



Greetings fellow officials!

This inaugural newsletter is the first of what will hopefully become a regular communication among the members of the NE Chapter 2 Association members. The intent behind the publication is to highlight many of the wonderful things we do throughout the volleyball season.

If you have suggestions, ideas, or would like to help with future issues please reach out to the Public Relations Committee to let them know!

## Cadet Training

### 29 Cadets Successful!

This past spring, 33 enthusiastic hopefuls began their journey into the world of high school volleyball officiating! This class was the first NE 2 cadet class to start their training in the spring, which offered them the opportunity to start their on court observations in the 2024 boys volleyball season. While there were a handful of cadets who had to pause their training for various reasons, 29 cadets passed the grueling closed-book NFHS exam!

## Welcome!

### Bergen County

Joseph Antonucci  
Leonard Bembyry  
Tom Clare  
Alisa Giordano  
Oscar Holder  
Jeremy Lebo  
Joe Marquis  
Anthony Rinaldi  
Rich Von Fischer

### Essex County

David Conlan  
Darnell Cudjoe  
James Davis  
Todd Larkin  
Richard Leftenant  
Daniel Simmons  
Ronnie Starr  
Eric White, Jr

### Passaic County

Bernardo Almonte  
Andre Castano  
Nasir Crawford  
Jose Lopez  
Kevin Novakoski  
Charlette Phipps

### Somerset County

Kevin Bobrowski

### Hudson County

James Perez

### Middlesex County

Parcco Goodwin

### Sussex County

Catherine Wille

### Hunterdon County

Teresa Staats

### Union County

Fred Burke

### MARCH 5, 2025:

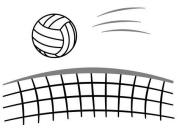
New cadet orientation meeting

### MARCH 17, 2025

Scrimmages start for the boys season

### MARCH 20, 2025:

Rules/Mechanics meeting via Zoom.



## LINE JUDGE CLINIC

31 OFFICIALS ATTEND STATEWIDE TRAINING!

Belleville High School hosted the very first statewide high school line judge clinic just days before the start of the NJSIAA state tournament. NE 2 member Paul Aiello spearheaded the effort to offer officials from all chapters across New Jersey some training in the mechanics of being a line judge. Paul covered positioning, signaling, communication, and proper protocols and then led the group in practicing the skills in simulated play with the help of several members of the Belleville boys volleyball squad. In addition to Paul, members Janet Elder and Misha Tsurulik were instrumental in providing their experiences and leadership throughout the evening.

NJSIAA state assigner Ken Reynolds praised Paul's efforts, adding that he would like to see more coordination among the many chapters across the state to collaborate more in the training of all volleyball officials.



## Donna Guilbert Award

The Donna Guilbert Award was established as an annual award by the executive council of the association in 2011 to recognize a member of the organization who demonstrates outstanding the qualities of high moral character, top quality officiating and be held in high esteem by their colleagues, the coaches and athletes.

The 2023-24 recipient is Mary Jean Hayek. Mary Jean has been officiating volleyball for over 40 years. When she first became a volleyball official, the game was very different. Over the years, Mary Jean has adapted to the changing environment of high school athletics and has risen to the top of the officiating ranks through dedication and hard work.

When Mary Jean is on a match, all involved know that overlaps, double contacts, and sportsmanship will all be on Mary Jean's radar. Mary Jean always has an eye on helping fellow officials improve their skills in addition to guiding student athletes in embodying good sportsmanship.

Prior to her involvement with volleyball, Mary Jean was an outstanding basketball player, as her 1984 induction into the Montclair State University Athletic Hall of Fame attests. Mary Jean also spent 38 years as a health and physical education teacher in the Hawthorne school district prior to her retirement in 2012



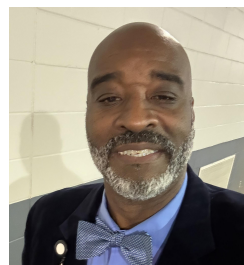
## Don Casamento Award

Service to the organization is the focus of the Don Casamento Award. Started in 2015, each year the executive board bestows its gratitude on one member of the association for efforts that go above and beyond expectations.

