel much longer than a trip to the grocery store!

Jared is married, has two girls, and is coaching at Virginia Tech. Jamie is married to former Countryside wrestler Clint Frease and they have a daughter and a son who is a wrestler. Having three generations of wrestlers led to recording podcasts about wrestling. One episode is about the father-son/coach-wrestler dynamic. The Frayer and Frease episodes of the "Raising Wrestlers" podcasts can be found at <http://raisingwrestlers.libsyn.com/website>



Florida wrestlers
Clint Frease
(on left) and
Jared Frayer
(on right)
and their families.

Vicki, David
and the
whole gang.



HONORS WEEKEND 2019

FAMILY! FRIENDS! LAUGHTER! TEARS!

Honors Weekend had it all! Read all about it in the next three articles.

REFLECTING ON HONORS WEEKEND 2019

by Jim Smoot

The Florida Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Induction Weekend is a must attend event for all involved in wrestling. I was honored with being inducted in the Class of 2019 along with five other accomplished men; Mark DeAugustino, Dr. Eric Hughes, Jeff Malavsky, Doug Rasmusson, and Mike Zarra. I am sure it was one of the best weekends of our lives and is truly unforgettable.

I arrived late Thursday afternoon and was immediately greeted and welcomed in the lobby by Cecelia Solomon. The Florida Chapter Board members and wives were already hard at work setting up for the events of the weekend. A Friday morning golf event at Lake Buena Vista Golf Course was available for those wanting to participate, which 19 golfers did. Before the golf outing, a Breakfast Buffet in the Florida Chapter's suite/remote office was offered to golfers and weekend volunteers. There were five foursomes and everyone had a great time, though it was very wet and cart path only. After golf, I returned to the hotel to begin greeting family and friends who were attending the weekend events.

Friday night was the Meet and Greet Social. This was the 20th anniversary of the Florida Chapter. Both alumni in attendance and the new inductees received a National Wrestling Hall of Fame watch and a computer carry case with the Florida Chapter logo. It was great to see and speak with all the alumni and guests who were there for the induction.

At one point during the evening, Gary Townsend spoke to all present about the Chapter and all that is currently in the works. He introduced Lee Roy Smith, Executive Director of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Lee Roy shared a few words on the strength of the wrestling family and the latest news from the NWHOF. He declared to one and all that the Florida Chapter is one of the best in the country!

