

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

A History of Sports Excellence

Founded in 1974

2022



1991-1992 SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL
HOCKEY TEAM
New York State Champions



1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE
*First Rockland Team to Advance
to the Little League World Series*



1954 TAPPAN ZEE
CROSS COUNTRY TEAM
Rockland's First NYS Team Champion



NEW YORK BOULDERS
CLOVER STADIUM - AUGUST 13, 2022



PREMIER

COLLISION CENTER, LLC.



Proudly Supports

THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

186 South Main Street
Nanuet, New York 10954

Lou Sciortino

845-624-0859
Fax 845-624-0849

24 Hour Emergency Towing

Authorized Insurance Repair

Chairman's Message – Pete Scheibner



Welcome to Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Night at the New York Boulders' Clover Stadium. Tonight, we continue a recent tradition of honoring Rockland's greatest athletic teams in conjunction with a summer outing at a Boulders baseball game.

Congratulations to the 1991-92 Suffern High School hockey team with its come-from-behind exploits and stellar play that propelled it to the first New York State championship for a downstate school, under the guidance of legendary coach John Orlando. We also applaud the success of the 1972 New City Little League All-Stars, the first and, to date, only Rockland team to advance to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pa. We also honor the 1954 Tappan Zee High School cross country team, Rockland's first New York State team champion, coached by the great Hugh Short. It is a distinct honor that in our 49th anniversary year we induct such top-notch teams into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame.

We sadly note the passing of two of our Hall of Famers since our last team inductions were held a year ago: Rich Conklin, inducted individually in 2000 and again in 2018 as coach of the undefeated 1989 Nanuet High School football team, which was the inaugural team inductee into this Hall of Fame; and 2019 inductee Bob Veltidi, who was RCSHOF screening committee chair and induction master of ceremonies. Both gentlemen exemplified true service to both sports and community – they will certainly be missed by us all.

As is our custom at Boulders games, we will be raising funds for a charitable organization. This year's recipient is the Suffern Mat Club, started in the early 1970s as a not-for-profit organization to promote and support Suffern HS wrestling. It has supported wrestling from the pee wee through high school levels by providing funds for equipment, training, and summer wrestling camps, and has significantly contributed to the success of the well-respected Suffern HS wrestling program.

Please visit our website, www.rcshf.org, to view bios of all our inductees. The website includes enshrinement requirements for selection, and nominations for future candidates and teams. We very much look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming 50th anniversary induction, which will be held on April 1, 2023, at Paramount Country Club in New City.

Many thanks to Vinnie Sciortino, Pat Dizzine, Peter Castellano, Steve Dugandzic, Bill Rubbert, Jamie Kempton and our other board members; Phyllis and Bruce Schweizer of Quality Graphics; friends and supporters, along with the New York Boulders for making this a memorable evening.



VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.RCSHF.ORG

Peter Scheibner, *Chairman*
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

August 13, 2022

~ List of Inductees ~

1991-1992 SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM

NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONS

Nominated By: Coach John Orlando

Introduced By: Steve Dugandzic

Plaque Sponsor: Suffern Athletics

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM TO ADVANCE TO THE LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

Nominated By: Bob Baird

Introduced By: Peter Castellano

Plaque Sponsor: Clarkstown North Athletic Department

1954 TAPPAN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

ROCKLAND'S FIRST NYS TEAM CHAMPION

Nominated By: Joe D'Innocenzo

Introduced By: Pat Dizzine

Plaque Sponsor: Tappan Zee Athletic Hall of Fame

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (OFFICERS)

Peter ScheibnerChairman

Vincent SciortinoVice Chairman

Jamie KemptonSecretary

Peter CastellanoTreasurer

DIRECTORS

Giulia Adler, Bob Baird, Andre Chiavelli, Tom Collins, Pat D'Auria
Pat Dizzine, Steve Dugandzic, Russell Grant, Arthur Hyman, Chuck Maze
Sid McCready, Bill Rubbert, John Ryan, Kristen Sullivan,
Gibby Sweet, Alan Veltidi, Dan White, Robbie Woods

Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Team Inductees

2018

1989 Nanuet High School Football Team

2019

1990-91 Albertus Magnus Girls Basketball Team

1981-82 Spring Valley Boys Basketball Team

2021

1971 North Rockland Football Team

THE NORTH ROCKLAND SPORTS HALL OF FAME

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2022 INDUCTEES

1991-1992 SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM

NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONS

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM

TO ADVANCE TO THE LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

1954 TAPPAN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

ROCKLAND'S FIRST NYS TEAM CHAMPION



**NORTH ROCKLAND
SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

For more information call – Coach Joe Casarella at 845-942-3390

ENSHRINEMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame was established to honor outstanding sportsmen and sportswomen, living and deceased, who have gained prominence while residing or competing in, or have brought recognition to Rockland County. To be considered for nomination to the Hall of Fame, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- A. Attain prominence in sports as an athlete, coach, manager, official, owner, writer, broadcaster or supporter.
- B. Reside or have resided in Rockland County, competed here at the time of their prominence, or brought fame to Rockland County as a result of their accomplishments.
- C. Be a person of integrity and good character.
- D. Candidates cannot be considered until 10 years after their high school class graduation, except in special cases.

Our committee encourages the public to send athletic resumes/nominations of prospective candidates to Screening Committee chairman Bill Rubbert, 189 Ridge Road, Valley Cottage, New York 10989. Nominees are reviewed by this committee and, if accepted, voted upon for enshrinement by the committee as a whole.

The Hall of Fame Committee holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of the month from October to May. Anyone wishing to join the organization should write to Chairman Pete Scheibner, 1 Captain McGovern Drive, Stony Point, NY 10980, or e-mail him at scheibnp@msn.com.

Each inductee in the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame receives a commemorative trophy and is further honored with an individual plaque, which is given to the inductee's high school for public display.

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame is more than awards and trophies and dinners, however. It is really about people – Rockland County people who have had an impact in the world of sports.

A total of 276 such individuals have been honored since the hall's inception in 1974.

The Hall of Fame has evolved from those early beginnings to become a recognized presence in Rockland County athletics. In addition to its annual dinner, where it honors new inductees, the hall makes sizable donations to worthwhile local organizations and charities. Included among these donations have been cash gifts to:

- ARC • Varsity Athletes Against Substance Abuse • Salvation Army
- Haverstraw Little League Save the Fields Fund • American Cancer Society • Special Olympics
- Venture • Big Brothers-Big Sisters • Challenger Little League • YMCA Youth Programs
- Homes for Heroes • Touching Bases • Bridges

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (OFFICERS)

Peter ScheibnerChairman
Vincent SciortinoVice Chairman
Jamie KemptonSecretary
Peter CastellanoTreasurer

DIRECTORS

Giulia Adler, Bob Baird, Andre Chiavelli, Tom Collins, Pat D'Auria
Pat Dizzine, Steve Dugandzic, Russell Grant, Arthur Hyman, Chuck Maze
Sid McCready, Bill Rubbert, John Ryan, Kristen Sullivan,
Gibby Sweet, Alan Veltidi, Dan White, Robbie Woods



Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Nomination Form for Individuals and Teams

Individual Nominee:

(Last)

(First)

(M)

Current Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Date Submitted: _____

** If deceased, please give name, address and phone number of family member.*

HS and Year of Graduation: _____

College and Year of Graduation: _____

Team Nomination:

High School, Year and Sport: _____

On a separate typewritten page, list all of the significant accomplishments of the nominee, both as a Rockland County resident and otherwise. Please be as specific as possible. Include varsity sports played in high school and college, dates, letters earned, honors won, records set, post-collegiate achievements, etc.

