



Anthony “Tony” Urban Award

For meritorious service to an “unsung hero” who embodies the ideals of the NHIAA in service to the NH student athletes and in support of the best opportunities for the student athlete to compete under and within.

In memory of Anthony “Tony” Urban and all that he was.

I. Purpose of the Award:

The purpose of the Anthony “Tony” Urban Award is to honor and recognize outstanding individual(s) or organization(s) who have had a significant and lasting impact on the lives of New Hampshire’s youth through their involvement in high school athletic programs as an (administrator, athletic director, coach, booster, sports writer, broadcaster, school board member, team physician, contributor, etc.) in or from the community, or from outside of the direct field of education to recognize those who have been fully in support of the mission and goals of the NHIAA in promoting the superior conditions to encourage competition allowing for fair conduct of the student athlete continuum statewide.

II. Nomination Process:

a. Contributions to Interscholastic Athletics

Contributions to Activities (list contributions as a leader, speaker, writer, innovator, officiating, or elected/appointed officer or committee member relative to high school activities). What contribution has the nominee made that has had a significant impact on the New Hampshire Interscholastic Association and its programs?

b. Enclose a personal statement explaining why you feel the nominee is considered an “**unsung hero**” in furthering the positive outcomes for the NH student athlete in partnership with the NHIAA, to include efforts from “behind” the scenes. Please feel free to include, not required, examples of work which further this objective (examples: newspaper articles, yearbook dedications, or similar media).

III. Administration Process:

- a. Nominations are due by April 15th. All applications will remain in an active file for a three-year period.
- b. The NHIAA Awards Committee will select one or more individual(s) or organizations(s) who exemplify the characteristics “unsung hero” with the support of the NHIAA Council annually.
- c. The nominee will be contacted upon their acceptance for the award.
- d. The award will be presented to the nominee during the NHIAA Annual Meeting.
- e. An Honor Roll Plaque will be kept at the NHIAA office of past recipients.

Background on who “Tony Urban” was and what this award represents:

Tony was employed as a teacher, varsity basketball coach, Athletic Director, and Assistant Principal at Gorham Junior/Senior High School through 1967. From 1963-1966 he served as an assistant football coach at Berlin High School, which won their only State Football Championship during that time. From 1968-1994 he served as the Berlin Junior/Senior High School Assistant Principal and Principal. He helped design and construct the “new” Berlin Senior High School which still stands today as an outstanding facility. He then served as the Principal of the Berlin Junior High School and Berlin Middle School. He served on the New England wide school accreditation committees throughout his career. Tony served on many NHIAA Committees including 36 years as the Ice Hockey Committee Chairman. He was instrumental in moving the high school hockey tournament from that “big ice” at UNH to the Verizon (now SNHU) arena, expanding NHIAA Ice Hockey to include the girls’ statewide program and overseeing the move to the three division system now in place for boys. He helped establish the NH Ice Hockey Hall of Fame. He was a member of the National High School Federation Ice Hockey Rules Committee from 1977-1988. The 1977 group authored the first High School Ice Hockey Rules Book in the United States for consolidated utilization nationally. He was President of the NHIAA 1975-1976 and a member of the National Association of Secondary Principals from 1957 to the present. Tony was a member of the IAABO (Basketball Officials) since 1963 and served as President 1977-1978. He was a member of the NH Baseball Umpires Association since 1961 and served as President 1979-1981. He was a member of the NH Women’s Basketball Officials Organization 1984-2005 and served as President 1984-1985. Among awards Tony received over the years were: the NHIAA Service Award in 1992, the John Clark Memorial Award (NH Officials Hall of Fame); the Larry Kleiner Award (NH Umpires Association), NHIAA Hall of Fame Award (2008), and the Joseph Vaughn Leadership and Volunteer Service Award for Coos County. He was an associate member of the Collegiate Basketball Officials Association. When Berlin, his hometown, became economically depressed when the paper mills closed, he worked to raise funds and redesign and refurbish the baseball fields and built the first “regulation” track for City but especially for the student athletes. He did all these activities without seeking credit or fanfare. He preferred to work behind the scenes to affect positive change.

Tony served in several public service capacities statewide and locally. These included: the State of New Hampshire Personnel Appeals Board; the Berlin Water Works Commission, the NH Pari-Mutual Commission; the NH Racing and Gaming Commission, the NH Governor’s Blue Ribbon Commission on Gambling (1982); the NH Hockey Hall of Fame Committee, the NH Police Memorial Committee, the Berlin Police Commission (including as Chairman), Chairman of the Berlin Track Facilities renovations committee, Chairmen of the most recent Berlin Schools Facilities Study Committee, Coos County Service link board, and the Berlin Biomass project which resulted in successfully injecting jobs through renewable energy into the North Country. He was happy to move things forward without fanfare. He was a member of the Elks Club, the Eagles Club (chairman of the Scholarship Committee for more than a decade), and a lifetime member of the 100 Club of New Hampshire in support of the widows of fallen First Responders. He worked with many local, State, and National politicians over the years to be sure that North Country was not forgotten. He was often the “go-to” person for campaign counsel in the North Country, especially. His greatest gift to share was guiding and mentoring many, especially youth seeking advice on education, athletics, and career choices. It was said he made a difference in many, many lives. Doing it all “behind the scenes” was his greatest satisfaction.



Nomination Form for

Anthony "Tony" Urban Award

In memory of Anthony "Tony" Urban and all that he was.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to submit this form, you must save it to your computer prior to filling out the fields.

Nomination Form (see application process and administrative criteria)

Nominee Information:

(First, Middle, Last): _____

(Address, City, State, Zip): _____

(Phone): _____ (Date of Birth) – if known: _____

(State Affiliation, if any): _____ (City, State): _____

(Email Address, if any): _____

If Deceased – Date: _____

Name of Spouse or closest living relative: _____

(Address, City, State): _____

(Phone): _____

Nominators Personal Statement to support nominee:

(If additional space is needed for Personal Statement, please use next page)

Nominator Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Date: _____

Return Completed Form by April 15th to:

NHIAA Awards Committee

251 Clinton Street, Concord, NH, 03301

Or via email to info@nhiaa.org

Nominators Personal Statement to support nominee (Continued):