

# The North Carolina Coaches Association

## NC Coach

Volume 27 Issue 3

Fall 2022

News and information for North Carolina  
high school and middle school coaches.

Welcome to the digital  
NC Coach newsletter!

If you'd like to see archived issues of NC  
Coach, please go to the NCCA website:

[nccoach.org](http://nccoach.org)



### NC COACH

*An official publication of the  
North Carolina Coaches Association*

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### IMPORTANT DATES

Sport	Nominations Deadline	Selection Meeting
Football	Dec. 31	Feb. 4 at 1:00 pm
Basketball		
East-West	March 10	April 1 at 10:30 am
NC/SC	Dec. 31	Jan. 7 at 10:30 am
Men's Soccer	Dec. 1	Jan. 7 at 9:00 am
Women's Soccer	March 10	April 1 at 9:00 am

*We look forward to seeing you in Greensboro!*

East-West All-Star Games & Coaching Clinic  
**JULY 17-19, 2023**

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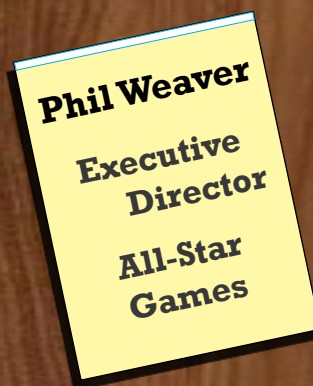
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# From the GAMES Desk...



pweaver@ncccoach.org

**You should know that the East-West All-Star Football Game for the class of 2024 will be played in December of 2023.** Our football coaches have been asking for this change for decades and the time has come.

Basketball, wrestling, and swimming coaches will not like this, and coaches of those sports who are members of the Board of Directors made that very clear. Though I coached football, I spent most of my coaching years as a basketball coach and remember how unhappy I was to lose kids to the Shrine Game.

So, why now? Most states, even Texas, have done away with their all-star football games and we need to do whatever is reasonable to save ours. The last few years the player dropout rate has increased as we got closer to the game. We think the Division III and maybe a few Division II players we get were getting late offers and enrolling early in colleges at the next level. The increased use of the transfer portal and the lack of kids following through on enrolling at the school they committed to seem to be the prime causes. So, not only were we not now getting the best players, we couldn't count on those players to follow through on their commitment to play. The positives of moving the date outweigh the negatives.

We think we'll bring in the players on Tuesday at the earliest and allow kids who have a home high school game or match on Tuesday to report to us on Wednesday morning. There are negatives of keeping kids out of school, the aforementioned winter sports issue, and the possibility of playing on Sunday may disappoint those who attend from a long distance and may have to miss a church service.

The positives are far more numerous. Better players in better football condition are an obvious advantage. It will still be football season since we'll probably play the week after the state championships. The biggest advantage is that we may be able to help a marginal player get recruited by more schools.

We have sites and personnel confirmed. We can probably use some volunteer help from retirees but can get by with those we know of already.

If you wish to share input, here are some questions you may want to answer and comment on by emailing me at [pweaver@ncccoach.org](mailto:pweaver@ncccoach.org).





You may also submit this via online form:  
<https://forms.gle/mDDHrWw77qCYm39t9>

- The weekend after the state finals seems to be the best date. **Agree/Disagree**
- If we play the same weekend as the Shrine; so be it. **Agree/Disagree**
- The sentiment so far is to play on Sunday afternoon. Coaches with a Shrine player and an East-West player could then see both games. We'd save a day of conflict for school facilities where we practice. A Saturday night banquet would be easier on parents. We'd have a religious service in the morning for the participants. **Agree/Disagree**
- When should game coaches be selected?  
**July (as now)/Spring**
- When should players be selected?  
**The previous spring/In early July/In October**

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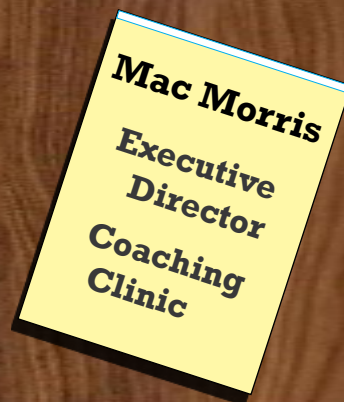
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# From the CLINIC Desk...



mmorris@nccoach.org

Mac Morris  
Executive Director, Coaching Clinic

**The original purpose of the NC Coaches Association Clinic was to open areas of information to our coaches that would help make them better coaches therefore making high school athletics better in our state.** This is still our stated goal, but it appears that somewhere along the way, we have failed to communicate the importance of this message to our members. Are our members today no longer interested in becoming better coaches or is our clinic format no longer the best way for our members to get coaching information?