** Please submit a clear black-and-white or color photo of the nominee.*

Nominating Person:

Last name: _____ First: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please Submit to:

Bill Rubbert
Chairman of the Selection Committee
189 Ridge Road
Valley Cottage, New York 10989
billrubbert@gmail.com

1991-1992 SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONS



Back row: John Rostawanik, Jared Margulies, Mike Greenhut, Ron Stecz, Team Manager Mike Schoenbach, Harold Haugeto, Asst. Coach John Rostawanik. Third row: Asst Coach Tom McCarren, Jim Flament, Paul Goldstein, Dan Cohen, Rob Cerabona, Tom Lofberg, John Doyle, Tom Condon, Rob Murphy, Mike Cunningham, Asst Coach John Yurcick, Mike Sheehan. Second row: Greg Gordon, Stick-boy John Sullivan, Rob Stevens, Dan White, John Chapman, Anthony Taylor, Adam Gordon, Asst Coach Mitch Resnick. Front row: Head Coach John Orlando.

1992 - Division 1

The Division 1 finals saw the return of two teams very familiar with state tournament play; Suffern, who reached the semi-finals in four of the last five years and Massena a four-time finalist and 2-time state champion.

Massena dominated Aquinas Institute 8-3 in the semi-finals, while Suffern registered a 3-2 win over Seton Catholic of Plattsburgh on a long shot that deflected into the air that Seton's goalie lost in the ceiling lights.

The championship game saw Massena and Suffern trading goals in a hard-fought defensive struggle. Trailing by a goal in the final minute

of play, Suffern coach John Orlando pulled goalie Rob Cerabona to get an extra attacker in the offensive zone. With 30 seconds remaining in regulation time, Dan White's pass found Rob Stevens, Suffern's leading scorer, alone in front of the Massena net. Stevens the wristed a 10-footer to tie the game. Then at 3:05 of the first overtime period, Stevens scored again to give Suffern their first ever State Championship. It was the only time in the game that the Mounties had the lead. Suffern went on to win the New York State Division I championships over Massena 4-3 in overtime.



1991-92 Suffern Mounties (Left to Right) Coach John Orlando, Goalie Coach John Yurcick, Assist. Coach John Rostawanik, Mike Schoenbach, Rob Stevens, Dan White, John Chapman, Rob Cerabona, Mike Sheehan, Jimmy Flament, John Rostawanik.

Division #1 Suffern Mounties (Section 1)
NEW YORK STATE HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY
HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2009
1992 SUFFERN MOUNTIES
NYSPHSAA Division 1 State Champions

ICE HOCKEY IN THE LOWER HUDSON VALLEY

WITH HAROLD GUTMANN

March 13, 2009

Coach John Orlando was gracious enough to provide some information on the 1992 Suffern team that will be inducted into the New York State High School Hockey Hall of Fame.

The season started about seven or eight years ago [1985-86] when Sport-O- Rama gave us free ice time at 6 AM on Sunday mornings to rebuild our feeder program. Over 2/3rds. of the players on this team started then with borrowed lacrosse helmets and gloves.

Would they ever make it? Fifteen weeks of early rising set the tone. They were dedicated. What follows is a recollection of a set of circumstances over the last two seasons.

Injuries, death in a family, sickness, and losses [we started the season 3-3] led to the elusive State Championship.

With the players all back. Steve Lofberg, the Father of T.J. Lofberg arranged a trip to Norway to play in the Jar Tournament in Oslo.

What an unbelievable experience. Our first hurdle was the plane trip, 10 hours over the Atlantic - 10 first time flyers - a lot of white knuckles. Courage! some found it.

We win the tournament. Our kids played great. We win the hearts of the Norwegians with hard-skilled play.

The trip was more than just hockey. We came together as a team more than ever before.

Improvised hockey, as our Norwegian friends call it, 30 boys on a huge outdoor rink, exchanging jerseys, mixing up teams, playing with no refs, 2 to 3 hours under the stars, for pure sport, played for the fun of it until exhaustion sets in.

After the tournament we then toured Norway. Our most memorable aspect was a trip to a sculpture park. The theme was from birth to death. Our boys entered the park giggling but as our guide started to explain the statues the mood changed drastically. Fun, life, death, struggles, relationships and how people handle these are depicted. We all emerged from those 80 acres as slightly different people.

I took sick after the trip and my assistants, John Rostawanik, Mitch Resnick, and John Yurcick

took over and led the team. I feel it made us a better team as the boys had to overcome another adversity and stand on their own. The team started cooking.

Our young defenseman were getting better [Sheehan, Rostawanik]. Our big line [Chapman, White, Doyle] another line [Lofberg, Stevens Taylor] were smoking. Our yearling line [Stecz, Murphy, Gordon, Greg] was emerging as a force. Cerebona [goalie] Adam Gordon [defense] were ROCK-SOLID in front of the net.

Our red line [Flament, Cohen, Greenhut, Marguiles, Condon and Haugeto] was possessed in practice and made everybody work hard. Our back-up goalies [Goldstein and Cunningham] were pressuring the shooters.

We never lost another game that season when we returned from Norway and won the section championship. 17 straight victories concluded the season.

State tournament 1/4 finals a 10-3 victory over Monroe-Woodbury, a semi-final victory over Seton Catholic 3-2 and a 4-3 win over Massena in what some will say was the most exciting final in state history.

The championship game had many heroes. Cerebona in goal, Adam Gordon played the entire 45 minutes on defense, John Chapman went from center to defense and played about 41 minutes. Chapman, Taylor, and Doyle shut Massena down and White, Stevens and Lofberg did most of the scoring. Rob Stevens scored the game tier goal on assists from Lofberg and White with 39 seconds left after the goalie was pulled.

Rob Stevens was then sprung free on a pass from Danny White and blasted the game winner from just inside the blue line in overtime.

The 1992 Suffern Mounties were inducted into the New York State High School Hockey- Hall of Fame, March 2009, for their dedication to the sport as a truly great team who have contributed noteworthy service to New York State high school hockey.

###

SEASON RESULTS

Auburn 4	Suffern 2
Suffern 8	Rye 2
Suffern 11	North Rockland 0
Suffern 3	Peddie 2 (OT)
Rome Free Acad 4	Suffern 2
<i>[Albany Academy Tournament]</i>	
Albany Academy 3	Suffern 1
<i>[Albany Academy Tournament]</i>	
Suffern 5	Frisk (Norway) 1
Suffern 4	Jar (Norway) 1
Suffern 7	Holmen (Norway) 2
Suffern 8	Rye 0
Suffern 3	Mamaroneck 2
Suffern 15	Clarkstown North 0
Suffern 8	East Ramapo 0
Suffern 5	Clarkstown South 1
Suffern 12	East Ramapo 1
Suffern 4	Mamaroneck 0
Suffern 3	Clarkstown South 2
Suffern 8	North Rockland 0
Suffern 12	East Ramapo 1
Suffern 8	East Ramapo 1
<i>[Section1 Semi-Final]</i>	
Suffern 8	Clarkstown South 2
<i>[Section 1 Championship]</i>	
Suffern 10	Monroe-Woodbury 2
<i>[State Quarterfinal]</i>	
Suffern 3	Seton Catholic 2
<i>[State Semi-Final]</i>	
Suffern 4	Massena 3 (OT)
<i>[State Championship]</i>	

The New York State High School Hockey-Hall of Fame, located in the Lake Placid Olympic Center's '80 Rink hallway, recognizes former outstanding Players, Coaches and Teams that have contributed noteworthy service to New York State high school hockey.

**NYSHSHCA HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 1997**

**John Orlando
(Suffern, 1971-96)**

John Orlando has done more to promote New York State high school hockey than arguably any other person. Born in Manhattan, just above the exit of the Lincoln Tunnel, and raised in the Bronx, John went to Cardinal Hayes High. He played freshman basketball and baseball there, as well as club and pond hockey. As a 5-foot-4 sophomore, his basketball career came to a halt as he tried to make a team that included, among others, 6-foot-5 future NBA guard Kevin Loughery and future Holy Cross captain Tim Shea.

