2009 USOC Coach of the Year Profiles

Heidi (DeLio) Thibert - "Doc" Counsilman Science Award

The "Doc" Counsilman Science Award is for a coach who utilizes scientific techniques and equipment as an integral part of his or her coaching methods, or has created innovative ways to use sport science.

Since 1987, Heidi Thibert has coached at the Edora Pool and Ice Center in Fort Collins, CO. She is a U.S. Figure Skating Triple Gold Test Medalist, a PSA Master Rated Coach, and holds a Level IV Ranking. She has coached medalists at the U.S. National and Junior National Championships in singles and pairs.

Heidi serves as the current PSA Sports Science Committee Chair and is on the PSA National Education Committee. She has served on the Board of Directors of U.S. Figure Skating and on the PSA Board of Governors. Currently serving on the Ethics, Coaches, Parents, Competitions, Sport Sciences and Medicine Committees of U.S. Figure Skating, she was the 2009 recipient of the Pieter Kollen Sport Science Award from PSA and U.S. Figure Skating. She is married to Paul, they have two children, Lance (22) and Katrina (19).

John Wingfield – Developmental Coach of the Year

The Developmental Coach of the Year coaches at the youth club, high school, or junior level, or is directly responsible for coaching athletes to the junior and/or elite level. Coaches must be actively coaching or within one year of retirement to be eligible for this award.

John Wingfield, the head coach of the 2008 U.S. Olympic diving team, is the director and head coach of USA Diving's National Training Center in Indianapolis, IN.

He was named the USOC Coach of the Year for diving in 2006, 2007, and 2008. Wingfield has bachelor's degrees in management information systems and health & physical education, and a master's degree in sport science from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He spent 10 years coaching and teaching at Ball State University before moving to Indianapolis in 1998 to begin working with USA Diving.
The National Coach of the Year is a coach of an Elite Level Club, Collegiate, Pan-Am, World Championships or Olympic Games team, or the coach of an elite athlete who competes at the highest level of their sport. Coaches must be actively coaching or within one year of retirement to be eligible for this award.

Having accumulated the best winning percentage of any U.S. coach all-time, Bradley has marshaled the soccer team to other significant milestones. In perhaps the most successful year in team history, 2009, he led the team to a first-place finish in the final round of qualifying for the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

Bradley joined the U.S. National Team programs after nine seasons as a head coach in Major League Soccer, having accumulated the most victories of any coach in league history at the time he joined U.S. Soccer. The first two-time Coach of the Year winner in MLS history and first to record 100 wins, Bradley brought his teams to the playoffs in each of his first nine seasons as a head coach. Additionally, he was the first coach to lead an expansion team to a league championship title in their debut season when the Chicago Fire claimed MLS Cup in 1998. That same year, Bradley guided the Fire to their first U.S. Open Cup crown while earning the first of his Coach of the Year titles. Bradley won his second U.S. Open Cup title with Chicago in 2000.

The Paralympic Coach of the Year is a coach of an elite level club, college, Pan-Am, World Championship or Olympic Games, or the coach of an elite athlete who competes at the highest level of their sport. The award winner must currently be coaching or within one year of retirement.

Moore was introduced to judo in 1988 at the University of Southwestern Louisiana. In 1995, he won the first of three medals at the World Championships for the Blind. Moore qualified for his first Paralympic Team in 1996 where he won a bronze medal. In 2000, Moore won a gold medal at the Paralympic Games, becoming the first US Judo athlete ever to win a title at either the Olympic or Paralympic Games. A bronze medalist at the 2004 Paralympic Games, Moore has since retired to focus on coaching and was named an assistant coach for the 2008 Paralympic Games. In 2009, Moore was named head coach of the Pan American Games for the Blind team where he led the squad to 17 medals. Since 1998, Moore has also been the head coach of the Denver Judo program where he coaches both sighted athletes as well as 11 visually impaired players. Moore is married to wife Heidi who also was an elite judo player who competed on two world teams for sighted athletes.
Brian McCutcheon – Volunteer Coach of the Year

The Volunteer Coach of the Year is a coach who does not receive payment in any form for their involvement in coaching at any level. The award winner must be actively coaching or within one year of retirement.

Numerous athletes coached by Brian McCutcheon have landed on Junior National and U-24 National taekwondo teams and won medals. In 2009, the athletes he coached had a record of 104 wins and 28 losses, and they included a U.S. National Champion, U.S. Senior and Junior National Champions and medalists, U.S. Junior National Champions and medalists, and U.S. Open Senior and Junior medalists. McCutcheon has guided a Junior Olympic team each year since 1995, taken a team to Senior Nationals each year since 1994, and has coached a team at Senior Nationals each year since 2002. He also served as the head coach of the Marshall Islands team at the 2008 Olympic Games. McCutcheon, a master instructor at the Ohau Takewondo Center, regularly takes athletes to tournaments on the mainland and in other countries to provide them with experience, in addition to hosting two or three local tournaments each year in Hawaii.

USOC Coach of the Year Program

The USOC recognizes outstanding NGB coaches annually through the Coach of the Year Program. Each NGB is eligible to nominate one coach in each of the following categories: Developmental Coach of the Year, Doc Counsilman Science Award, National Coach of the Year, Paralympic Coach of the Year, Volunteer Coach of the Year.

Every nominee is recognized by the USOC and is eligible for the national award in each category. National award winners are recognized at the Coach of the Year Awards Program held in conjunction with the National Coaches Conference and the National Coaching Educators' Conference in June.

Coach of the Year nominations are collected in the fall annually. National winners are announced in the spring.