



**Dave Phares**

**By Casie Vogel – NHSBCA writer**

**Every year the NHSBCA awards dinner is a special event where coaches are recognized for their hard work and dedication. The highlights of the evening include awarding the Coach of the Year, Field of the Year, regional and membership awards, inducting Hall of Fame coaches and a speech about what it means to be a coach.**

**This year the speaker was Dave Phares, one of the NHSBCA’s close friends and vendor coordinator.**

**“The basic message was that I think coaches have a duty to develop character in their players and they best do it by example. You can't tell a kid how to get character, you demonstrate it in your own behavior,” Phares said.**

**His speech was drawn from his own experience as baseball player and his relationship with his coach.**

**“I talked about how our coach really went overboard for 14 kids, and I was one of them, who were less talented and skilled and that normally wouldn't have made the team,” he said. “But he went out and raised the money and got the uniforms and told us what we had to do in order to stay on the team. We had to make every practice, do every drill, never miss a game, and when we were given specific assignments we did it with a smile on our face.”**

**Phares has been a member and volunteer of the NHSBCA for years, traveling with the convention from location to location.**