After high school John went on to college at CCNY, where he played his first lacrosse game (the sport got his attention when he was "beaned" by a ball as a bystander). He would eventually become an All-American attack at CCNY and led the country in scoring with 3.7 goals per game. After college, he coached freshman lacrosse for a year at Penn State, then spent eight years at West Point as the freshman and assistant varsity lacrosse coach for Army.

John started his teaching career at Suffern High School in 1965, (he retired in 1996 after over 31 years). While there he decided to coach the varsity lacrosse team. Soon after, he was asked to coach the hockey team as well. John had played hockey, but coaching? So, he called his friend from West Point, Jack Riley. They used to play golf together, along with Army basketball coach Bobby Knight. Riley was most famous for coaching the United States to the Olympic hockey gold in Squaw Valley in 1960, and for cutting Herb Brooks from that team. With advice from Jack, John went on to build the Suffern hockey and lacrosse programs from the Pee-Wee level up and went on to coach his Mounties hockey team for the next 25 years, tallying an outrageous record of 456-wins, 99-losses, and 14-ties. This record currently places him third on the all-time New

York State Coaching Wins list. He also served as Chairman of Section 1 high school hockey a position he still holds. John also worked countless hours as the Hockey Director of the Sport-O-Rama Rink in Monsey, NY., retiring in 2007, a position he held since the arena's opening in 1972.

John Orlando's resume is certainly the envy of any coach and includes the following:

While coaching Suffern high school hockey he posted –

- 456-99-14 record as Head Coach for 25-years
- 18 League Championships
- 17 Sectional Championships
- 23 consecutive sectional wins (section 9 and 1)
- 12 Regional Championships
- 10 Appearances in the State Tournament Final-Four (more than any other team)
- 1991-92 NYSPHSAA Division 1 State Champions
- NYSHSHCA founding member and Vice President

His other coaching milestones include:

- 10 Sectional Lacrosse Championships in 22-years
- 282 wins as the varsity lacrosse coach at Suffern
- over 150 victories as a JV football coach at Suffern
- 335 combined wins in lacrosse – high school/college as head coach
- posted an 18-0 record, one year coaching basketball at the Henly School in Queens

Coach Orlando fondly recalls the time he coached the West Point freshmen lacrosse team in a game against the varsity. The freshmen defeated the varsity 16-7, in a year that the varsity team went on to become co-national champions.

John and his wife Anita reside in Cornwall and spend their summers on Lake George where the own and operate the luxury tour boat "Indian Pipes" at the Sagamore Resort.

John was inducted into the New York State High School Hockey Hall of Fame, March 1997, for his dedication to the sport as a truly great coach who has contributed noteworthy service to New York State High School Hockey. Service that continues to this day, as he is currently the NYSHSHCA Vice-President, a position he has held since the organization's inception in 1996.

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

**FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM TO ADVANCE TO THE
LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES**



Boys of Summer: The 1972 New City Little League All-Stars at Howard J. Lamade Stadium in South Williamsport, Pa. New City finished fifth overall at the Little League World Series. **Players:** Michael Beckley, Kyle Bierly, James Bladel, Joseph Fitzgerald, Kenneth Hanniford, Thomas McTigue, Jeffrey Ramundo, John Ryan, Paul Schindelar, Joseph Soprano, Jr., Michael Valentini, Joseph Waters, Jack Watson, Jr., William Way, II. Kelvin Dowd, Manager; Edward Murphy, Coach; Anthony Canu, Coach

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE BECKLEY

HOW THEY DID IT

A list of games the New City Little League All-Stars played in 1972, including opponent, score, and site.

■ District 18

New City 8, Ramapo East 0
(at Suffern)

New City 8, Nanuet 6
(at New City)

New City 1, Stony Point 0 (8 inn.)
(at Haverstraw)

■ Interdistrict Play

New City 3, Poughkeepsie 2
(at Haverstraw)

New City 14, Cornwall 2
(at New Windsor, NY)

■ Sectionals

New City 6, Esopus, NY 2
(at Hudson, NY)

■ State Tournament

(at Hornell, NY)
New City 2, Rotterdam 0
New City 15, Vestal 4

■ Eastern Regionals

(at Baldwin, LI)
New City 6,
Cape Elizabeth, ME 1
New City 2,
Arlington, MA 1

New City 3,

Berwick, PA 2

New City 5,

Manchester, NH 0

■ World Series

(at Williamsport, PA)

Taiwan (Far East) 9,

New City 0

New City 8,
Torrejon Air Force Base,
Spain (Europe) 1

New City 2,
Windsor, Ontario (Canada) 0
(New City finishes fifth)

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

**FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM TO ADVANCE TO THE
LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES**

Shaking down the memories

FORMER NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUERS RECALL '72 GLORY

By Jamie Kempton
Staff Writer

Joe Soprano remembers the summer of 1972 like it was yesterday.

When he closes his eyes and lets his mind drift back to. That golden time, suddenly he's a 12-year-old kid again, ready to take the field with his teammates on the New City Little League All-Star squad.

With each victory, the New City boys of summer grew more confident, Soprano recalls. They were also becoming the toast of Rockland County.

"We were only 12 years old, but we were becoming heroes." Soprano said the other day, still bemused by the attention lavished on the team. "The newspaper and radio were following us like we were pros, and here we were just little kids.

"We knew we had a good team, but we didn't think we were good enough to be ranked among the best in the world. We were just 14 kids trying to win a few games for New City."

The Rams wound up exceeding those humble expectations in a big way. For five glorious weeks in July and August of '72, they took a magic carpet ride to the threshold of a world championship.

Along the way, they captured the hearts and stirred the imaginations of Rockland County faithful by becoming the only team in the 37-year history of Little League in the county to



The Journal-Herald file photos.

New City's Paul Schindelar (left) and Tom McTigue (right) were the heroes in New City's 5-0 win over Manchester, NH in the championship game of the 1972 Eastern Regional Tournament. Schindelar pitched a one-hitter and McTigue hit a two-run homer.

advance to the eight-team Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pa.

Out of almost 8,000 teams representing 112,000 players, the doughty New City club finished fifth-best in the world. In this 50th anniversary year of the institution of Little League nationwide, the 1972 Rams sterling achievement stands as a lasting tribute to their greatness. The patina of that legacy endures.

New City's Pail Schindelar (left) and Tom McTigue (right) were the heroes in New City's win over Manchester, NH in the championship game of the 1972 Eastern Regional Tournament. Schindelar pitched a one-hitter and McTigue hit a two-run homer.

THE RIGHT CHEMISTRY

The players on that memorable unit are now approaching 30. Many are married and ensconced in their careers. But the passage of time hasn't erased the memories they cherish from that unforgettable summer.

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM TO ADVANCE TO THE LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

Fourteen times in 15 games, the New City Rams found the winning formula. Through nailbiter and blowouts.

"It's something you never forget. I look back on it as one of the neatest things that ever happened to me."

Joe Waters

A TEAM MEMBER

Through Interdistrict, Sectional, New York State, Eastern Regional and World Series tournaments. All with a maturity, a poised demeanor that belied their youth and reflected highly on their manager, Kel Dowd, and their coaches, Tony Canu and Ed Murphy.

The Rams were physically mature; four of the players were at least 5-feet-9.

They were talented; many of them went on to star in high-school ball. One of them played professionally; Soprano toiled for the Oakland Athletics' Class A minor-league team for three years. The team was cohesive; many were friends or teammates long before their All-Star odyssey.

Oh yes. The Rams could play, too. Their one-two pitching punch of right-handers Paul Schindelar and Mike Beckley was at times unhittable. Their lineup, powered by fence busters Soprano, Schindelar, Beckley and catcher Jeff Ramundo, was potent. Their defense, anchored by slick-fielding shortstop Tom McTigue, second baseman Jim Bladel and utilityman Billy Way, was almost goof-proof.

In short, the team was solid, caught a few breaks, created many of their own, and relied on all 14 players to pull the oar.

"Everybody had their niche," Schindelar said. "Everybody contributed. That's what made it so fun."