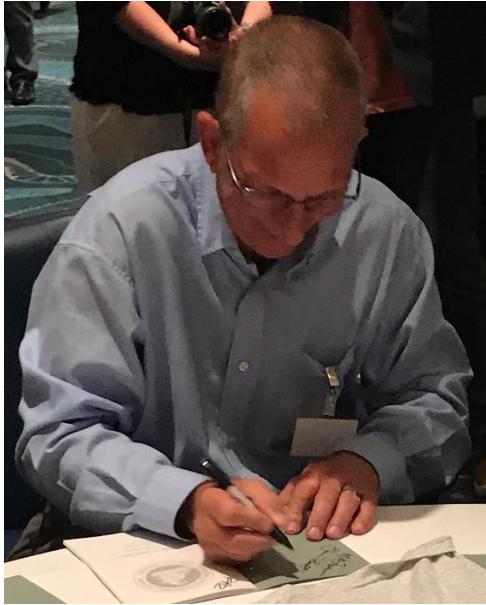


Ira Fleckman, Bob Walker, and Wilbert Johnson

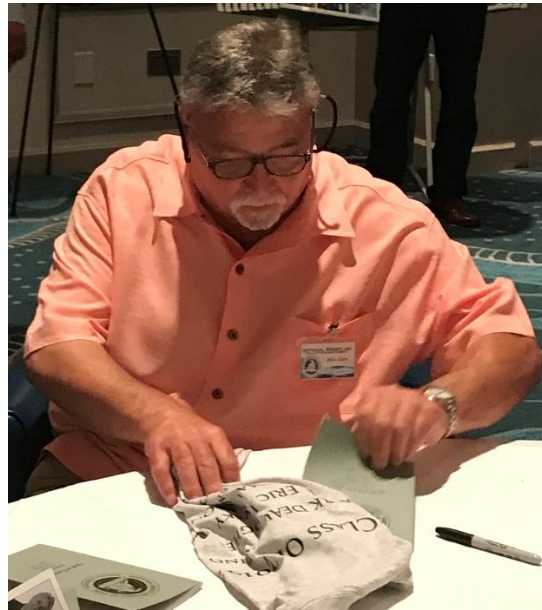


Mrs. and Mr. Henry Jackson and other attendees

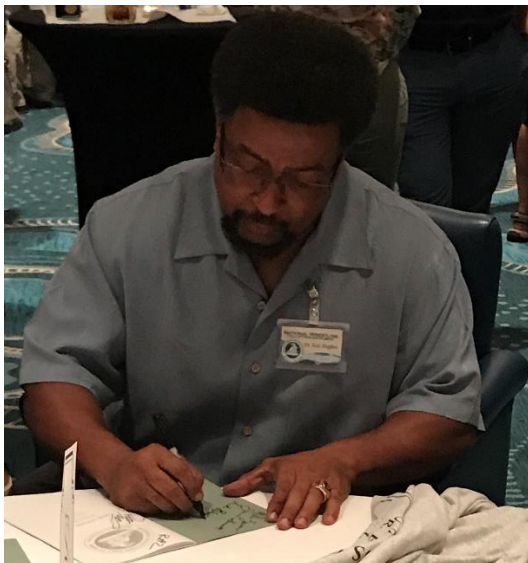
Pete Collins then shared news about the Florida Chapter Hall of Fame Museum he is putting together. The displays were amazing and covered the history of wrestling in Florida. Pete asked anyone who has something to donate to please contact him. To me, the highlight of the night was the 2019 inductees sitting at a round table to sign commemorative t-shirts and programs of the weekend events with our names,



Jim Smoot



Mike Zarra



Dr. Eric Hughes



Jeff Malavsky

Friday night was great, but only a warm up for what was to come the next day!

Saturday morning was the Testimonial Breakfast. Each inductee had two people speak for them. All the speeches gave not only the wrestling perspective of the inductee but also the love and respect earned by them. There were more than a few tears shed.



David Mason, Jim Smoot, and Jeremy Walton

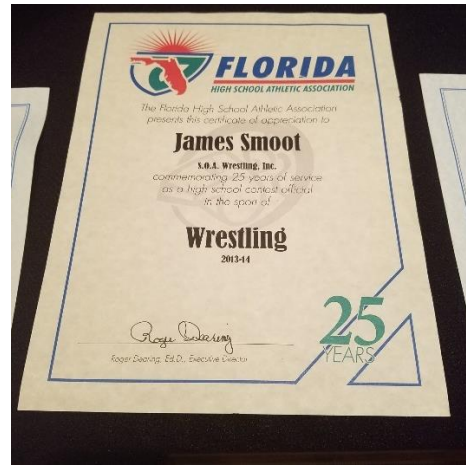
After the testimonials, Kristy Jeffrey was awarded the John and Helen Vaughn Award to honor her being a pioneer for women (girls) wrestling.



Kristy and her high school coach, Matt Weaver

Later that morning, the inductees attended a practice for the evening's event and then had time to set up their memorabilia tables. The afternoon was free to spend with family and friends. With Disney Springs only two blocks away, many enjoyed going over there or just enjoyed the pool at the hotel.

Saturday evening the nerves began in earnest as the Induction Banquet was beginning. There was a cocktail hour before the dinner which allowed everyone to see the displays of the museum and the inductees' memorabilia tables.



At 7 o'clock the ceremony began with the Parade of Alumni. Every year of the 20 being celebrated was represented by at least one alumnus. Next came the introduction of the inductees. Being introduced and hearing the applause and welcome from the crowd while I was being escorted in by my children was something I will cherish forever.

