

BCA Hall Of Fame



Bobby Howard



Columbus, Georgia

With a career coaching record of 985-296 (.769) and a total of 12 Georgia high school state championships, Bobby Howard has distinguished himself as one of the most successful high school baseball coaches of all time.

Howard spent the last two seasons as the head coach at Central High School in Phenix City, Alabama, where he led his teams to back-to-back area playoff appearances, including a 2016 7A region championship. Prior to his time at Central, Howard spent 31 seasons as the head coach at Columbus High School in Columbus, Georgia, where he racked up 12 state championships and seven state runner-up finishes to go along with 29 region championships. In 2004 and 2012, his teams finished the season ranked No. 2 in all national polls.

The 11-time State Coach of the Year was recognized as the ABCA/Diamond National High School Coach of the Year in 2000, as well as an ABCA/Diamond Regional Coach of the Year in 2000, 2005 and 2012. He was also named USA Today's 2004 National High School Coach of the Year and ESPN's National High School Coach of the Year in 2012.

In 2005, Howard was selected to serve as the head coach of the Aflac East High School All-America team, where he had the opportunity to coach the best high school players in the country.

Howard has coached several players who have gone to play professional baseball, including MLB Hall of Famer Frank Thomas. Frank Thomas, Chicago White Sox, mentioned Coach Howard in his Major league speech during his MLB Hall of Fame induction said, "Bobby Howard, I know you're here somewhere, it started with you. You made me grow up in a hurry. Your no nonsense approach to the game was needed at an early age. Winning was the only option. You preached that and you made me work for it. Playing for you set my foundation for life. Love you and I thank you". Among Howard's other former players to make it to the Major League Level are Garey Ingram, Reggie Abercrombie and Willie Harris

As a coach, Howard is a member of the Georgia Dugout Club Sports Hall of Fame, the Chattahoochee Valley Sports Hall of Fame and the Sunbelt Classic Hall of Fame. He has also been inducted into the Columbus State University and Jordan High School Halls of Fame as a player.

The Jordan High School graduate has coached at several other schools including his alma mater Jordan High, Chattahoochee Valley Community College, Kendrick High School and Middle Georgia College. In his lone year at Middle Georgia, Howard led his team to a 1997 state championship.

Howard has also served the National High School Baseball Coaches Association for five years as a member of the Southeast All-Region and All-America Committee.

He is married to the former Vicki Lynn Welsh. He has two daughters, Mandy and Lindsey Rae, and one son, Will. He also has a Granddaughter, Quinley Reagan Grubbs.