I wish I knew the answer to this question. I would guess that 35-40 percent of our members come in and get their pictures made and never go to a single session. With the rules sessions not being offered at the Clinic this past summer, we had a large number who just didn't attend at all. In most cases the schools paid for them to attend and they just didn't come. I know that circumstances forced us to move the Clinic a week earlier than our normal dates, but we advertised this a year ahead. We lost some of this group due to vacation plans that couldn't be changed but we made arrangements for them to continue membership through the appeals process.

See ***"Clinic Desk"*** on page 6



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## Clinic Desk

*continued from page 5*

We work each year to get the best possible clinic staff and this past summer's group met those standards. We tried with some new topics such as motivation and mental coaching. Neither was very well attended. The Clinic has always worked well with the Trade Show that accompanies it each year. These exhibitors have complained in previous years that they didn't get much traffic at their booths. Not having a Trade Show one year hurt us but the number of exhibitors that came this past summer was smaller than usual. The Show has been a financial asset to the Clinic in years past but didn't meet expectations this summer.

The question that I propose to you is what can we do to make things better for you? Do we need to add other topics of discussion such as mental health, nutrition, handling today's parents? When the All-Star Football Game is moved to December, we should be able to get a college staff to come in to speak. Do we go back to a four day clinic to include more football sessions? Are there other sports that need to be included to improve attendance? Should we consider adding cheerleading sessions? If you have any suggestions to make things better, please send them to me at [mmorris@nccoach.org](mailto:mmorris@nccoach.org).

## IN MEMORIAM

*Stan Elrod*  
*RJ Reynolds*

*Steve Hinkle*  
*Ledford*

*Elvin James*  
*Goldsboro*

*Perry Pearson*  
*East Forsyth*



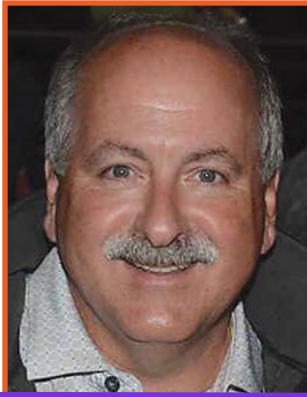
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Joe Franks  
Executive Secretary  
[jfranks@nccoach.org](mailto:jfranks@nccoach.org)

## DON'T READ THIS

**Ok so now that you ARE reading this, it is amazing how many things we put in the registration packets (on a bright yellow sheet), on the website and in our social media posts that really are important explanations and are obviously not read.**

We tried to make a point that the 2022 Clinic was returning to being fully onsite with registration pick up and all member and associate cards being done at the Coliseum. You wouldn't believe, or maybe you would, how many calls and emails asking when cards would be mailed out. Obviously in 2020, to do any type of clinic it would have to be online and we made cards in the office and our AD's handed them out to members and associates. In 2021, we held the clinic sessions at the Coliseum as usual, but with lingering concerns related to COVID and crowds, we made all preregistered cards in the office and relied on our AD's again to distribute, but did all new registrations and made those cards onsite. The 2023 Clinic – July 17-19 – will be onsite and we hope to have a great one.

