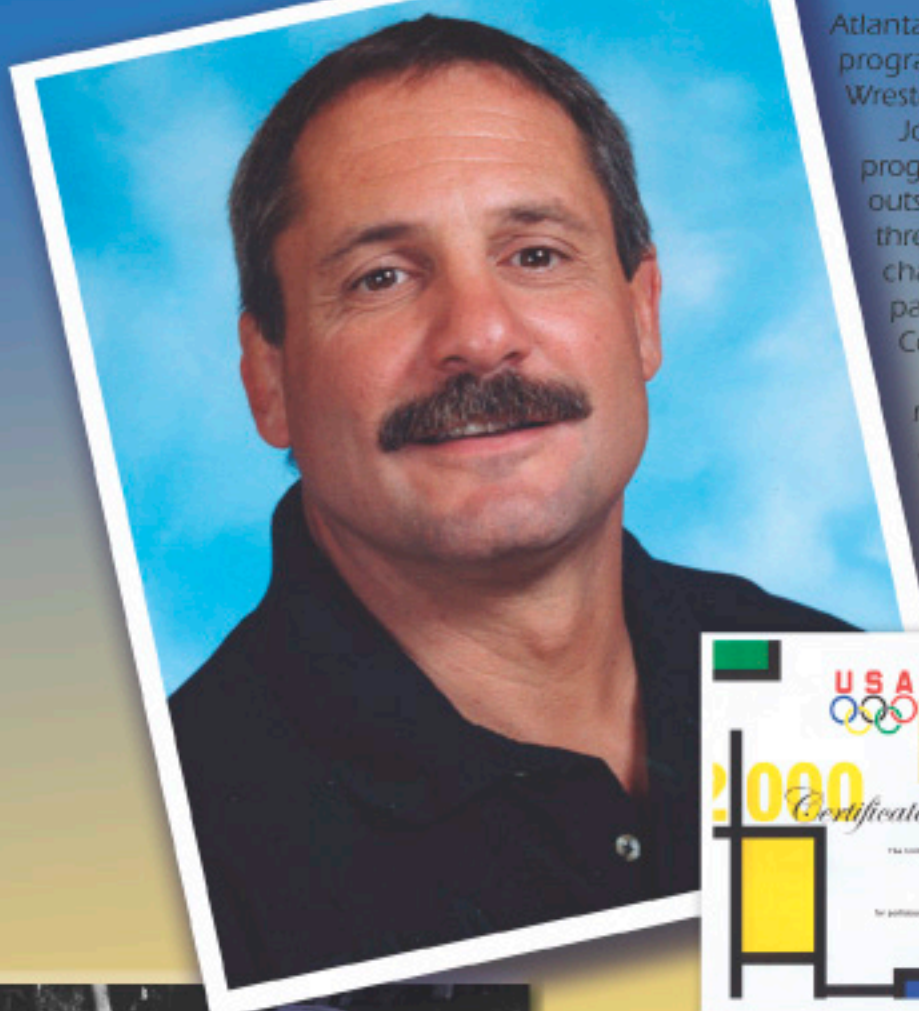


# JOE RUSSO

## The Champ of Suffolk County Wrestling



Atlanta and represented his county wrestling programs as the sectional chairman for USA Wrestling for several years.

Joe pioneered the Lindenhurst Kid Wrestling program and as a coach he achieved many outstanding accomplishments. Among them are three coach of the year trophies, nine sectional champions, four team champions, and he participating as member of the USA Wrestling Coaching staff for ten years.

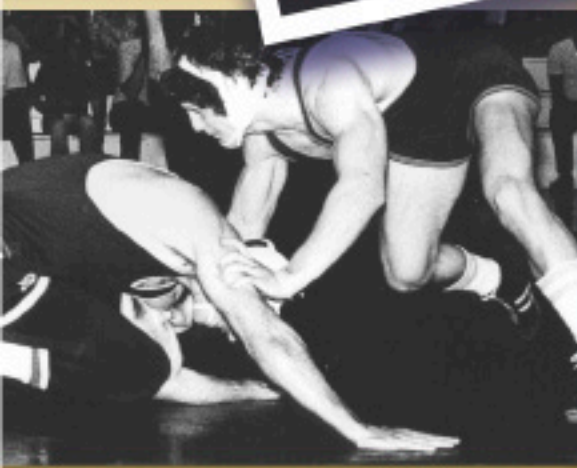
Joe's service to wrestling has been recognized by The Suffolk County Coaches Association with the presentation of the "Grand Master Award" in 1995 and induction into the National Hall of Fame in "Lifetime Service to Wrestling Award" in 1994.

However at the time of his induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum, Joe did not have the opportunity to be recognized at home. Therefore the Long Island Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall Of Fame and Museum is proud to include Joe Russo as an honoree in our 2009 recognition Dinner.



*(Above) Certificate of Participation Joe received for officiating in the 2000 Olympic trials. He also worked in the 1996 games in Atlanta.*

*(Below) Joe Russo is pictured coaching enthusiastically at Lindenhurst High School.*



*Joe is shown in a 1975 bout at The University of Florida against Kentucky for the SEC Championship —4-0 win.*

Wrestling has taken Joe Russo to five continents and many countries. His international officiating experience has enriched his life and he has returned that rich experience many times over through his coaching and

volunteer efforts in wrestling.

As a volunteer he officiated in seven world Championships, five Olympic trials four Pan American Championships, and dozens of other tournaments. He worked as the staging manager for the 1996 games in