Bob Burns opened the event, overseeing that everyone enjoyed a delicious buffet. After dinner, it was time for the presentation of the plaques and the inductees to give their speeches. The plaques were presented by Lee Roy Smith and an inductee's presenter. My wife presented mine to me.



In the inductees' speeches, everyone spoke about the wrestling family and the great support everyone has given them over the years. Jeff Malavsky said it best with a quote that his father always told him after a win or a loss, just the simple phrase "I love this sport", and that is the reason everyone was there.

The program was then turned over to Gary Townsend, President of the

Florida Chapter. Gary thanked all the Board members for their endless hard work to make this an unforgettable weekend for everyone.

Next was the presentation of the medals and green jackets to the inductees.



This is an event which everyone who loves wrestling needs to attend! This weekend was one that all the inductees and their families and friends will never forget.

Thank you one and all,

Jim

Quotes from the Saturday Morning Testimonial Breakfast

Speaking on behalf of Mark DeAugustino

Major Tye Reedy: "Coach is a Servant Leader. He is concerned about the growth of the wrestling community, shares his knowledge, and cares about the needs of the group."

Mr. Pat Reedy: "Mark's wrestlers' achievements speak to his knowledge and skill in the sport of wrestling and his ability to teach and coach the skills necessary to be a successful wrestler. However, from what I have observed over the years, he is truly prouder of his success in developing young people to become quality adults through the sport of wrestling than he is with their wrestling achievements."

Speaking on behalf of Dr. Eric Hughes

Mr. Wilbert Johnson: "Coach believes that it's not how you start. It's how you finish."

Mr. Jonathan Hughes: "What I've learned from my father is how to have mental fortitude and perseverance."

Speaking on behalf of Jeff Malavsky

Mr. Tom Bradley: "Jeff is Proverbs 17:17 come to life:
Friends always show their love.
What are brothers for if not to share troubles?"

Mr. Kevin Laferriere: "Jeff wanted his wrestlers to be better people, to always be improving, and to be practicing for a lifetime off the mat. Jeff, you've been in my Hall of Fame for years."

Speaking on behalf of Doug Rasmusson

Mr. Jack Cassell: "Raz teaches by example that wrestling is about life and living to its fullest."

Mr. Mike Deleonardo: "One day I was Raz-free and then I wasn't!"
"You wouldn't know this, but he's very, very smart!"

Speaking on behalf of James Smoot

Mr. Jeremy Walton: "I had great admiration for Jim as I watched the level of respect he commanded. As you can probably guess, he never gloated over these things. He was humble and always worked as if he were still trying to earn that first big assignment."

Mr. David Mason: "Overtime! Smooter, I never thought of an official like a person! You respect our efforts to grow and you have taught me to always say thank you."

Speaking on behalf of Mike Zarra


Dr. James Roach: "It's an honor to be in this room with men that are the exact opposite of men on the TV news."

Mr. Joseph Murphy: “Zarra remembers everything funny. He has millions of stories!

Speaking on behalf of Kristy Jeffrey

Mr. Ira Fleckman: “Kristy is a pioneer. She chose to wrestle.”

Mr. Matt Weaver: “In 1995, her Junior year, Kristy had the #1 seed the first round of Districts. The other matches had ended. Everyone in the gym was watching. He scored. She scored – and won 5-4! Now, over 20 years later, we are finally one and a half years away from an FHSAA Girls Championship.”



A clean, hard-fought wrestling match is the most honest of athletic contests. There is no technological interventions, no teammates to blame, no panel of judges to bias the score. In wrestling, you compete or you quit. No alibis. I like that.

----Dan Gable

A SURPRISE PRESENTATION

During the 20-year Anniversary Social for alumni Friday evening, the Board of Directors surprised the Townsends with a special presentation honoring their dedication to the NWHOF Florida Chapter. Words of gratitude for Jane and Gary were shared with the attendees, then an engraved vase was presented to the couple.



*CONGATULATIONS
AND THANK YOU
TO JANE AND GARY!*



Please support the NWHOF Florida Chapter sponsors



Best wishes for a great year!

