

Coach and Owner - GymNasti Gymnastics





HALL OF FAME

Inducted 2023

For over 40 years Ron has dedicated his life to the USA Gymnastics Community. He started as a club gymnast at the age of 11 and competed through High School and College. He was the first gymnast in Illinois history to average a score of over 9.0 in the all-around for six events. He was Junior National Champion on pommel horse and the Senior All-Around Champion at York High School. He earned a full athletic scholarship to the University of Iowa and became a two time NCAA All-American on floor exercise. He was also a three-time member of the USA National Men's Team. While on the Nation Team he competed in Brazil, Argentina, Bulgaria and Japan.

In 1996 Ron and his wife, Laurie, opened GymNasti Gymnastics in Carol Stream, Illinois. As Head Coach he has consistently produced State, Regional and National Qualifiers each year and has had several athletes receive athletic scholarships. He currently has one Junior Elite athlete, Eliana Lazzari and one Developmental Athlete, Clancy Conley.

Ron has held several Illinois State Board positions including JO Chairman and is the current Elite Chairman.

As a coach he is completely dedicated to the success of each child that he coaches. He prides himself on having a strong program from Level 3 through the elite level giving each girl the feeling of success no matter what level of gymnastics they are currently in. He is loved and respected by all who have the benefit of being coached by him. A true testament to his character as a person, coach, chairman, business owner and father.

Ron has had countless accomplishments both as an athlete and a coach, but one of his biggest accomplishments has been his dedication, love and passion to help the kids of St. Jude. The St. Jude Benefit Meet has run in Illinois for the past 33 years and GymNasti has attended every year. In 2010 the founding Illinois Club could no longer host this meet. Ron could not let this event disappear and immediately stepped in to host and direct this incredible event. In the 13 years he has hosted and directed the St. Jude Benefit Meet he has raised over \$200,000 for the kids of the St. Jude Hospital. With his love and dedication to this event he has grown this meet into the largest St. Jude Benefit Meet in history with three gyms and over 1800 athletes.

Ron is the truest example of all things good in gymnastics.