"The caliber of players we had jived together in one year," Beckley added. "That and a little bit of luck created a winning combination."

A TEAM OF LEADERS

The Rams players took turns wearing the hero's mantle. For example, Way was the unlikely star in the District 18 final against

Stony Point. Pinch hitting in the eighth inning of a scoreless tie, he poked a two-out single to drive in the winning run.

Similarly, McTigue stole the thunder from his more heavy-hitting teammates in the Eastern Regional championship game against Manchester, NH, at Baldwin, Long Island. McTigue, the No. 9 hitter, socked the first home run of his Little League career, a two-run shot, in the sixth inning to clinch New City's 5-0 victory.

More often than not, however, the Rams took their cue from Soprano. The hard-hitting first baseman was the Reggie Jackson of the team; Typical of his timely hitting was the solo home run he slugged in the bottom of the sixth to lift New City to a taut 2-1 win over Massachusetts in the Eastern Regional quarterfinal.

The very next day, he clubbed a two-run homer in the first inning and drove in all three runs in a 3-2 semifinal victory over Berwick, Pa. And he had teammate Joe Waters to thank, indirectly.

"I used to have this big black bat, about 31 ounces, and Joe Waters was always getting on me about it," Soprano said. "He said, Why don't you swing a lighter bat? So he gave me a 29-ounce bat. It felt like a toothpick. I used it in my last at bat against Massachusetts and I hit the ball over the right field fence.

"In my first at-bat, the next day, I used it again and hit a two-run homer. Needless to say, I used that bat the rest of the way."

Ramundo was on deck when Soprano whacked the game-winning home run against Massachusetts. His prayers were answered when Big Joe connected.

"I was thinking, I can't hit the guy," Ramundo said, referring to Arlington, Mass., pitcher Ugo Macchia. "Then I thought, Joe's gonna hit a home run. Sure enough, he hit it and we won the game."

If Soprano was the on-field leader, manager Dowd was the team's guiding hand overall.

"The players had tremendous respect for him," said Canu, the team's esteemed pitching coach. "He was knowledgeable, fair and open."

"He was the glue that kept us together," Schindelar said of Dowd, who died of a stroke in 1976.

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM TO ADVANCE TO THE LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

Superstition also held a prominent place in the Rams implacable march to Williamsport, Dowd never attended a game without his magic green socks or his lucky towel. The team would not take the field until league president Dick Bierly delivered his ritual pre-game pep talk in the dugout. Bierly was born in Williamsport, and his son, Kyle, was an outfielder on the team.

Although play was single-elimination every step of the way, pressure never affected the loose New City team “because we never put it on them,” Canu said. “We told them that each game was gravy, and that it became easier the farther we went.”

ON TO WILLIAMSPORT

With each triumph, the redoubtable little leaguers from the Rockland County seat grew more relaxed and confident. As the coaches had told them, Williamsport was gravy. Play hard, but have fun.

We weren’t playing for the glory of it,” said Bladel, the second baseman. “We were just 12-year-old kids playing for the fun of it, playing as hard as we could for as long as we could. We didn’t realize how good we were. It wasn’t our goal to make the World Series, but as the games progressed, we got more confident.”

That confidence was jolted when New City learned it had drawn Taiwan, the Far East representative and defending champion, in the opening round. The Taiwanese were more physically developed, than their New City counterparts, had practiced together almost year-round compared to New City’s six-week orientation, and were extremely regimented.

“They were like a little army,” said Way, whose brother, Jason, is on this year’s West Nyack All-Star team. “At 6 a.m., while we were snoring away, they were doing military drills. They had their own bats and carry-bags for them. They did everything as a unit.”

Taiwan’s pitcher, Chen Chih-Shun “was at least 6 feet tall, and his legs must’ve been 5’6,” Schendelar said. “He seemed like he was right on top of you. He was awesome.

Chen shot down the New City bats on one hit – a second inning single by Ramundo – and Taiwan chafed Beckley and Schindelar for nine runs en route to a 9-0 win.

“But that loss helped us with the growing up process,” said Bierly, the team’s diminutive leadoff batter. “It programmed our brains for the future, in life, our jobs, whatever. We learned how to deal with defeat.”

Taiwan went on to defeat Hammond., 6-0, in the championship game. New City rebounded to defeat the European entry from Spain, 8-1, and the Canadian entry from Windsor, Ontario 2-0, to clinch fifth place.

LOSING GRACEFULLY

But the players and coaches were unanimous in agreeing that the Taiwan game was the most emotionally charged game they played. They had played in front of large crowds before – including a devoted and vocal following of family, friends and other supporters for each game – but never before a packed stadium of 30,000, as they did in the Taiwan game.

“I’ve never seen anything like that,” said Jack Ryan, who was an outfielder on the team. “Thousands of fans, Taiwanese waving flags, screaming and chanting. That game was the most special.

The Rams could have complained they got a bad draw, having to play the defending champion after driving from Long Island to Pennsylvania, arriving at midnight, and being awakened at 8 a.m. the next morning by Taiwanese reporters hungry for interviews.

After all, New City was, by the consensus of the assembled media, one of the top teams in the tournament, along with Taiwan and Pearl City, Hawaii, which finished tied for third. But the Rams accepted defeat as they did victory – with grace, equanimity and humility.

“We were proud,” Soprano said. “We held our heads high when we came back. We had nothing to be ashamed of.”

MEMORIES OF A LIFETIME

New City and the other seven World Series teams were treated to a tour of Washington, D.C., when the tournament was over. Then, on Aug. 29, six weeks after the opening of their award-winning road show, the Rams returned to Rockland and were feted like conquering heroes.

An enthusiastic crowd of 350 greeted their arrival at the County Courthouse in New City.

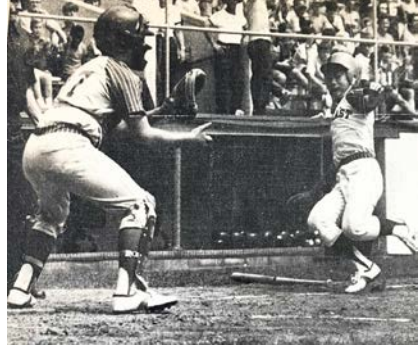
The Rockland legislature proclaimed Sept. 2 through Sept. 8 as New City Rams Little League Week in the county. More than 750 people turned out in the rain a few days later for a parade down Main Street in New City. The young baseball celebrities rode in open-top convertibles and basked in the adulation of an adoring county.

“With all those people behind us, we all had tears in our eyes and a lump in our throat,” Soprano remembered. “We all felt it was too bad it had to come to an end. We were so close, the players and the coaches, it got to be like a big family.

The cheers may be long gone, but the memories of that exhilarating time are framed in neon in the minds of those 14 boys and three coaches who etched an indelible mark on the local sports landscape.

“When you’re 12 years old, you don’t realize fully what’s happening,” Ken Hanniford, a reserve outfielder on the team who, the same year, played right wing on the Bergen-Rockland ice hockey team that won the Bantam division national title. “Now, you see it’s a once-in-a-lifetime situation.”

“In my job, I get to travel around a bit,” said Schindelar, who is a district sales manager for Nabisco Foods. “I recently passed by the field in Baldwin where we played the Eastern Regionals. I got shivers when I passed that field. There were some fond memories.”



PLAY AT THE PLATE

New City v. Taiwan

(Jeff Ramundo, New City catcher)

“It’s something you never forget. I look back on it as one of the neatest things that ever happened to me.” Said Joe Waters, a lefty who pitched the victory against Europe and moved the following year to Arizona, where he was an all-state scholastic pitcher. “You didn’t understand the significance of it until later.”

Perhaps Ramundo said it best for the 1972 New City boys of summer.

“I have to put it up there as one of the top years of my life. It was an experience no kid could ever imagine. It was just a wonderful summer.”

In 1989...