On behalf of everyone here at **MyHOUSE**, we wish you all – wrestlers, coaches, officials, booster clubs, and fans – a great 2019-2020 wrestling season!



Coaches Corner

Coaches Note #1

Robbie Linderman, Director of Athletics for FHSAA, reminds
all coaches and athletic directors of these **Important Dates!**

First practice date (Week 20) – Nov. 11

Match schedules due (Week 20) – Nov. 18

Preseason classic tournaments (Week 21-22) – Nov. 22-30

First regular season playing date (Week 23) – Dec. 2

Roster due on Home Campus (Week 23) – Dec. 2

Last regular season playing date (Week 33) – Feb. 15

Dual Wrestling State Championships will be held at Osceola High School
(Kissimmee) Friday- Saturday January 24-25, 2020

IBT Wrestling State Championships will be held at Silver Spurs Arena
(Kissimmee) Friday – Saturday March 6-7, 2020

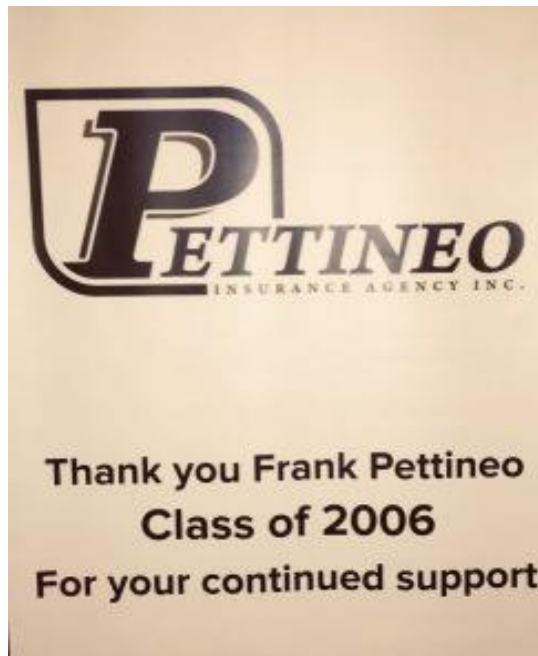
For more information, please visit <https://www.fhsaa.org/sports/wrestling>

Coaches Note #2

If you have changed schools, changed emails, know of a new school opening
with a new coach, have a new coach at your school, or know a coach who
would like to receive this newsletter, please send the updates to
nwhoffloridachapternewsletter@gmail.com

Thank you!

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I never won anything by myself. I was
always strong because of help that gave
me extra strength to win.

--Dan Gable

Officials Position

by Jim Smoot

Wrestling Season is upon us!

The 2019-2020 Wrestling season is about to begin. Registration for the FHSA closes October 18th. After that date, a late penalty will apply. I hope everyone has already registered.

One of the greatest assets an official can have is knowing the rules. A great tool for this is the FREE download of the Rules Book which is given to you upon completion of your registration. I highly recommend that you download this app as it is easy to use and puts all the information at your fingertips.

A few wrestling rules changes for this year.

- Rule 4-1-1a,b,c clarifies what a suitable undergarment is for both male and female wrestlers.
- Rule 4-1-3 clarifies how wrestling shoelaces shall be secured in an acceptable fashion. If they become untied during a match, it is now a warning for stalling.
- Rule 4-1-4 clarified what can be displayed on wrestling ear guards.
- Rule 4-2-1 modified the hair rule and identified inappropriate hair control items.
- Rule 4-5-7 clarified what a female wrestler shall wear at weigh in.
- Stalling has been removed from the penalty chart and now stands alone.
- Modified injury time out to extend the time to evaluate head, neck, and cervical column injuries and an official signal 28 is used to indicate that additional time is needed.

There are a few other changes for clarifications of other things, so check your rules book. The rule changes above are more major changes that I feel you should be aware of.

Good luck to one and all this year, and remember the best officials are always those who know the rules and are well prepared. We should all strive to be those officials. Have a great season.

