

# Assistant Boys Coach of the Year

## *Katie Lashbrook - Grayslake Central High School*

Katie Lashbrook has been coaching high school tennis for ten years, starting at Highland Park before moving to Grayslake Central. However, she has been a teaching professional for over 35 years in Crystal Lake, Highland Park, and Winnetka.

Katie has been at Grayslake Central since 2008. Here are some of her thoughts:

“I believe my job as f/s coach is to teach the guys how to work hard and be committed to the team. Often, it’s their first experience on a team and it’s important they understand everything that comes with that. I enjoy teaching them tennis and competing but I measure our success by how much fun we have!”

Katie is well-respected by her coaching peers. Here are some of their comments:

“During Katie’s 8 years at Grayslake Central, the tennis program has continued to improve. She is always willing to stay after her practice to help with the varsity practice. She is very involved during the summer and off-season to help our players get into programs and tournaments. She is an excellent tennis instructor, but more importantly, she teaches life lessons while her players have fun and develop a love for the game.”

*-Chuck Lawson, Grayslake Central*

“Her love for the game and her players is evident by the big smile she always has on her face. Katie holds herself up to a very high standard . . . always thinking about what’s best for her entire team and the integrity of the game.”

*-Denise Murphy, Lake Forest*

“One thing that always stood out to me was her ability to work with all levels of players. She was able to transition from working with young, inexperienced players to state level players who were going on to play in major college programs with an ease and effectiveness that was amazing to watch. She is genuine in her interactions with all. This builds a trust that allows her players to learn and grow on and off the court.”

*-Kerry Lucke, Highland Park*

Congratulations, Katie, on your 2014 IHSTCA Assistant Girls Coach of the Year award!