The 2023-24 selection is Shawn Harris, Sr. Shawn has been a part of the executive board for 7 years, starting as an at large representative and working his way up to being president of the association since May of 2023.

Shawn has spent time on the executive board working on efforts to improve match fees, the cadet training program, and the overall performance of volleyball officiating in Northern New Jersey

Typical of Shawn, when he was notified about receiving this award he said that the people around him are probably more deserving than he was. Part of what makes Shawn a good leader and excellent choice for this recognition is that his personality and mannerisms inspire others to want to help in whatever he is pursuing.



Off the court, Shawn has retired from the Orange police department after rising to the rank of captain. Currently he splits his time teaching criminal justice at Union County College and working security at MetLife Stadium. He also enjoys travelling and spending time with his family.

## NE 2 Officials Donate Services for Charity Event

The 2023 Skyland Conference Girls Volleyball Player of the Year Aileen Xue spent months in hospitals fighting for her life. After being in a one car accident and suffering horrific injuries, Xue's absence weighed heavily on the Hillsborough community, her teammates, and her coaches. It was difficult to live their day-to-day lives knowing that Xue was in the hospital trying to recover.

Hillsborough head coach Cheryl Iaione said. "We missed her dearly on the court these last few months." Iaione decided to take action to figure out how to help Xue. After a few months of planning and organizing, Iaione's efforts resulted in the Skylands All Star Game designed to raise money for the End Distracted Driving foundation on November 19. Perhaps the best part of all was Xue being able to attend in person. Everyone was thrilled to see her and smiles filled the gymnasium.

Mike Pariso, Steve Mandracia, Tom Weinman, and Jim McCue (left to right) donated their time and skills to make the event a greater success by officiating at no cost. Each of them embody the ideals we all strive for - honor, dignity, community, and professionalism. Congratulations for everything you did to help support such a noteworthy effort!

Through a combination of many avenues over \$2000 was raised, all of which will benefit End Distracted Driving (EndDD.org).





## Braggs for the 2024 Girls Season



This page is dedicated entirely to the top quality men and women of the Northeast Chapter 2 Volleyball Officials Association who have earned significant assignments in county, conference, and/or state tournaments.

**Congratulations to all!**

### NJSIAA State Tournament

#### Group Final Round

R1 - Jim McCue, Kevin Kane, William (Scott) Scragg, Landa Bates, Jacques Benoit

R2- Mary Jean Hayek, Jairo Mendez, Lou Milano

Line Judge - Todd Walker, Michael McGovern, Mel Downes, Bart Brown

#### Group Semi-Final Round

R1 - Tom Weinman, George de Luna, Ben Tanglao, Omar Minaya, Paul Aiello, Sarah Tanglao, William (Scott) Scragg,

R2 - Jack Phillips, Todd Walker, John Gojdycz, Anthony Sabia, Carl Phipps, Bart Brown, Jacques Benoit, Mel Downes

Line Judge - Gail Pizzo, Dwayne Jackson, Todd Walker, Michael Lillis, Joe Marquis, Rich Russo, Michael Vicchio, Steven Moskowitz, Donald McManus, Rich Vito, Scott Becker, Joe Bohem, Frank DePalo, Christopher Sariti, Bob Gambino, Frank Dawson, Mike Hale, James Tolomeo

### County/Conference Tournaments

#### Bergen County Final

Fran Forenza (R1)  
Jim Forenza (R2)  
Ted Magda (LJ)  
Chris Sariti (LJ)

#### Morris County Final

Aric Hall (R1)  
Kevin Kane (R2)  
James Collins (LJ)  
Lou Milano (LJ)

#### Union County Final

Jim McCue (R1)  
Mark Ma (R2)  
Mary Jean Hayek (LJ)  
Tom Weinman (LJ)

#### H/W/S County Final

Paola Morici Brown (R1)  
Mike Postorino (R2)  
Anthony Finn (LJ)  
James Collins (LJ)

#### Somerset County Final

Tom Weinman (R1)  
Phil Mogavero (R2)  
Pat Gavin (LJ)  
Len Adoff (LJ)