Please support the NWHOF Florida Chapter supporters



Museum Memo

by Pete Collins, Museum Director

The Mobile Museum is Growing!

The mission of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is to honor the sport of wrestling by preserving its history, recognizing extraordinary individual achievements, and inspiring future generations. With that mission in mind, at a Florida Chapter Board meeting in 2013, Florida Chapter President Gary Townsend presented the idea of starting a mobile museum to preserve and share Florida's wrestling history. At that meeting, plans for the mobile museum were discussed to obtain an enclosed trailer and begin collecting memorabilia.

Being "old timers", the Florida Chapter Board appointed Bill Combs and me to begin work on the project. Requests were made to our alumni and through social media for memorabilia such as photographs, newspaper articles and hardware to display at events such as the FHSAA State Tournament and Honors Weekend. Over time, we were able to collect enough memorabilia to present our first small museum display three years ago at the FHSAA State Tournament. A huge thanks is owed to Bill Combs for obtaining an enclosed trailer for transport.

Since then, the museum has continued to grow. The Chapter would like to especially thank all the alumni and others who have made donations of their memorabilia to add to our collection. The recent expansion of the mobile museum, as displayed during Honors Weekend in August, was made possible through the very generous support of Dr. Omar Mubaidin. Through his donation, we have added grid walls to display framed photos, display cases, and additional TV monitors and laptop computers to present videos and digital presentations. Dr. Mubaidin also made a very special donation of a collection of unique and historical wrestling artwork.

Through your support and donations of memorabilia, the mobile museum will continue to grow. If you or someone you know would like to donate to the museum, please contact me petecollins52@gmail.com.



Samples of the great artifacts in the Florida Chapter Travelling Museum





Proud of our Florida Wrestlers!



NOW COACHING AT

Omi Acosta
Life University
Obi Blane
NC State
Jameel Bryant
Life University

Chris Bono
Wisconsin
Brenden Buckley
Beat the Streets NY
Nate Engel
Stanford

Jared Frayer
Virginia Tech
Sam Hazewinkel
Oklahoma City U.
Rob Hermann
Northern Michigan

Javier Maldonado
Southeast U.
Lee Pitts
Arizona State
Scotti Sentes
Campbell

Brandon Jorge
Southeast U.
Brian Smith
Missouri
Ashley Sword
Life University

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Wrestler Pin Down

Doing the extra...My Perspective

By Jess Liptzin

The sport of wrestling is one of the toughest. It requires an incredible amount of time dedicated to preparation in order to compete at a high level. A wrestler must spend countless hours in the wrestling room, in the gym, on long runs in order to prepare for a match. It is this work that is a crucial part of the sport. There is still always a common feeling of uncertainty: “If I train enough, what more do I need to do?” So, the question for all serious wrestlers is, “What is the extra?” Many coaches, teammates, and people I’ve looked up to in this sport have shaped me by expressing the answer in a variety of ways. It looks a little different to everyone but there are some basic commonalities. Extra is the perpetual drive to keep getting better in this sport; going about it can vary extensively.

Coaches are always telling their wrestlers to get more workouts in separate from their team's practices. Wrestling clubs provide this opportunity, as does private training with coaches that offer additional guidance. As wrestling clubs began to grow and spread across the nation, it changed the landscape of youth and high school wrestling. It is not uncommon for kids to go to a “club”; this extra has become a norm for many wrestlers.

“Wrestling is **NOT** a sport to commit to halfway. In order to compete safely and successfully, wrestlers must attend practice regularly and be dedicated to their physical and mental development while honing their skills,” said Russ Cozart, instructor at the Team Brandon Wrestling Club. Club coaches understand that school practices are very rarely designed for all athletes to compete at the highest level. At club workouts, wrestlers train with more experienced and higher-level drill partners. Clubs definitely offer extra training for perfecting one’s craft.

