Paul Basinger has been an OHSAA registered wrestling official for 33 years. He is a member of the Lima-Findlay Wrestling Official’s Association, and has served as their secretary and treasurer for 25 years. He is a certified instructor and has assisted with the new officials class when needed, and continues to mentor new officials every where he travels. Paul became a member of the wrestling observation team when that program started five years ago and has taken our Ohio observation initiative to other tournaments across the nation to share with them. He has observed at our Ohio state tournaments several times, and works to help all referees improve.

Paul has officiated 20 Ohio State Championships including the new State Dual Team Tournament. He has now officiated tournaments in 21 states and is highly regarded across the nation. The Beast of the East in Delaware, The Cheese Head Classic in Wisconsin, The Disney Duals in Florida, The Jazz Town Tournament in Louisiana, The Coastal Clash in Georgia, The Hilton Head Slam in South Carolina, and certainly The Iron Man in Ohio are only a few to mention. He has also been elevated to an evaluator for the Senior National Tournament where he evaluates 60 referees during the weekend. To say Paul is a busy man is an understatement. He travels throughout the year, and mentors referees from other states where ever he goes.

Paul has written articles and has been published in the NFHS “Officials Quarterly” magazine. He has contributed to the Ohio Green Book.

Paul has been inducted into the Ohio Wrestling Officials Hall of Fame and the AAU Hall of Fame. Paul represents Ohio and Ohio officiating every where he travels.

Congratulations Paul … His success has been earned, and is a direct result of his love of the sport, the attitude and approach he takes to always work for improvement and recognizing early in his career the need to travel. By traveling to new areas he has had the opportunity to see new schools, new programs, new wrestlers and certainly new coaches.

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