

BCA Hall Of Fame



Jim Phipps



Niles West Township, Skokie, IL

Ken Schreiber wrote these words about Jim Phipps. “Jim was a class person, a great coach, and a tremendous asset to Baseball”. Jim coached at Niles West Township High School in Skokie, IL where he was the Head Coach and considered one of the very best in the State of Illinois. Jim was very active in the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association as he was in the National High School Baseball Coaches Association. Along with his wife, Sally, he would sit in the first row of every clinic session even after many years of coaching. Together, they never missed a session.

Jim coached 30 years at Niles West High School from 1948 – 1977 winning 10 Conference, 7 Down State Titles, and 2 Illinois State Championships in 1972 and 1975. He also served as the Athletic Director at Niles West and was Executive Director of the Illinois Baseball Coaches Association during these years. In Jim’s last year at Niles West High School, a number of his former players organized a day of fun and food to celebrate the Jim Phipp’s years and his inspirational leadership and winning spirit. Jim’s feelings about it all were that he felt lucky because he had been able to do what he most wanted to do and that was to “teach boys how to play baseball”. Jim spent another 25 years coaching at Lake Havasu High School in Arizona where he also was the Athletic Director and Head Coach.

Jim was a Charter Member of BCA since its start in 1992 and received his 55 year coaching award in 2002.

Jim will be inducted posthumously December 2008 and his wife, Sally, will be present to receive his plaque.