One aspect of out-of-season training that wrestlers should continue during the season is lifting and strength workouts. The grueling season of constant conditioning while cutting weight can affect a wrestler's strength immensely. “It is really easy to lose strength and power throughout a wrestling season when you are cutting weight combined with intense two-hour practices along with not following any type of resistance training program,” said Kyle Hunt, creator of the

Hunt Wrestling blog. This doesn't mean a wrestler needs to be in the weight room every day, but going in two or three days a week, or doing body weight workouts on one's own time, can be so beneficial. Perfecting your craft as a wrestler is vital. At the highest level of competition, when you're on an equal playing field, it will come down to the faster or stronger wrestler. Staying in the gym and on top of strength training is a great way to get extra workouts in and do more than your opponent.

"Hill sprinting is like lifting weights and sprinting at the same time. The hill gives resistance to your sprints, making them more difficult while being shorter in distance and duration. Hill sprinting puts an almost constant overload on your pushing muscles -- the glutes, the quads and the calves - and forces them to "lift" or "push" you up the hill. Including hill sprints in your training program can bring great strength and power results in as little as 15 minutes 1 or 2 times per week," said Kdsmith27, a writer for *Kentucky Wrestling USA*. This extra workout doesn't only benefit strength but is a conditioning workout as well.

Going for runs is clearly not the same conditioning as in a match, and every wrestler who has done both would most likely agree that there is a big difference. Still, going for runs, whether it be long distance or short sprints, can help with physical and mental preparation. Long distance runs are notorious for weight loss workouts, especially when loaded up with sweatshirts and sweats. Putting in the miles is also a crucial workout for opening up your lungs. This allows you to breath better when wrestling in an actual match. The short distant runs work on speed; the faster you can run translates to quickness and responsiveness on the mat. Supplementing running with agility and ladder work is also very important. This work helps with footwork and balance as well as with endurance. These are important fundamental activities that help the average wrestler pull away from the pack.

Diet can also be an equally important element. Though obvious, wrestlers don't always eat right. Instead, many will starve themselves or run it off before competition, depriving their bodies of necessary nutrients and sustenance. Making sacrifices by incorporating a sound eating regiment will instill valuable discipline that supports the body and mind during the grueling months of competition.

The goal is to out-prepare and perform the opponent. Doing as much as extra as a wrestler can is the way to do just that. Running, lifting, and staying late

after practice are some ways of accomplishing this. Watching film and studying moves are other ways that can impact your performance. What a wrestler does to train is important, but even more crucial is the EXTRA, doing more. Whatever the *extra* is, it is critical to incorporate it into one's routine. Making the *extra* a common practice is the way to move forward, get better and beat bigger competition.

Note: The writer is a former outstanding high school wrestler in New Jersey and is presently a Journalism major at Montclair State University.

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Memories of Great Matches Involving Florida Wrestlers
by Ira Fleckman, Contributing Writer

Randy Day, Venice VS Errict Rhett, McArthur

Randy Day was a member of the Venice wrestling club and had spent plenty of time on the mat learning his skills as a wrestler. There is no question that Randy Day was a really good wrestler. There was a complaint that was rumored that Randy Day wasn't the hardest working wrestler on the team. That maybe Randy Day could have been better than he was. I probably refereed many of his matches as he was wrestling Saturday tournaments and I can't say that he didn't wrestle his hardest when on the mat.

Errict Rhett was a tough kid from a tough school. He and his brother both wrestled for Coach John Lysott at McArthur. He was actually the defending State Champion. He was also undersized for the 220-weight class and had to consume lots of water to make the minimum weight. The reason he wrestled up in weight was to provide a space in the line-up for his brother.

I had heard and read in the newspaper that Errict Rhett was just a good athlete and not too smart. I have to say that Errict spoke to me many times and he was well spoken, smart as a wrestler, although I don't know about his grades in school, and he was certainly as intelligent as most other wrestlers.

Errict was the defending State Champion and Randy Day was a full-sized 220 pounder. I don't know what Randy had for lunch or about past rumors about his lax training or not wrestling his best but Randy was aggressive. True, Errict looked fast and aggressive even when he was asleep but give Randy credit, he was into the match.