1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM TO ADVANCE TO THE LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

FROM NEW CITY TO NIRVANA

By Brian Heyman

Forty long years have come and gone and Mike Beckley lives in Florida now, but he can still hear Kel Dowd's wondrous words at New City's Little League field on Strawtown Road.

"I want to go to Williamsport," the manager of the New City Rams All-Stars told Beckley and the other 13 boys at one of their first gatherings. "I want to do it. You guys should, too."

*"At the time, we
were just out having
fun playing baseball.
We didn't realize
the magnitude of it."*

Mike Beckley

No team from Rockland or Putnam and only one team from Westchester had ever made it to the Little League World Series, a group from Eastchester/Tuckahoe in 1956.

Yet these players from the summer of 1972 were beginning a journey that would indeed bring them to the Pennsylvania promised land, an unforgettable trip of lifetime to take on the best in the world.

Those 12- and 13-year-olds are now scattered and in their 50s. But the 66th Little League World Series is under way in South Williamsport, and they can all celebrate a happy 4th anniversary with the knowledge that they are still the only team from Rockland and one of the only two from the Lower Hudson Valley to have made it there.

"Definitely it's something you'll always remember," Beckley said. "At the time, we are just out having fun playing baseball. We didn't realize the magnitude of it. But you look at how few go to the World Series and win, or how few even get to the World Series, it's kind of a select bunch."

Like the New City girls, who reached the Little League Softball World Series last year in Oregon the New City boys finished fifth. After tryouts, they claimed 12 consecutive win-or-you're-out games before taking two or three in the championship tournament.

"I'll tell you what: I played pro ball; I had some good memories of playing pro baseball," said Joe Soprano, New City's heavy-hitting first baseman who went on to spend three years in the Oakland A's organization. "But I always flash back to the Little League World Series every time I see it on TV and go, 'Wow, that was a great time.' What a cool accomplishment."

Dowd and coaches Tony Canu and Edward Murphy have passed away. Once upon a time, they lent their expertise to a close-knit and special team.

"We had pitching, man," said Kyle Bierly, an outfielder. "They couldn't hit Mike Beckley. They couldn't hit Paul (Schindelar), too. ... And then every now and again, you need to have a hit, and Tommy McTigue, who doesn't hit, hit a home run to (help) win a game. So you've got a little bit of that, and you've got a little bit of pitching, you can play a little bit of baseball."

After claiming the state title, the team played in the Eastern Regionals in Baldwin and stayed on Hofstra's campus. The Jets were also staying there for training camp.

One day, Joe Namath walked by the cafeteria table where Beckley and a few teammates were sitting.

"Hey, boys, how are you doing this morning?" the legendary quarterback said.

Quite well, thank you. New City edged Arlington, Mass., 2-1 in the quarterfinals on Soprano's final-inning homer. Two games later, Schindelar pitched and McTigue belted his lone homer – he still has the ball – and New City blanked Manchester, NH, 5-0 to clinch its World Series ticket under the heading "U.S. East."

"Elation," said Schindelar, who grew up to become a vice president for Kraft Foods. "We accomplished the goal that every kid wanted to achieve as a team."

FUN WHILE IT LASTED

Eight teams arrived at the Pennsylvania complex and moved into barracks. New City could see right away that its first opponent, from the Far East, was rather serious.

"The guys from Taiwan were out there doing calisthenics at 6 in the morning in their warmups," Beckley said.

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM TO ADVANCE TO THE LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

Jeff Ramundo, the starting catcher, delivered a base hit his first time up against the Taipei City starter at Howard J. Lamade Stadium.

“He threw real hard and he had a nasty curveball,” Ramundo said. “I just stuck the bat out. It was no great hit, but it was a line drive to right field.

That turned out to be New City’s lone hit. The Taiwan team won 9-0, taking the first step toward the crown, the second of four straight for teams from there.

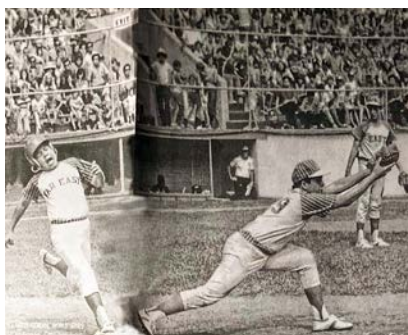
“I feel, and more people feel, we were the second-best team there besides the Taiwan team,” Soprano said. “We got an unlucky draw to play them in the first game. They were just head and shoulders above us.”

The setback relegated New City to the consolation bracket.

“I would say that took something out of us,” said Jim Bladel, the second baseman. “But then as soon as we got back on the field, playing the international (teams), just playing in that complex, it was still special.”

New City posted an 8-1 victory in the next game against Europe’s representative – actually American kids representing Torrejon Air Base in Madrid, Spain – behind Joe Waters, the self-described “third pitcher in a two-man rotation,” and a revamped lineup.

“It was a tribute to Dowd, what Dowd did in the second game...because he played all the kids that didn’t play, which was a gutsy thing,” Waters said from his accounting firm in Arizona.



“He cared about the kids. In Game 2, he kind of, without saying it, said, all my kids are going to experience this.”

In the final game, Schinelar pitched a two-hitter, and New City won 2-0 over Windsor, Ontario.

“How does a 52-year-old now go back to being 12 and summarize it? It was an incredible, incredible experience,” said McTigue, the steady-field shortstop. “To meet all the kids from the international teams and the national teams...where do you get that experience minus Williamsport?”

Following Williamsport, New City toured the White House.

“We were supposed to meet President Nixon, and it never happened,” outfield John Ryan said. “We got a pen with a stamped signature on it.”

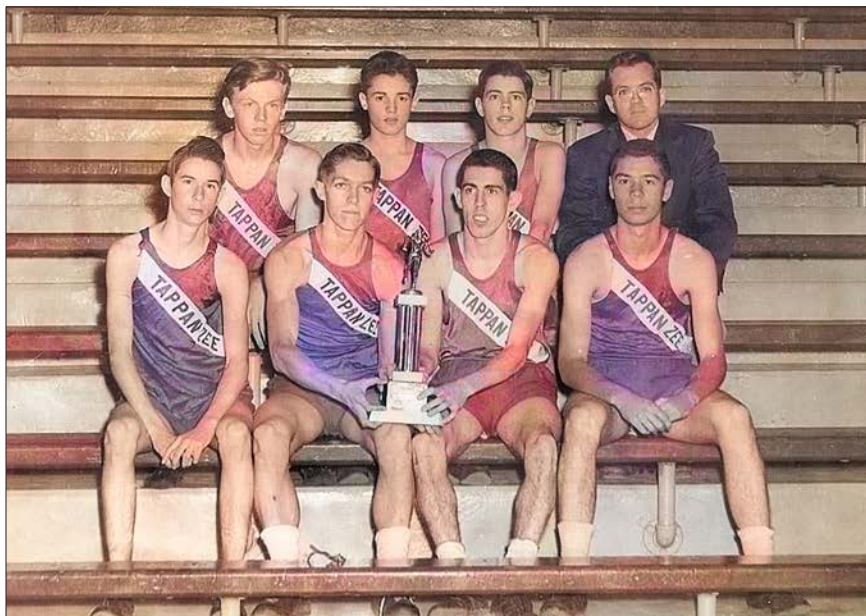
The team then returned to a welcome-home embrace.

“We were like the cream of the crop for that first month after it ended,” said Billy Way, an outfielder-third baseman. “We’re able to go anywhere and eat anywhere free. It was funny.”

The players sat and smiled in the back of convertibles during a parade in their honor, hearing the cheers on the trip along Collyer Avenue and Main Street.

“I don’t think any of us in a million years thought we were going to go that far,” Ramundo said. “Back then, it was all single elimination. Now, it’s mostly double elimination in each level that you move to.”