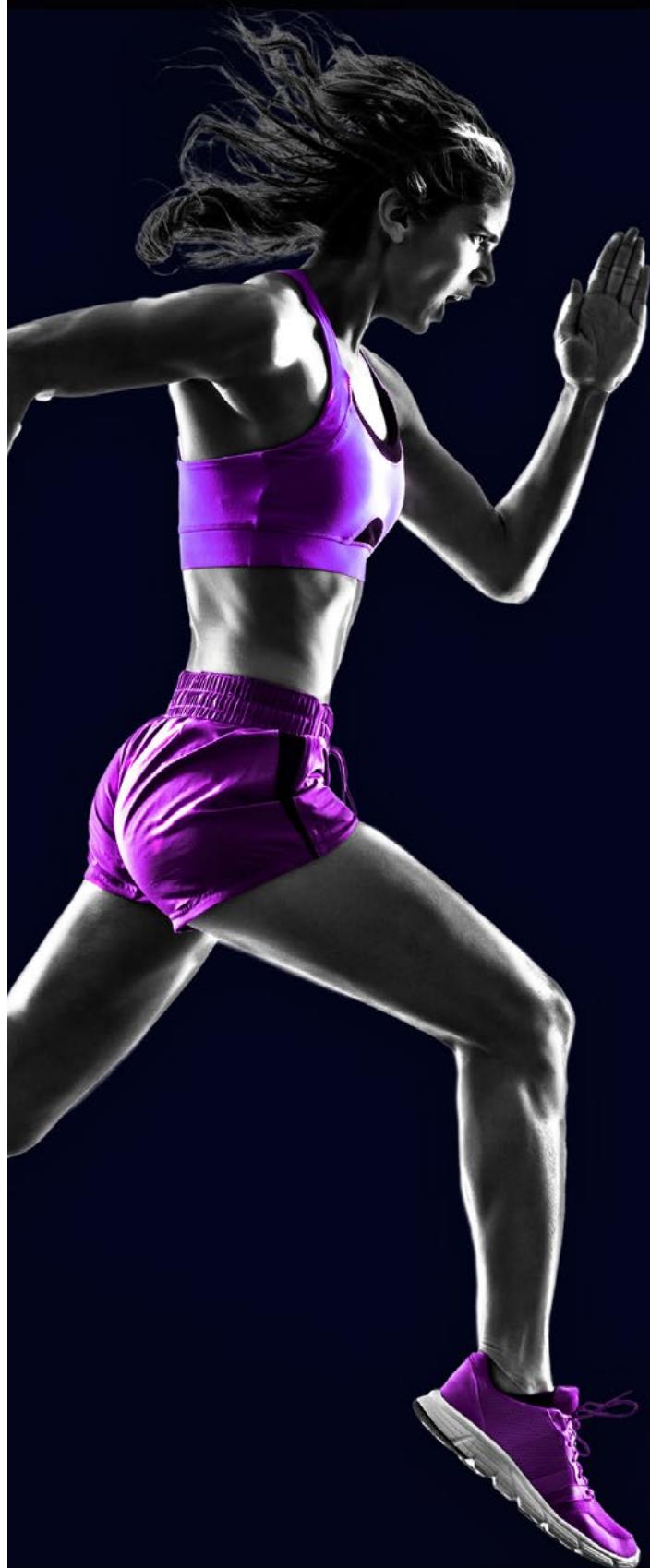
2023 marks the 75th Anniversary of the North Carolina Coaches Association Clinic and the East-West All-Star Games. A lot has happened in those 75 years – almost 8500 student-athletes have been East-West All-Stars (and some of you reading this have either played or coached in the game). With players that went on to outstanding collegiate and professional careers and became leaders in their communities, this is an impressive list. Additional listings related to the Coaching Clinic contain a veritable Who's Who in coaching across the country,

since the founding of the NCCA in 1948, who have been clinicians through the years. When I go to the Regional Meetings with the NCHSAA across the state, I always take our current All-Star programs to hand out. These are really yearbooks that have a history of the Coaching Clinic and every player and coach who have participated in the All-Star Games. If you have one in your coaches office, look through it again and I'm sure you will be amazed and impressed with what the NCCA has offered through the years. This information is also located at [eastwestallstars.com](http://eastwestallstars.com).

Speaking of the Regional Meetings, I was able to make it to all eight of them in September and it was obvious that people were ready to get back together in person. Attendance was great and it was satisfying to see the camaraderie at each stop. It seems that the new rules with this MOU that the NCHSAA has had to deal with, because of the new law dealing with HS athletics, is going ok so far. I am concerned though with the new regulations regarding appeals going to a special committee and I'll be eager to see how that goes and if these are done in a timely manner. One thing I learned with these new restrictions on how the NCHSAA can levy penalties is that based on how many fall head coaches had yet to take the online rules sessions, folks are not taking the penalties as seriously as they had with a fine. In my opinion, this has become kind of like a "we told you so" situation and that is unfortunate. I do enjoy representing you and the NCCA at the Regional Meetings and it continues to be an honor to represent you on the NCHSAA Board of Directors.