Errict found it difficult to force any moves on the larger opponent but most of us knew that Errict could explode at any time with lots of points. I can't recall the order of the points scored but Randy Day threw in the legs and began to work Errict over pretty good.

As the match went along it became clear that Randy Day of Venice was dead serious about defeating the defending State Champion and, every time he managed to work himself into a leg ride, he took a little starch out of Errict Rhett. Errict never gave up but Randy defeated him that day.

I can't say what happened with Randy or his wrestling career. Maybe someone from Venice can relate that.

Everyone probably knows about Errict Rhett's great football career in college and in the professional ranks. However, don't ever let anyone tell you that Errict Rhett couldn't wrestle because he was a great wrestler. Don't let anyone tell you that Randy Day wasn't focused and aggressive on the mat. He certainly was this match!

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM IRAS

RETIREMENT PLANS

Certain IRA holders have the opportunity to make tax-free distributions from their IRAs to qualified charitable organizations. For tax-free eligibility, the qualified charitable distribution (QCD) must be sent directly from the IRA payable to the receiving qualified 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Eligibility and Donation Limit

IRA holders must be at least 70½ years of age before the distribution. In addition, beneficiaries of inherited IRAs who meet the age requirement can also take advantage of QCDs.

For those who qualify, the maximum IRA charitable distribution is limited to \$100,000 per tax year. Any distribution in excess of this limit will not qualify for the tax exclusion benefit and will be treated as ordinary income. The provision applies for Traditional, Roth, and inherited IRAs, but does not typically apply to distributions from “active” SEP or SIMPLE IRAs.

Benefits of a QCD

If a taxpayer makes the donation as prescribed by the IRS, then the distribution will be excluded from gross income and counts toward:

- The taxpayer’s \$100,000 exclusion limitation for the year the distribution occurs and
- The taxpayer’s required minimum distribution (RMD) for the current year

With the increase in the standard deduction for 2018 and future tax years to \$26,600 for married filing jointly age 65 or older and \$13,600 for single filers age 65 or older, more Americans will be using the standard deduction rather than itemizing deductions on their tax returns. QCDs are excluded from taxable income, but do not allow for an itemized deduction. If more individuals age 70 ½ or older use the standard deduction, the QCD is a great way to keep taxable income lower when satisfying an RMD and still get the full benefit of the standard deduction. By using the standard deduction, a taxpayer will receive no benefit for their charitable contribution unless it is processed as a QCD from an IRA. In addition, by not including a charitable donation from an IRA as ordinary income, an individual’s adjusted gross income is not increased, which could affect the ability to:

- Qualify for Roth IRA contributions
- Avoid other potential tax ramifications, such as:
 1. The 3.8% health care surcharge. (Even though distributions from IRAs are exempt from the 3.8% health care surcharge, taxable distributions from IRAs could push income over the threshold amount, causing other investment income to be subject to the surtax.)
 2. Paying more for Medicare Premiums.
 3. Taxation on Social Security Benefits.

QCD Tax Reporting

Typically, the custodian of an IRA will report a QCD as a normal distribution on the 1099R tax form, while QCDs from inherited IRAs are reported as death distributions. This gives the IRS no notification that an IRA holder intended to make a tax-free distribution from the IRA to a charity. It is the responsibility of the IRA holder or his or her tax preparer to properly report the QCD on a 1040 tax return. It is also strongly suggested that the IRA holder obtains a receipt from the charitable organization.

Is a QCD the right strategy for you?

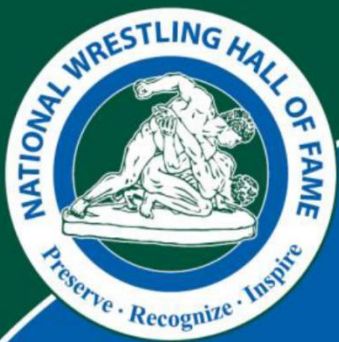
Please seek the aid of a competent tax advisor or tax attorney for guidance.



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