1954 TAPPAN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM *ROCKLAND'S FIRST NYS TEAM CHAMPION*



Top Row (L-R) Bill Clarke, Rich Hennessey, Dennis Martin, Hugh Short (coach)
Bottom Row (L-R) Harry McGillicudy, Hugh Sullivan, Gene Martin, Joe D'Innocenzo

DUTCHIE CROSS COUNTRY SQUAD IS STATE CHAMP

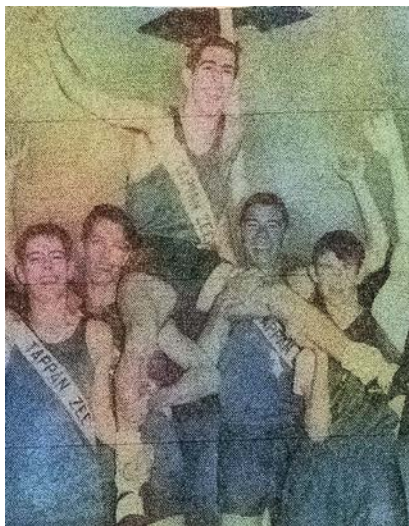
State Champs – that's what Hugh Short and his Tappan Zee cross-countrymen are this year. The Dutchie harriers, first squad of any sort in Tappan Zee to win a state crown, were led by their spindle-legged senior, Eugene Martin, who toured Schenectady's two-and-a-half-mile Central Park course in 12:14.5. This time was only three and a half seconds off that turned in by the winner of the "A" division, Artie Dunn of Sewanaka.

Martin's victory solidified his position as the eastern champ, the title he won at the Fordham meet in New York City. For his achievement at Schenectady, the Tappan youth won a fine looking individual trophy as did his TZ sidekick, Joe D'Innocenzo, who distinguished himself in the state meet by finishing in sixth position. D'Innocenzo, also a senior, took seventh in the eastern championship.

TZ's total was 92 points. This was 12 better than Garden City High's 104. For Hugh Short this was a nail-biting afternoon. Following Martin

and Dino across was Harry McGillicuddy in 17th position. However, Garden City runners had taken second, eighth, and 11th, thus TZ trailed 21-24, after the first three men of each school had finished. When Hughie Sullivan came rambling home 36th, the lead switched back to TZ again as Garden City's next man came in 31st. Now it was TZ 50, GC 52. The title now hung on the performance of TZ freshman Dennis Martin. The kid brother of the champ came in 42nd and this clinched the crown for the Dutchies as the fifth Garden City man finished 52nd to make the final score 92-104.

Three other Taps ran the course but their positions did not figure in the final scoring since only the first five men count. They were Clarke 69th, Hennessey 75th, and Quinlan 79th. Each Tap received a medal for winning the meet and the school received a huge trophy with a runner at the top. Piermont also won the Section 9 title but lost the County and PSAL crown when they used mostly second stringers.



MARTIN, VERY SPECIAL...

Eugene Martin is hoisted by teammates from Tappan Zee High after winning cross country run. Others, left-right, Dennis Martin, Hugh Sullivan, Joe D'Innocenzo and Hugh McGillicuddy.

- *Picture was taken at Eastern States Meet at Van Cortland Park.*
- *Team – 3rd Place – Field consisted of best 25 teams from Eastern States regardless of size.*
- **Gene Martin, 1st Place**
- **Joe D'Innocenzo, 7th Place**

Piermont's ace cross country harrier, Eugene Martin, came in for some praise on Saturday in the New York State championships which were held in Schenectady. A Long Island student kept the state title in Class A as he completed the course in 12:11 but Martin took top honors in the Class B division throughout the state as he covered the course in 12:14.5. The Piermont squad also copped individual team honors with a total of 92 points. Hugh Short has done a terrific job with the cross country and track squads at the Dutchie school the past couple of years as the results have proven.



Shown are members of the Tappan Zee High School's Cross Country Squad which copped the state title at Schenectady recently. Pictured are: Front Row: (L-R) R. Hennessey, H. McGillicuddy, H. Sullivan, W. Clarke, J. D'Innocenzo, E. Martin and D. Martin. Back Row: (L-R) P. Duggan, W. Smith, D. Horan, T. Tumulty, T. Hurban, R. Bone, R. Smith, and H. Short, Coach.

1954 BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Although Tappan Zee was the dominant Rockland cross county team of the 1950s, winning seven County meet titles from 1952-59, nobody would have predicted them to win a state championship. No team from Rockland had done anything on the state level since the State meet's inception in 1950 and, with only two emollment classes back then, TZ's small size would seem a liability against other much larger Class B schools.

The Dutchies had lost only one senior to graduation, No. 3 man Gene DeLoatch, so they knew they would be decent. But state champs? "We were kids in the little town of Piermont. We never had the thought we could be state champions," says Joe D'Innocenzo, the team's No. 2 man behind Gene Martin. "We were thinking we could win the Rockland County title, and that would be it."

But Coach Hugh Short had bigger plans for his harriers. He saw his team coming together

during practices at Tallman Mountain State Park in Sparkill, and felt his boys could compete with the best. "He would run with us sometimes in practice," D'Innocenzo says. "I still remember his voice. As we came out of the flat and turned to go up the hill, I remember him saying, 'Lean forward. Pump your arms. Shorten your stride. Drive up and over the hill.'"

Since teams at that time could compete in only one meet a week, and the County was the same week as the Eastern States championship, Short had to make a choice. He chose the Easterns, TZ had qualified by performing well earlier that season at the St. John's Invitational at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx, also the site of the Easterns.

Hugh Short's thinclads rewarded his decision handsomely. Led by Gene Martin's individual victory and D'Innocenzo's seventh place, the Dutchies took third in a field that encompassed the best teams, regardless of size, from the North-

1954 TAPPAN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

ROCKLAND'S FIRST NYS TEAM CHAMPION

east and Mid-Atlantic states. "The Easterns was big for us," D'Innocenzo says. "It was as meaningful for us as winning states."

After easily capturing the Section 9 crown, TZ set its sights on the state meet in Schenectady the following week. The Friday before the race, Short piled the varsity runners into his gray Plymouth station wagon for the four- to five-hour drive along Route 9W (in the pre-Thruway era). They stayed overnight at nearby Union College. No 5 a.m. Saturday morning departures for this well-prepared crew.

The team race developed into a close battle between TZ and Long Island power Garden City, a large Class B school. Martin climaxed his season with another individual title, covering the 2.2-mile course in Schenectady's Central Park in 12: 14, supported by D'Innocenzo's sixth-place effort in 12:37. They were followed



by seniors Harry McGillicuddy (17th) and Hugh Sullivan (26th). Through four scorers, TZ held a slim 50-52 edge. Freshman Dennis Martin, Gene's brother, cemented the triumph with his 42nd place as the fifth scorer, giving TZ a winning tally of 92 points to Garden City's 104.

The first state championship in Tappan Zee school history was truly a team effort. Other members of the victorious squad were senior Bill Clarke and junior Rieb Hennessey.



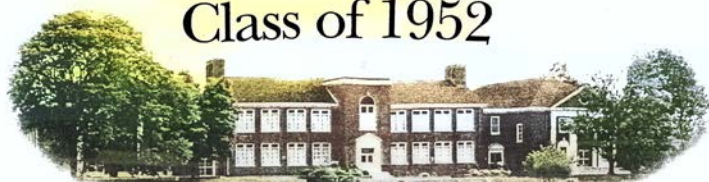
Gene Martin received an athletic scholarship to Manhattan College where he excelled in both cross country and track. Upon graduation he became a physical education teacher and a cross country and track coach for over 20 years mostly at Valley Central High School.

Joe D'Innocenzo continued his running career at Union College. Upon graduation he became a history teacher/guidance counselor at Clarkstown/Clarkstown North High School. He had a coaching career of over 50 years having coached cross country, track, golf and girl's basketball.

Both Gene and Joe's lives were highly influenced by their coach and mentor Hugh Short.