*See "Corner" on page 10*





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## “Corner”

*continued from page 8*

September was Suicide Prevention Month and we need to be aware of the national tragedy that suicide brings to families and communities each and every day. The NCCA is proud to partner with an organization called the Jason Foundation and they have a tremendous number of resources available on the website [jasonfoundation.com](http://jasonfoundation.com). In fact, there is a free app called “A Friend Asks” that has resources for coaches, teachers and students. It’s worth a download.

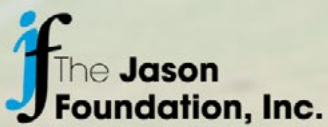
Before we know it, the winter sports season will be upon us – how time does fly! As I always say, don’t ever underestimate what a profound effect you have on the young people for whom you mentor, support, challenge and inspire. Thanks for being a coach! Together, we are keeping the title “Coach” one that is respected and admired – and that can last a lifetime.


Have a winning day.



The Jason Foundation is proud of our affiliation with the North Carolina Coaches Association to equip coaches with the necessary resources to help save lives.

As a coach, you are in a unique position to have a lasting impact on the student-athletes in which you come into contact with on a regular basis.

 **The Jason Foundation, Inc.**

 **NCCA**

Visit our website, [www.jasonfoundation.com](http://www.jasonfoundation.com), to learn more about the "Silent Epidemic" of youth suicide, warning signs, and the programs and resources JFI provides at no cost.

Check out this video from The Jason Foundation, produced to bring combatting the “*Silent Epidemic*” of youth suicide to the forefront. The emphasis is on what coaches can learn over the course of the summer and sharing the information about resources available. <https://www.wevideo.com/view/2745718628>





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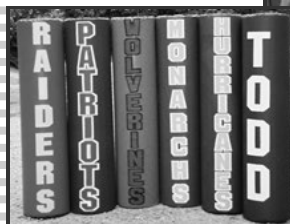