#### Essex County Final

Kevin Kane (R1)  
Misha Tsurulik (R2)  
Jody Washkewicz (LJ)  
Jairo Mendez (LJ)

#### Hudson County Final

Fran Forenza (R1)  
Jim Forenza (R2)  
Carlos Guzman (LJ)  
Bernardo Almonte (LJ)

#### Passaic County Final

Fran Forenza (R1)  
Jim Forenza (R2)  
Bob Gambino (LJ)  
MiAngelo Moore (LJ)

### Group Sectional Final Round

R1 - Jairo Mendez, Jim McCue, Bob Chen, Bill Newsome, MaryJean Hayek, Ben Tanglao, Misha Tsurulik, Lou Milano, Glen Mezzatesta, Anthony Sabia, Tom Weinman

R2 - Bart Brown, Stuart Turner, Gene Buerle, Steve Moskowitz, Carl Phipps, Bill I Young, Charles McGinley, Kevin Kane, Ernesto Martinez, Tim Gaul, Patrick Milano, Shawntell Manning, Reggie Pantophlet

Line Judge - Richard Von Fischer Jr. Donald McManus, Michael Boylan, Charlotte Phipps, Rich Russo, Joe Marquis, Frank DePalo, Donald Hard, Dwayne Jackson, Carlos Guzman, Bob Gambino, Steve Mandraccia, John Gojdycz, Richard Leftenant, Joe Bohem, Gail Pizzo, Eladio Villanueva, Christopher Sariti, Anthony Giordano, Lawrence Manning, Brain Quirk, Jim DeLamater, Todd Walker, Teresa Staats



## Digs & Kills – Tidbits from all around

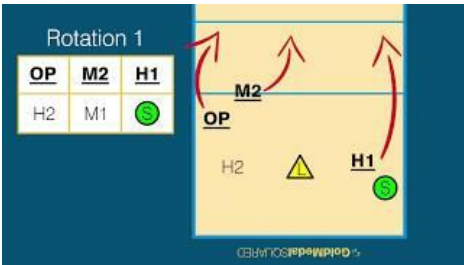
Northeast Chapter 2 Volleyball Officials Association is as good as the members can make it. The more people who are involved in the various activities of the association, the better. Please consider becoming a member of one or more of the following committees by contacting John Gojdycz for more information:

Committee	Chair	Committee	Chair
Attendance	Walt Rusak	Interpretation/Mechanics	Sharon Hughes
Auditing, Budget, and Insurance	Bob Csigi	Nominations and Elections	Howard Weshnak
Cadet Training/Examination	Peter Zubiaurre	Awards/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Constitution and By-Laws	Bob Auerbach	Welfare	John Gojdycz
Grievance and Ethics	Mike Agnello	Honorary Membership	

Detecting overlaps can be one of the most difficult skills to master

How much does spin matter? Watch the hands!

It's hard to not watch the ball as R2. Concentrate on the net and the center line!



Click on the boxes above to see the videos

### Assigner Contact Information

**Union County Conference**

[Kathi Savage](#) (908) 868-0021

**Skylands Conference**

[Walt Rusak](#) (908) 295-9709

**HCIAL (Hudson)**

[Fran Forenza](#) (201) 248-2582

**Big North (Bergen/Passaic)  
NJIC (Bergen)**

[Sharon Hughes](#) (201) 755-5617

**Super Essex  
NJAC (Morris/Sussex)**

[Tony Maldonado](#) (973) 445-2277

**NE Chapter 2 Officers**

**President** – Shawn Harris, Sr  
**Vice President** – Kevin Kane  
**Treasurer** – Bob Csigi  
**Corresponding Secretary** – John Gojdycz  
**Recording Secretary** – Jack Phillips  
**Ex Officio** – Jim Forenza

**NE Chapter 2 Executive Board**

Michael Agnello  
 Anthony Manderano  
 Kelly LaLlave  
 Tony Maldonado  
 Bob Ebersbach  
 Fran Forenza

**Appointed Positions**

**Cadet Supervisor** – Peter Zubiaurre  
**Attendance Chair** – Walt Rusak  
**Chapter Interpreter** – Sharon Hughes