NORTHERN KENTUCKY SWIM LEAGUE

WALL OF FAME

Mark Kluemper

NKSL Club Affiliations:

Swimmer: Bluegrass, 1967 – 1976

Coach: Beechwood, 1977 - 1981

Mark began his 14 year NKSL career as a swimmer for Bluegrass Swim Club. During his swimming career, Bluegrass won seven NKSL Championships. He began his coaching career at Beechwood Swim Club in 1977. He became Head Coach in 1979 and led a team with little previous success to three straight NKSL Championships. While attending the University of Kentucky, Mark began coaching with the Greater Lexington Swim Association serving as an assistant coach until 1984. In 1984 Mark was hired as Head Coach for the team, now known as Lexington Thoroughbred Swim Team, and led the team to great success. During his tenure the team finished in the Top-20 at YMCA Nationals for the first time and qualified numerous athletes to compete at Junior and Senior Nationals. His success with that program led him back to his alma-mater where he joined the coaching staff at UK from 1988 - 1992. Southern Illinois University hired Mark as Head Coach of their Women’s Team in 1996. During his time at SIU the team won five Missouri Valley Conference titles and one National Independent Championship. 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 think the NKSL is a really amazing league. On one hand it is simply the league that framed the summers of the first twenty years of my life. But, when you look deeper, at the amount of really quality swimmers, coaches, and administrators who got their start in the NKSL; it is kind of mind boggling. To be honored in this way is really special*. – Mark Kluemper