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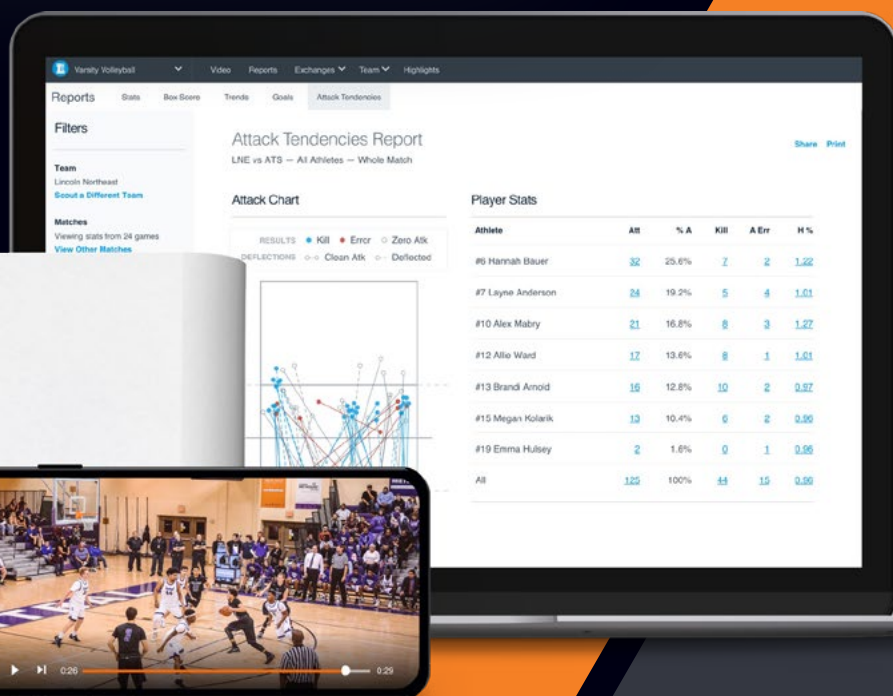
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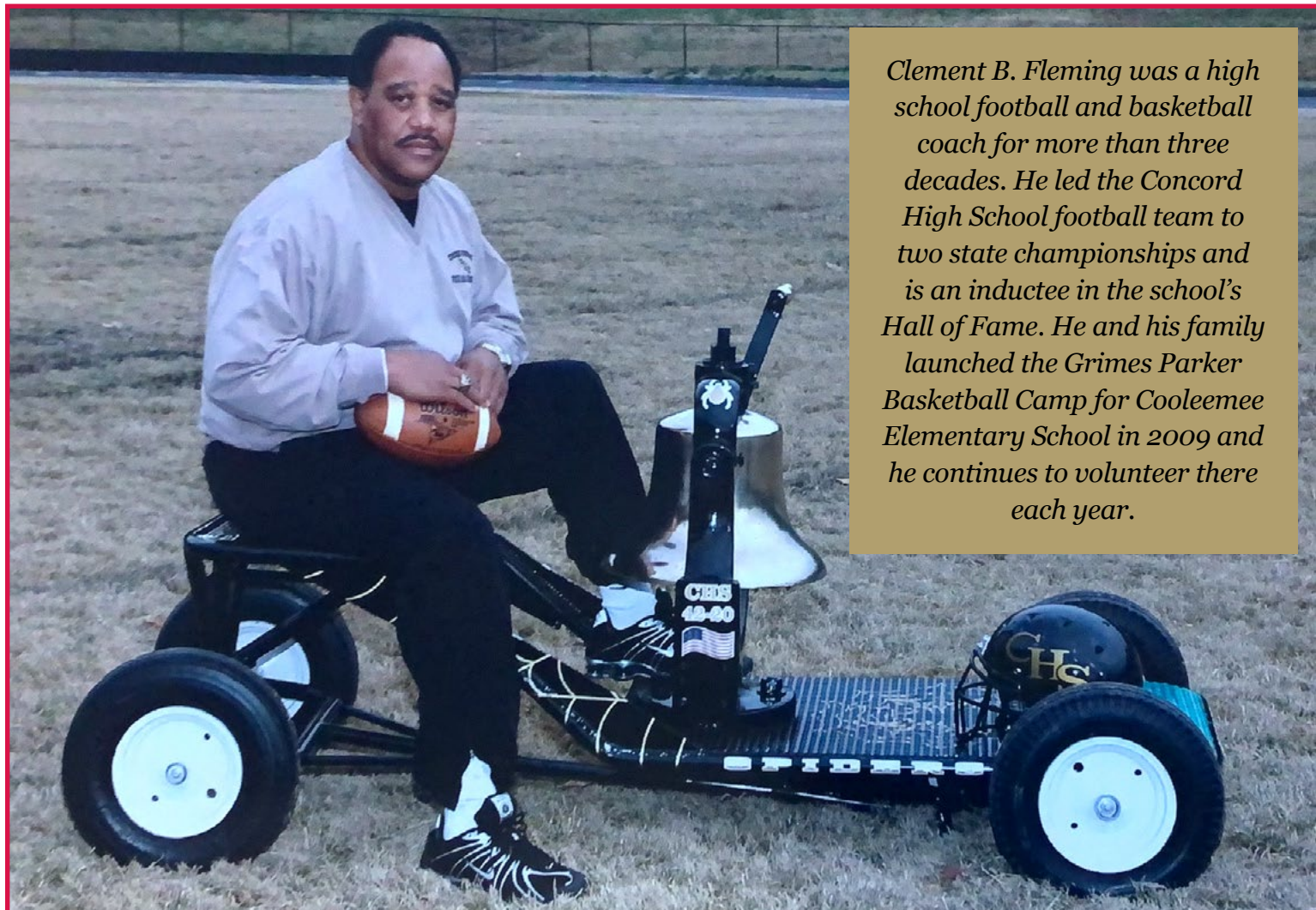
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# They Still Call Me “Coach”

## Clement B. Fleming



*Clement B. Fleming was a high school football and basketball coach for more than three decades. He led the Concord High School football team to two state championships and is an inductee in the school's Hall of Fame. He and his family launched the Grimes Parker Basketball Camp for Cooleemee Elementary School in 2009 and he continues to volunteer there each year.*

**NCC:** WHAT SPORTS DID YOU COACH?

*“ Football and Basketball ”*

**NCC:** WHERE DID YOU COACH?

*“ Concord High School. ”*

**NCC:** HOW MANY YEARS DID YOU COACH?

*“ 35 years. ”*

**NCC:** ARE YOU STILL INVOLVED IN COACHING AND/OR ATHLETICS?

*“ I still teach Driver's Ed. At Concord High School, and I help coach and teach basketball to the youth at the Grimes Parker Basketball Camp for Cooleemee Elementary School students. My family helped Grimes Parker Basketball Camp launch in 2009 for my hometown elementary school in Cooleemee and have helped every year since. ”*

