



NSAA CHAMPIONS FOR COACHES

At the heart of every successful student experience is a coach who inspires, leads, and empowers. NSAA activities are the other half of education—cultivating character, perseverance, and community. These transformative experiences across 24 sports and 5 activities would not be possible without the unwavering dedication of coaches in our member schools.

To honor these exceptional leaders, the NSAA is proud to announce that nominations are open for our **Champions for Coaches** program—an initiative that celebrates active coaches who go above and beyond for students, schools, and communities. We invite students, administrators, parents/guardians, and community members to nominate coaches who embody this spirit of excellence.

Nomination Deadline: Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Nominations will be reviewed by an NSAA selection committee.

Recognition Event:

One coach from each of the activities listed below will be honored **Friday, March 13, 2026**, at the **6:00 p.m. CST Class B Boys State Basketball Semifinal** at **Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln**. Champions for Coaches will also be recognized on-court during halftime of the game.

Activities & Sports Eligible for Recognition:

- **Fall Activities:** Girls Golf, Boys Tennis, Girls Cross Country, Boys Cross Country, Football, Softball, Unified Sports® Bowling, Volleyball, Play Production
- **Winter Activities:** Girls Bowling, Boys Bowling, Girls Wrestling, Boys Wrestling, Girls Swimming & Diving, Boys Swimming & Diving, Basketball (Boys & Girls), Unified Sports® Track & Field, Debate, Speech, Journalism, Music
- **Spring Activities:** Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Baseball, Girls Tennis, Boys Golf, Girls Track & Field, Boys Track & Field, Unified Sports® Track & Field

Every coach plays a vital role in shaping the future, but some go further—motivating students to achieve their best, fostering a culture of respect, and building bridges between the classroom and the community. If you know a coach who exemplifies these qualities, we encourage you to nominate them.

For questions or more information, please contact **NSAA Assistant Director Taryn Retzlaff** at tretzlaff@nsaahome.org.

Together, let's recognize the coaches who inspire greatness every day.