

NC Soccer HOF



ANNOUNCEMENT

Five Trailblazers of North Carolina Soccer Earn Hall of Fame Induction

Greensboro, North Carolina – The North Carolina Soccer Hall of Fame proudly announces the induction of five remarkable individuals whose dedication, vision, and leadership have significantly contributed to the growth of the game across the state. From building grassroots programs and guiding championship teams to advancing opportunities for women and high school players, these honorees represent the very best of North Carolina’s soccer legacy. The 2025 class includes Jane Llewellyn, Kip Ward (deceased) & Vicky (Ward) Brawley, Mike Schaeffer, Rich Winslow, and David Miller.

This year’s induction ceremony carries even greater significance as it coincides with the 50th Anniversary of the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association (NCYSA). For five decades, NCYSA has been at the heart of the game, nurturing players, coaches, referees, and administrators while fostering a lifelong love of soccer across the state. Honoring this year’s Hall of Fame class alongside NCYSA’s milestone anniversary makes the 2025 ceremony a once-in-a-generation celebration of both history and achievement.

Jane Llewellyn has been a cornerstone for multiple youth soccer organizations in North Carolina for nearly 40 years. As the state registrar since 2005, she has trained hundreds of registrars, processed more than 2,000 international clearances, and worked at the regional and national levels, serving as chair of the South Region USYS Championships and a member of the National Championship Committee. Her numerous honors, including the USYS Evelyn Gill Leadership Award, reflect her tireless commitment to ensuring every child has the opportunity to step onto the field and play.

Kip Ward (deceased) & Vicky (Ward) Brawley co-founded Rainbow Soccer in Chapel Hill in 1972, creating one of North Carolina's most enduring soccer institutions. With Kip's charisma and Vicky's organization, Rainbow emphasized joy, play, and inclusivity over competition, producing generations of players, coaches, and lifelong fans. Their vision transformed the state's soccer culture and inspired programs that continue to thrive today. Kip receives this honor posthumously.

Mike Schaeffer has left his mark as a standout player, coach, and leader. A collegiate star at Washington & Lee University and champion with Press Box SC, he went on to lead for nearly three decades as head coach at UNC Pembroke, where he earned four Coach of the Year honors and led his team to the 2004 NCAA Division II Final Four. His service on NCAA committees and mentorship at camps further highlight his influence as both a teacher of the game and a developer of character.

Rich Winslow has been a driving force in advancing girls' and women's soccer for over 30 years. Coaching numerous Greensboro Twisters teams to state and regional success, including two USYSA Final Four appearances, and leading the Carolina Dynamo Women in the W-League, he has impacted the development of more than 100 young women who went on to play and lead at higher levels. His governance roles with NCYSA and GYSA, along with awards such as NCYSA Girls Classic Coach of the Year, showcase his legacy as both a coach and advocate.

David Miller has contributed to North Carolina soccer as a player, Marine, record-setting high school coach, and national advocate. A star at Catawba College, he continued playing during military service before building Jacksonville High School into one of the state's premier programs, amassing 810 wins, two state titles, and a national Top-2 ranking in 2012. A three-time NCSCA State Coach of the Year, a Field of Honor inductee, and a longtime board member, he has also coached at the club level, led the NC State Games staff, and served in adult soccer leadership, leaving a lasting impact on thousands of athletes and coaches.

2025 National Champions Hall of Honor – '02 CASL Academy Juniors

The '02 CASL Academy Juniors, led by head coach Mark Jonas, will be recognized in this year's Champions Hall of Honor. This talented squad claimed the 2016 USYS U13 Boys National Championship in Frisco, Texas, with a dramatic 2-1 victory over Strikers FC Chingirian (Southern California). CASL advanced to the finals by defeating Lonestar SC of Texas-South, 2-0, in the USYS Region III Championship. In the title match — a rematch of an earlier 2-0 loss — Jason Smith opened scoring with a header before Adam Armour netted the game-winner. At the same time, goalkeeper Trace Alphin delivered key saves to secure the championship.

