NORTHERN KENTUCKY SWIM LEAGUE

WALL OF FAME

John Brucato

NKSL Club Affiliations:

Swimmer: Bluegrass, 1974 - 1979

Coach: Bluegrass, 1980 - 1983

John began his ten year NKSL career as a swimmer for Bluegrass Swim Club. He began his illustrious coaching career in 1978 serving as an assistant coach at Wade YMCA and then the Kenton County Clippers. In 1985 he was hired as an assistant coach and then Head Age Group Coach at Nashville Aquatic Club, a position he held until 1990. During each of these stops these teams consistently improved and reached milestones for developing national level athletes, national record holders, and national champions. In 1990 John moved back to Kentucky when he was hired as the Head Coach of Wildcat Aquatics. During his 16 year tenure there the team produced 6 Junior National Champions, 2 National Champions, and members of the 1992 and 2008 US Olympic teams. His time at Wildcat Aquatics overlapped with his transition to the college ranks when he joined the coaching staff at the University of Kentucky in 2000. While on that staff UL produced 30 All-Americans, numerous All-SEC team members and some of the highest team finished at the NCAA Championships in school history. In 2012 John undertook his latest challenge when he was hired as the first Head Swim Coach at Bellarmine University. In just a few years the team has grown in size and produced Academic All Americans and conference finalists. It is for his contributions to the NKSL and the sport of swimming overall that we are proud to induct him into the Northern Kentucky Swim League Wall-of-Fame.

*I am honored and humbled to be a small part of the NKSL tradition of swimming and diving excellence. Most important to me is the dedication of all the families; too numerous to name, both past and present which make the Northern Kentucky Swim League one of the premier sports institutions in Kentucky. We are all better people for our involvement in such a wonderful organization.* – John Brucato