WELCOME TO THE 2013 SECTION V WINTER TRACK & FIELD STATE QUALIFIER

This year has been an extremely exciting one, perhaps one of if not the best year in Section V history. We have been blessed with many outstanding individuals who have thrilled us with their performances, both on the track and in the field events. Those athletes who qualify for the state meet next week will allow us to send what is perhaps the strongest team to ever go to the states, both male and female. Congratulations to you all.

There are a number of people that need to be thanked. First, we must thank all the colleges that allow us to compete at their facilities. Thank you to

Rochester Institute of Technology
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
University of Rochester
New York Chiropractor College
The College at Brockport State

We are very fortunate to have these many facilities, and they are willing to allow us to use their facilities.

Next, we need to thank Yen Timing Services. Dave and Brian allow moving meets at remarkable speed, allowing us to accurately time and recognize the many athletes, be they varsity, junior varsity, or modified. After each meet, no matter how tired they were, they sent the top three individuals and relays to the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle in the format that they requested. It was the newspaper that decided to only print the name of the first place finishers. We also must thank Reggie Henderson of Brighton for writing his week column that was found on the web site. Along with Reggie, we need to thank Ron Kalasinskis for his photos which are found on www.rochesteforkids.com.

We are starting something different this year. For years and years, we have been giving out outstanding track awards and outstanding field event performer awards to each class. Coaches vote on these athletes during the week between the sectional and state qualifier. This year, we have put a name on four of these awards, honoring individuals who have made a lasting contribution, to the sport, their schools, and the nation. These individuals are, in alphabetical order, Bod Dedrick of Canandaigua, Matt Glende of McQuad, Ray Manuszak of Aquinas and Irondequoit, and Ted Woods, of North Rose Wolcott and Section V. Here is a brief history of each of these gentlemen.

The following was written by Bob's co-head coach at Canandaigua, Arlene DeVinney
"CA's indoor program started in 2004-2005 with Bob and myself as head coaches. He was instrumental in getting indoor off the ground at CA. We didn't know what to expect and he rose to the occasion, as we won our 1st sectional title in 2006 by ½ point. After that our program took off and by our 3rd year, 40 kids grew to 120 kids. During his tenure we won 2 sectional titles as we also won in 2010. During that year he was nominated AGR Coach of the Year by the D&C. We also took athletes to the State Competition every year and he was instrumental in their development. More importantly than winning sectional titles and going to the states was his commitment and passion for the sport. His ability to motivate kids and push them farther than they thought they could go was one of his strengths. To this day...our kids still run for Bob...and continue to do "Good Deeds"...His legacy will live on for many years at CA as a great coach and motivator. "To commemorate Bob Dedrick, the Girl's Class B Outstanding Female Track athlete award will now be named the Bob Dedrick Award.

The following was submitted by McQuaid coach Todd Stewart on Matt Glende: "Theodore "Matt" Glende, a McQuaid graduate of the Class of 2007, passed away this summer while proudly serving our country in Afghanistan. He was killed in action on July 27th, when his unit was attacked by small arms fire in Logar Province. He had always wanted to serve in the service, and was in the ROTC program at Niagara University after having graduated from

McQuaid. He is survived by his wife Alexandra, whom he had married last spring; his parents, Theodore and Avamaria; his brother, Eric; and many other friends and family. Matt ran all three seasons for McQuaid (Cross Country, Indoor, and Outdoor Track). Matt was one of the teams top distance runners at the time. His determination to succeed as an athlete and as a service member was clearly stated in his work ethic and passion." To commemorate Matt Glende and his sacrifice, the Class A Outstanding Male Track Athlete Award will be named forever in his honor.

Ray Manuszak of Aquinas, not only was a coach, but a beloved father figure at Aquinas. The impression he made upon his students and athletes can be seen by the fact that he is a 2012 inductee into the Aquinas Hall of Fame. Ray was not only an outstanding coach for Aquinas, where his teams won numerous sectional titles, but he was a long time coach at Irondequoit High School, in the sports of Cross Country and Track. In addition to his many coaching duties, he has been a class advisor numerous times at Aquinas, and he was the Monroe County Girls Track and Field Chairman for many years. It was his passion to Winter Track that Ray is being honored, as he served many years as the Section V Assistant Winter Track Coordinator. He was Ray who for years and years who signed up athletes going to the state meet, getting their lunch orders, representing Section V at the State Meeting, and then chaperoning the athletes long into the night. Sickness has kept Ray from being as active as he used to be in the Winter Track Circles, and he is missed. Because of his contributions over the years, The Class C Outstanding Male Field Event award will be named in his honor.

Ted Woods, who was a long time administrator in North Rose Wolcott, is, in the minds of many, Mr. Section V. For years, Ted has served on the Section V Executive Council, promoting many sports, and helping Section V to be one of the leading sections in the state. Besides being an administrator, Ted was a long time official, both of soccer and of track. He was a long time member of the Wayne Finger Lakes Track and Field Officials Organization; he was a frequent fixture working Indoor Meets at Hobart and New York Chiropractor Colleges, usually doing the pole vault of the high jump. He often referred to our modified athletes as "junior JV's" and he conveyed respect from athletes and coaches alike. Sports coordinators knew that when they gave their end of the year reports, there was always one person who "had their backs". For all that he has done, not only for indoor track and field, but for all sports in Section V, from this day forth, the Outstanding Male Class D Athlete Award will be named in Ted Woods' honor.

In the future, we will be honoring other influential people by naming awards in their honor.

The last group of people we would like to thank the parents of the many athletes who have participated this year, and in all the previous years. We appreciate the fact that you come and spend hours waiting for your athlete to compete for perhaps as few as seven or eight seconds, the fact that there are some late nights that your athlete arrives home after midnight, or gets on a bus at six in the morning. While your athletes may not formally recognize that you are here, they do appreciate you for coming, to cheering them on, to help celebrate their victories, and help take the sting out of their losses.

To all the athletes, thank you for your efforts, your behavior, and your cooperation. To those of you who are graduating, we wish you the best in all your future endeavors. To the rest, we hope to see you next year.

Sincerely,

Dave Hennessey
Section V Chairman
NYSPHSAA Girls' Winter Track Chairman
Rochester Winter Track League Chairman