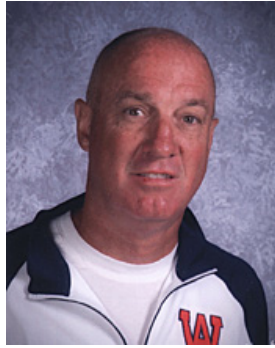


# Hall of Fame Inductee

## *Brian Brooks - Aurora West High School*



Few coaches will ever win a state championship or coach a state champion during their tenures; however, Brian Brooks from West Aurora has done both - more than once. Brian coached the boys (17 years) and the girls (15 years) from 1979 to 2012, compiling 415 victories, 16 conference titles, 24 IHSA Sectional plaques, 16 top ten finishes at the state meet, and two coveted IHSA State Championship trophies. Obviously, Brian is in elite company!

Brian's state champions have included Stephanie and Natalie Matko, Paul Pridmore, and Jim Panagopoulos. Brian also saw his own daughters, Megan, Courtney, and Shannon, excel in his program. His beliefs are modest:

“Develop your strokes, be mentally strong, and outwork your opponents.”

Simple! Brian gained this modest approach playing for Jack Sharp in Aurora, and he attributes much of his success through the years to Jack. He also credits his wife Mary Kay with playing a significant role over the last 33 years and says he couldn't have done it without her.

Brian's simple philosophy comes from hours of coaching at the Fox Valley Park District, the Aurora Country Club, and the NITA girls 18 and under teams. He also spent 10 years on the basketball sidelines, honing his “under pressure” skills. Currently, Brian is the assistant tennis coach for the women's program at NIU and teaches at the Vaughan Athletic Center.

Brian's career in high school tennis in Illinois has been phenomenal. His commitment on the court and his record of consistent and repeated successes are testament to his perseverance in giving the best to his players and his program over a long period of time.

The IHSTCA would like to welcome Brian Brooks to the IHSTCA Hall of Fame! Congratulations!