

2009 MHSIBCA Hall of Fame

Brian Bannasch, Coach, Rogers City High School

Brian Bannasch, conference coordinator for the Northern Michigan Bowling Conference since its formation in 1997, has served terms with the Michigan State YABA and MHSAA advisory committee as well as Vice President of MHSIBCA. He is currently the chairman of the youth committee for the Bowling Centers Association of Michigan. Brian guided Rogers City, the smallest school in the field, to the first state high school bowling championship in 1999. Since establishing the varsity bowling programs in Rogers City, the boys and girls teams have accumulated 12 conference titles, six regional titles, numerous appearances at the state finals, including a runner up finish for the boys in 2004, and a large number of individual participation at the state finals. Brian feels the greatest thrill in coaching is the experience given to each athlete. It is something they will remember for the rest of their lives. This is an honor that would not have been possible without the understanding and support of his wife of seventeen years Barb, along with their two daughters Tayler and Rebecca.

Paul Bentley, Coach, Hudsonville High School

Paul Bentley, Head Coach for Hudsonville Bowling, has guided the program for the last eleven years. Paul coached the boy's and girl's teams for eight years, and has been only the boy's coach for the last three. His teams have achieved 11 conference, nine district, and five regional championships. His boys team won the 2004 Class A state championship. Paul still conducts the Hudsonville Invitational, the first tournament of its kind in West Michigan. Paul served on the MHSIBCA rankings committee for three years, and the All-State committee for two years. He has managed the scoring at the state tournament for the MHSIBCA in years past. Several of his athletes won individual awards: All-Conference, All-Area, and All-State. He is excited to have seven members of his past teams continue their bowling careers with colleges throughout the United States. Paul is thankful for being selected to the Hall of Fame and gives much credit for the award to his father Pat Sr. for teaching him the sport of bowling. He also thanks his wife Kim, and children Brendan, Bret, and Bryanna for their support. He wishes to thank the Hudsonville athletic department, his assistant coaches, Hudsonville Lanes, parents, and athletes for their support from the beginning.

Robert Soloman, Coach, Utica Ford II High School

Robert Soloman began his coaching career as an assistant coach at Henry Ford II High School. He eventually assumed the position of Head Coach, relieving Harry Burkey (aka The Bowl Swami). During his tenure, Bob has had a bowler named Mr. Bowler of the Year, several bowlers named to the All-State team, two dream team members, a Boys' team regional championship and a Boys' team state runner-up. He has been a member of the Coaches Association since its inception. He was elected Southeast Michigan Regional Director and still retains that position. He is a member of the MHSIBCA All-State Committee, Scholarship Committee and Awards Committee, Co-Director of the Michigan Junior Varsity Championship, and Co-Director of the Macomb County Championship and a few other tournaments. An avid bowler himself, Bob wishes to thank his fine coaching staff and Noel, his wife of 36 years, and his sons Michael, Danny and Tony.

