

# Richard “Dick” Hewson

## USA Swimming



Dick Hewson: The Man, the Father, the Educator and the Coach

Affectionately known as “Father of Loveland Swimming”. Dick started the swimming program at Loveland HS as their first coach in 1966 and made an immediate impact by winning the conference meet in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year. He remained at LHS until the fall of 1976 when he opened up the swimming pool at Thompson Valley High School and coached there another 16 years for a total of 26 years of coaching in the Thompson School District. His overall combined record for boys and girls was 344-98-1.

His HS male teams tallied 13 conference championships and 16 conference dual meet championships while his girls programs won 8 conference titles and 7 conference dual meet championships

along with one runners-up finish at state and I state title in 1991.

Coach Hewson's accolades did not stop with the wins as he was voted by his coaching peers Conference Coach of the Year 17 times and twice voted State Coach of the Year. He was also tabbed Colorado Women's Sports Foundation Coach Year. And was nominated several times for National HS Swimming Coach of the year.

Also in 1966 Coach Hewson started the Loveland Swim Club that not only drew kids from the city but from all of Northern Colorado. Coach Hewson together with Coach Hasty from Eaton started the summer Northern Colorado Swim League. Through his philosophical efforts no child was denied a place on the club team due to financial concerns. Today Loveland Swim Club is one of the top clubs in the state with close to 400 members. The LSC is also recognized nationally now due to the efforts of Coach Hewson.

Coach Hewson was a member of the HS state swimming committee for over 22 years. His most notable accomplishment was chairing the committee for 20 straight years. While as the chair he and his committee introduced qualifying time standards for the state meet to ensure the fastest swimmers and divers were represented at the state meet. At the conference and district levels was instrumental in having coaches work together to become more competitive at the state and national levels

He was also the President of the Colorado HS Swimming Coaches Association for 4 years and was a member of the National HS swimming rules committee for 4 years. Along with these duties Coach founded the Thompson School District Coaches Association and was president for 4 years.

Due to Coach Hewson's efforts of obtaining swimming excellence

in Loveland, The Thompson School District has changed the name of TVHS pool to The Dick Hewson Aquatic Center over 20 years ago.

The impact that Coach Hewson had of his swimmers both club and HS are too immeasurable to tally. He was one of the driving forces in getting all three high swimming pools installed at Loveland's three public HS by getting the city of Loveland and the School District to do a joint venture in building those three HS pools that have taught well over a 100,000 kids how to swim.

Dick Hewson still resides in Loveland Colorado and still keeps active in swimming. For the last 15 years Coach has been a HS swimming official and has been chosen by the state to officiate nearly every state HS championship meet since he hung up his whistle.

He and his lovely wife Marion have four grown children that all swam competitively for him along with many of his grandchildren who have swam competitively.

"I am proud and honored to present this information to Colorado Swimming newest inductee. Dick was not only my coaching rival, but he was one of the two most respected men that I can call mentors in my life. My HS coach and Dick Hewson had more influence in my coaching and teaching than all the rest put together." Kevin Polansky