See “**Fleming**” on page 15

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## **“Fleming”**

*continued from page 13*

**NCC:** WHAT WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE COACHING EXPERIENCE?

*“ The first time Concord High School beat their rival Kannapolis High School while I was coaching at Concord; To win State Championship in 2004 and 2006; Being nominated to be an assistant coach at the East/West All-Star Game; Being inducted into the Concord High School Hall of Fame. ”*

**NCC:** WHAT PART OF COACHING WAS THE MOST REWARDING FOR YOU?

*“ Working with students and seeing the rewards in their life as they become adults and keeping in touch with them and later teaching their children. ”*

**NCC:** WHY DID YOU GO INTO COACHING?

*“ I was privileged to be coached by Clyde Studevent and he instilled in me the fact that although it is important to win, family is important as well. Coach Studevent had played for Hall of Famer Clarence “Big House” Gaines and shared many memories and life lessons as well.*

*I also was influenced by Grimes Parker, teacher and coach, at Cooleemee Elementary School, who got me interested in substitute teaching and to become a teacher and coach. Coach Parker became my mentor and still is a friend and mentor to me today. ”*

**NCC:** WHAT IS YOUR FUNNIEST COACHING MEMORY?

*“ It would have to be when we going down the steps (that needed to be replaced) to the football field and I slipped and was falling and some of my players caught me. We also enjoyed our coaches staff meeting where we joked and kidded each other about the previous game we just coached. ”*

**NCC:** WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING COACHING MOMENT?

*“ When coaching JV Basketball team at Concord, a star player fouled out, I got so frustrated that I put him back in to replace himself. He looked back at me and said but Coach I just fouled out of this game. ”*

**NCC:** WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PLAY OR STRATEGY?

*“ STRATEGY: To play good defense to get good field position and the kicking game, which will benefit offense.*

*PLAY: Favorite would have to be the bootleg which we used often and used it to win Championship in 2006. ”*