Nyack Junior – Senior High School

Class of 1952



**THE NYACK H.S. CLASS OF 1952
WISHES TO CONGRATULATE THE 2022 INDUCTEES TO
THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME.**

1991-1992 SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM

New York State Champions

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

*First Rockland Team to Advance to the
Little League World Series*

1954 TAPPAN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Rockland's First NYS Team Champion

Charles Alden*	Julia Fenton*	Freda Littleton*	Mildred Rippey
William Anderson*	Anthony Ferretti*	Lawrence Loftus*	Roselyn Roman*
Gordon Beck*	Geraldine Forte	Albert Logodice*	Kenneth Rossi
Jerome Bernstein*	Barbara Friedman	Gennady Lubinsky*	Anne Schofield*
Douglas Bohr*	Philip Friedman	Sheila McKenzie*	Henry Schriever
Adrienne Bomar	Helen Frohling*	Frank McCarty*	Joan Schuler*
Helen Bosco	John Gaetien	David McCormick	George Senne
Richard Bowers*	Angelo Gallo	John McCormick*	Divino Serratore*
Donna Brill*	Donald Gallo	Mary Jane McDermott*	Judith Shaver
J. Wesley Brill Jr.	Helen Geick	Grace McManus*	Patricia Shaw
Carl Brooks	Elizabeth Giacobbe*	Mary McNulty	Phyllis Shefsky
James Brown*	Robert Gilmore	Jane Meredith	Vassily Sivakov*
Johanna Brown	Michael Gnoutcheff*	George Merwin*	Linda Smith
Winifred Bruce*	Gerald Gross*	Stanley Metlitz*	Mary Smith*
Carole Capone*	James Gulezian	James Miele*	Virginia Smith*
Albert Fred Castaldo*	Carole Hecht*	Bruce Miller*	Patricia Spitzer*
Paula Cevasco	Louis Hellwig	Sally Ann Mock	Anabel Stanley
Gary Chaize*	Richard Hoehn*	Carolyn Morgan	Donald Starke*
Betty Ann Chapman	Sonia Homyak*	Marlene Morrisohn	Joy Stern*
David Cohen	Sara Housman*	Helen Mueller	Frances Stevens
Dorothy Collins	Arthur Hyman	Janice Muller*	Robert Stewart
Angeline Conace*	Jennifer Jewett*	Robert Myers	Margaret Stoochoff*
Michael Condello*	Barbara Johansson*	Benson O'Connor*	Lawrence Sucsy*
Carole Cooke	Helen Kefeli*	Michael O'Dowd	Robert Taylor
Irene Crean*	Robert Johnson*	Michael Pallassino*	Eleanore Theis
Frank Cuff Jr.	George Kelly*	Theresa Paone*	Agnes Trahan
Mary Jane Davis	Jaime King Jr.	John Park*	Phyllis Traverson
Anthony Dellolio*	Lawrence Klainer*	Barbara Partridge*	Barbara Travis
Roderick Delphos*	Sally Knight*	Harry Pearsall*	Jill Travis*
Jaqueline Del Pizzo	Patricia Komonchak	Lydia Penkrat*	June Van De Mark*
Adele De Vries	Robert Kopenhaver	Charles Petterman*	Barbara Vanderbilt
Mary Di Nardo	Ruth Kosel*	Lawrence Pia*	Edwin Van Zilen*
Donald Donnellan	Olga Koulomzine	Janice Polhemus	Geraldine Vice
Lois Du Pont*	Claire Kunik	Sandra Lee Portz	Frances Vodak
Raymond Faivre*	Glandon Laing	Louise Pounds*	Marilyn Ward
John Faragason	Kenneth Laird*	Robert Prindle*	Margaret Wilkinson*
John E. Faulkner Jr.*	Barbara Lester*	Harold Pringle*	Carol Williams
Ruth Feeney*	Patricia Lester*	Madelyn Probert	Edward William
Alan Felter*	Paul Lieval*	Irene Procopiow	Wood III
William Felter	Jennifer Linton*	Rudolph Ramcke*	Robert Ziegler*

**Deceased but still alive in our hearts.*



CLARKSTOWN NORTH



Congratulates The Rockland County Sports Hall Of Fame 2022 Team Inductees

SUFFERN HOCKEY TEAM

NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONS

1991-1992

NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

*FIRST ROCKLAND TEAM TO ADVANCE
TO THE WORLD SERIES*

1972

TAPPEN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

ROCKLAND'S FIRST NYS TEAM CHAMPION

1954



**Congratulations From The
Clarkstown North Athletic Department**

HAVERSTRAW TRANSIT

Buses for charter for all occasions

congratulates

1991-1992

SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM

New York State Champions

1972

NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

***First Rockland Team to Advance to the
Little League World Series***

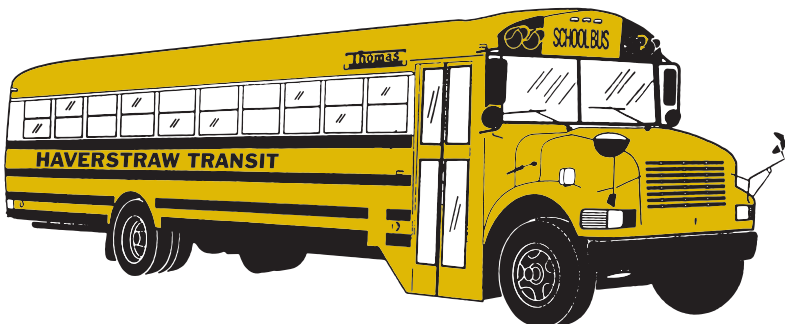
1954

TAPPAN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Rockland's First NYS Team Champion

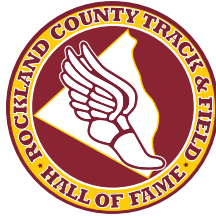
on their induction into

**THE 2022 ROCKLAND COUNTY
SPORTS HALL OF FAME**



Serving Rockland County since 1953

845 429-3407



Rockland County Track & Field Hall of Fame

Proudly Salutes

1954 Tappan Zee H.S. Cross Country – First NYS Team
Champion from Rockland County

1972 New City Little League All-Stars – First Rockland
Team to Advance to the Little League World Series

1991-92 Suffern H.S. Hockey – First Downstate Team to
Win the NYS Championship

On your induction into the
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame



Congratulations

**2022 ROCKLAND COUNTY
SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**

1991-92

SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM

New York State Champions

1972

NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

First Rockland Team to Advance to the
Little League World Series

1954

TAPPAN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Rockland's First NYS Team Championship

Love and Best Wishes,

Tom and Sandy Collins & Family

TAPPAN ZEE

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

CONGRATULATES

ROCKLAND COUNTY'S
1ST
STATE CHAMPION
IN ANY SPORT

TAPPAN ZEE '54
CROSS COUNTRY
TEAM

GO FLYING DUTCHMEN



TAPPAN ZEE
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Remembering Bob Veltidi



As a member of your Suffern High School Football Staff, I looked forward to the Motivational Speeches you presented Our Football Teams before each game. One pregame speech that stays with me to this very day was when you told Our Team,

“They pay me to Make Memories, not Coach Football.”

Little did I know that since 1978, I would continue to hold many fond memories of you and our interactions with the Suffern Football Team. I chuckle today when I remember a few experiences you provided when taking Our Football Team to Camp Colang alongside the Delaware River at the beginning of many Football Seasons.

- The Bear you chased away from the Cabins with your Mini Van horn blaring, lights flashing.
- Your alarmed gesture to me, as I waded in the Delaware River, indicating there was a 3' snake slithering inches behind me.
- Staff team building, the nickel/dime card games the coaches played late into the night.

Finally for many years Bob, you put a tremendous amount of time into advancing the
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame
and our committee will always be grateful for your extraordinary efforts.

Until we meet again.
Steve Dugandzic



NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE
1972
11/12 EASTERN REGION CHAMPS
50TH ANNIVERSARY

*New City Little League is
Proud to recognize and celebrate our
1972 Eastern Region Champions
Induction into the
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame*

A well-deserved honor for a rare & amazing achievement!

