

2017 Ohio Sports Legend Honoree



Coach Tom Ryan

Coach Tom Ryan is a celebrated Coach in the wrestling world. Some of his highlighted accomplishments include a National Championship Team and Big Ten Championship Team in 2015. He has coached six different athletes to ten national championships, along with coaching 16 NCAA finalists. Throughout his years as head coach at OSU, he has been named Coach of the year three times.

In addition to his outstanding coaching record and high athletic standard for his athletes, he holds a high standard for his athletes academically as well. Of the many athletes, six Buckeyes have been recognized by the National Wrestling Coaches Association with NWCA All-Academic Team accolades. And since Coach Ryan's arrival at OSU, there have been 48 and 96 Academic All-Big Ten and Ohio State Scholar-Athlete selections.

Coach Ryan also puts emphasis on community service. He encourages his athletes to get involved in the community. They are involved with the Second & Seven Foundation, which strives to "Tackle Illiteracy" in Central Ohio and the annual Wrestle against Autism Tournament. Along with these great organizations, Coach Ryan and some of his athletes have volunteered at various FCA events in Columbus to encourage young wrestlers to go for their highest potential in all areas of their lives.

On a personal note, Coach Ryan has made some great accomplishments and has been recognized throughout the years. Prior to coaching at OSU, he was the head coach at Hofstra from 1995-2006, where he earned the Eastern Collegiate Wrestling Association and Colonial Athletic Association Coach of the Year honors seven times as well as named New York State Coach of the Year two times.

Coach Ryan has shown such character on and off the mat, with support from his wife Lynette, and four children, Jordan, Jake, Teague and Mackenzie.