**NCC:** WHO WERE THE TOUGHEST TEAMS YOU COACHED AGAINST?

*“ Forest Hills, Kannapolis, Carver, and Asheville. ”*

**NCC:** WHAT CHANGES WOULD YOU MAKE TO THE CURRENT RULES IN YOUR SPORT?

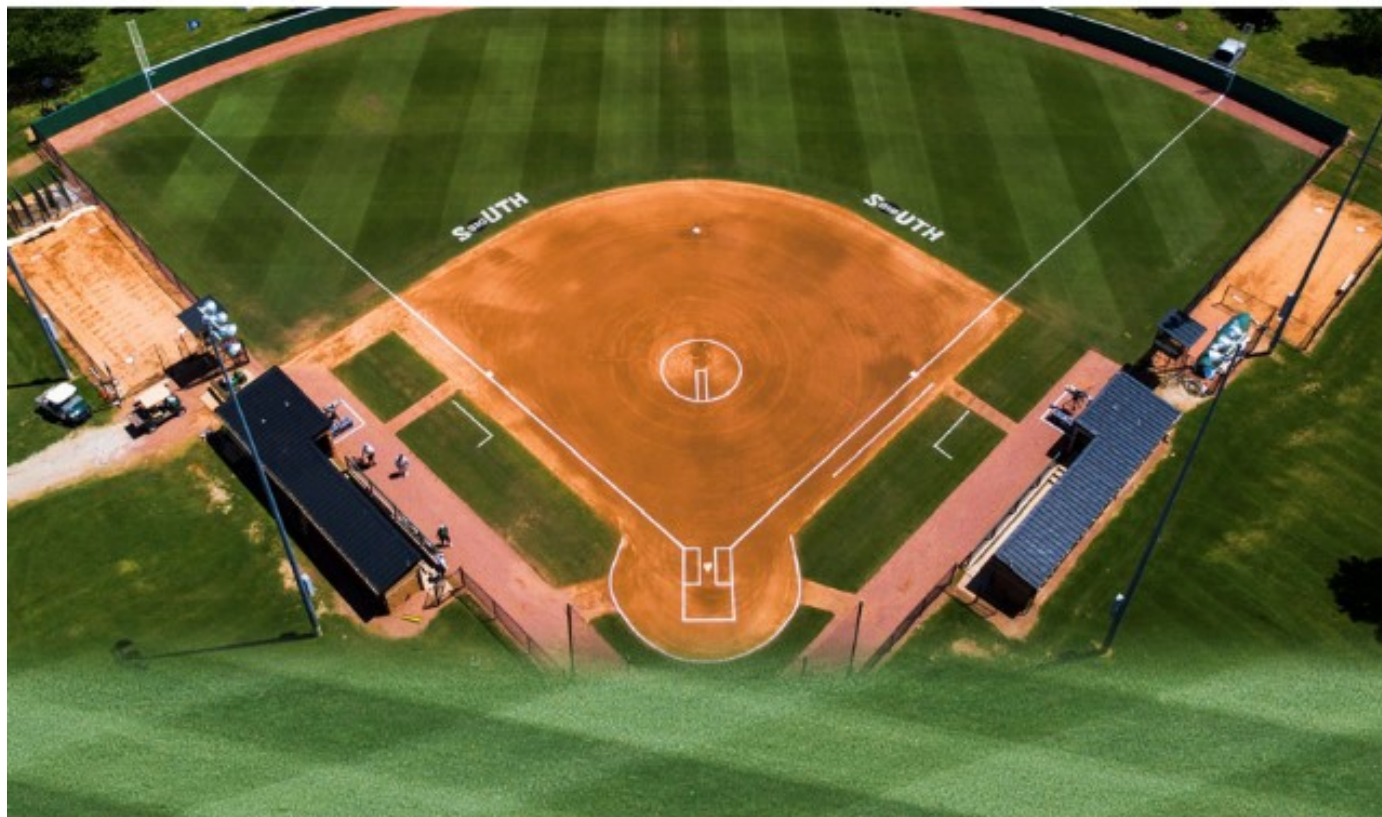
*“ Take a closer look at the targeting rule, I think it is sometimes used in excess because some hits are unavoidable. Also, the holding call could be reviewed again in line play. ”*

**NCC:** WHAT ONE PIECE OF ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE A BEGINNING COACH?

*“ First to be honest with players and build trust in you. Also, to make sure Administrators are aware of your rules and regulations, which will help with parents and circumstances that may occur. Always try to act on a professional level. ”*

See **“Fleming”** on page 17

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## “Fleming”

continued from page 15

**NCC:** WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS FOR YOUNG COACHES TO DO IN DEALING WITH:

“ATHLETES: Make sure they understand the rules and regulations and have them sign that they do understand.”

“PARENTS: Have a parent meeting with mandatory attendance and review rules and regulations with them. Also, have them sign that they attended meeting and understand rules.”

“ADMINISTRATORS: It is imperative that Administrators are informed immediately if a situation arises.”

“ATHLETIC DIRECTORS: Make sure they get a copy of your rules and the needs of your sport keeping in mind that other sports must survive too! Always make sure you have your player eligibility list in on time.”

“OTHER COACHES: Always support them regardless of personal feelings.”

“THE PRESS/MEDIA: Make yourself available or have a set time to meet with them. Make sure the comments you make are understood.”

**NCC:** WHAT DID/DOES THE NCCA MEAN TO YOU?

“It keeps me informed of current facts and let’s me know what is going on.

Always has shown me how coaches can be appreciated while working with these young players.”

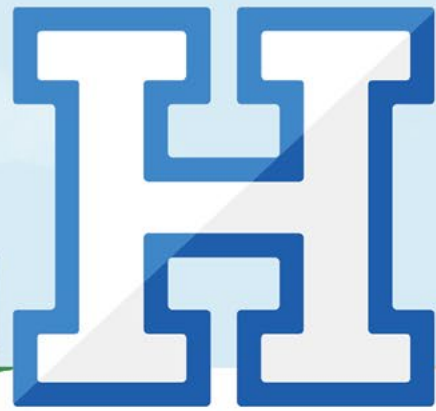
**NCC:** OTHER COMMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

“As a coach you get to know students on a personal level and know their family. You can have a big impact on their growth and their future. Sometimes it might not result in the vision you have for them but I tried to instill that they need to work hard for the goals they have and to never stop trying.”

## YOUR INSURANCE

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Any questions should be directed to Loomis and LaPann (800-566-6479).



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