*The 2022 New City Little League Board of Directors
Michael Cohen, President*



*The
St. Thomas Aquinas College
Department of Athletics*



*Congratulates
The 2022 Rockland County
Sports Hall of Fame Team Inductees*

**1991-92
Suffern High School Hockey Team New York
State Champions**

**1972
New City Little League
First Rockland Team to Advance to the
Little League World Series**

**1954
Tappan Zee Cross Country Team
Rockland's First NYS Team Championship**



*20 Intercollegiate Sports Teams
5 Varsity Sports Teams
5 Club Sports Teams*

Making Success A Habit



Congratulations

to the

**Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame
2022 Inductees**

1991-92

**Suffern High School Hockey Team
New York State Champions**

1972

**New City Little League
First Rockland Team to Advance to the
Little League World Series**

1954

**Tappan Zee Cross Country Team
Rockland's First NYS Team Championship**

**Best Wishes,
Conklin Scholarship Fund Inc.**



845-598-1657 / rctouchingbases@aol.com
9 Park Lane, Nanuet, NY 10954-2519

As we celebrate
Our 20th season,
The men and women
of Touching Bases Baseball,
for adults with disabilities,
join in saluting teams
that did it best...

Class of 2022

Hall of Fame team honorees
1954 Tappan Zee Cross Country
1972 New City Little League All Stars
1991-92 Suffern Ice Hockey

BOB BAIRD, FOUNDER / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Congratulations to All 2022

Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Team Inductees

1954 Tappan Zee Cross Country Team

1972 New City Little League World Series Finalists

1991-92 Suffern High School Hockey Team

A Special Personal Congratulations to the

1991-92 Suffern High School Hockey Team

New York State Division 1 Champions



Head Coach: John Orlando

Assistant Coaches: Tom McCarren, John Rostawanik, Mitch Resnik, John Yurcick

Go Mounties

Steve & Gerry Dugandzic



I N S U R A N C E

Auto | Home | Business | Life | Bonds

Russell B. Grant, Principal

GSD Insurance Agency Inc.

57 Burd Street | Nyack, New York 10960

Phone: 845.735.5200 | Fax: 845.735.2905

Email: gsd@gsdia.com

Web: www.gsdinsurance.com

Congratulations 2022 Inductees



“Boys of Winter”

*Congrats on being the
FIRST Downstate Team
to ever be crowned
State Champs*

1991-92 SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM

New York State Champions

“Boys of Summer”

*Kudos on being ONLY
Rockland team to advance to
Williamsport*

1972 NEW CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

*First Rockland Team
to Advance to the
Little League World Series*

“Boys of Fall”

*on being the Initial Rockland
State Championship Team*

1954 TAPPAN ZEE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

*Rockland's First NYS
Team Championship*

GO PIRATES!

Tom & Katie
DOHERTY

CONGRATULATIONS



TO

COACH HUGH SHORT

AND TO THE

TAPPAN ZEE HIGH SCHOOL

1954 CROSS COUNTRY TEAM



GENE MARTIN

JOE D'INNOCENZO

DENNIS MARTIN

HARRY MCGILLICUDDY

HUGH SULLIVAN

BILL CLARKE

RICH HENNESSEY

**The first NYS Championship in Tappan Zee
school history was truly a team effort.
You guys ROCK!**

*With love
from your wife, Marilyn,
and your family*



ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME NIGHT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2022 – 5:00 PM

NEW YORK BOULDERS AT CLOVER STADIUM

New York Boulders vs. Trois Rivières Aigles

RCSHF will be Honoring

1991-92 Suffern High School Hockey Team – New York State Champions

1972 New City Little League – First Rockland Team to Advance to the Little League World Series

1954 Tappan Zee Cross Country Team – Rockland's First NYS Team Champion

RIGHT FIELD SHORT PORCH

\$50 – Includes ticket and buffet

A portion of the proceeds that go to RCSHF will be donated to the Suffern Mat Club which was founded in 2010 to promote youth and wrestling activities in the greater Suffern area. These proceeds will also honor the memory of **Bob “Robbie” Veltidi**, who passed away in 2021. Bob was an advocate and past director for the Suffern wrestling program, and a 2019 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame inductee as the Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award honoree. Bob also was a driving force on our RC Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors, for which he served as both screening committee chair for 15 years and master of ceremonies for 12 years. He exemplified true service to both sports and community. This is a fitting tribute to an outstanding individual and family man.

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE CALL 845-364-0009 OR www.NYBOULDERS.COM OR
<https://fevo.me/rocklandcountysportshalloffame>

*Congratulations to the
2022 Rockland County
Sports Hall of Fame Inductees*

1991-92 Suffern High School Hockey
Team New York State Champions

1972 New City Little League Finalists in
Little League World Series

1954 Tappan Zee Cross Country Team
Rockland's 1st NYS Team Champion



GEORGE HOEHMANN
SUPERVISOR

TOWN OF CLARKSTOWN
10 Maple Avenue
New City, New York 10956
845-639-2050
g.hoehmann@clarkstown.org



Rockland County YMCA

*Congratulates the 2022 Rockland County
Sports Hall of Fame Honorees*

1991-92 Suffern High School Hockey Team
New York State Champions

1972 New City Little League
First Rockland Team to Advance to the
Little League World Series

1954 Tappan Zee Cross Country Team
Rockland's First NYS Team Championship



**LEARN
GROW
THRIVE**



There's Something for Everyone at the Rockland County YMCA



After-School Programs • Birthday Parties • Dance Classes • Family Fun Nights
Fencing • Fitness Center & Exercise Classes • Gymnasium • Holiday Fun Clubs • Karate
Personal Training • Preschool Programs • Summer Programs/Camps • Swimming Pool & Lessons
Teen Programs • Youth & Government • Youth Sports Programs
United Way & YMCA North Rockland Community Partnership Program

- **Nyack Facility**, 35 S. Broadway, Nyack, NY 10960 (845) 358-0245
- **School Age Care Office**, 37 South Broadway, Nyack, NY 10960 (845) 727-1037
- **Suffern Preschool**, 18 Parkside Drive, Suffern, NY 10901 (845) 357-4404

www.rocklandymca.org

Nyack Facility 35 S. Broadway Nyack, NY 10960 (845) 358-0245



Spring Valley
3 Chestnut St.
845 356-1600

Congers
79 Lake Road
845 268-9248

Orangeburg
219 Route 303
845 359-4633

Haverstraw
59 Westside Ave.
845 942-1492

Visit our window, door and kitchen showrooms!



www.beckerlelumber.com

Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame presented a check to **BRIDGES** a local non-profit organization in Rockland County guided to its mission of advocacy and leadership towards the creation and development of an accessible and integrated community for people with disabilities.

Funds were raised our annual induction dinner in April from a raffle for **BRIDGES**.



Left to right - Carlos Martinez, CEO/Executive Director and RCSHF Members Pete Castellano, Treasurer, Pete Scheibner, Chairman and Bill Rubbert, Screening Committee Chairman

In Memory



BOB VELTIDI

2019 inductee Bob Veltidi, former director of RCSHF, screening committee chair, and induction master of ceremonies.



RICH CONKLIN

Rich Conklin, inducted in 2000 and again in 2018 as coach of the undefeated 1989 Nanuet High School football team, which was the inaugural team inductee into this Hall of Fame.

rest in peace

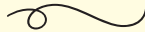


L I N C O L N

SCHULTZ FORD LINCOLN

Proudly Supports

Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame



Congratulations

to all
Honorees!

***Congratulations to the 1972 New City
Little League All Stars***



*24 rotating taps of craft beer, wine & spirits.
Premium selection of cans & bottles.*

Pub food. Beer garden with TV.

Join us for Trivia, Open Mic, Live Music!

Growler & Gill

148 East Rt. 59, Nanuet, NY

845-507-0899

www.growlerandgill.com