

## **ARLINGTON SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

### **2018 INDUCTEE – JOE D’EMIDIO**

Joe D’Emidio has been a force in Arlington gymnastics for over 46 years, as a dedicated, enthusiastic, and knowledgeable coach, leader, educator, and mentor. A 1973 alumnus of Yorktown HS, he made an early mark in his junior year, winning first place in the state championships in the still rings event. He has been working with youth and sports-focused programs since 1976, developing boys and girls gymnastics programs at Washington-Lee, Yorktown and Wakefield. His gymnastics teams have won numerous district championships, three regionals, and had two state runner-ups. He was head coach of the Virginia High School Mens Gymnastics Team from 1992 to 2002, winning the National Championship in 2002. In 1984, Joe was an international official as a Training Officer for gymnastics at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Founder and Director of the YMCA Arlington Woodmont Gymnastics Center, which includes both recreational classes and competitive teams, he has nurtured many gymnasts and coaches, providing a safe environment for kids and professional growth opportunities for young coaches. Joe also dedicates his time toward youth development, particularly with the YMCA Teen Club, meeting twice a week, as well as providing international traveling and educational exchange experiences with other YMCA branches around the world. He encourages participation by all young athletes, regardless of skill level or experience. He motivates and helps Arlington’s youth work towards achieving their goals in both sports and life.