

Keystone State Games, Inc.
Hall of Fame Induction



Tuesday, June 6, 2017
at the Ryan Office Building
in the Capitol Complex
Harrisburg, PA

11:00am	Reception	Ryan Office Building
12:00pm	Mr. John Wetterau KSG Board President	Introduction
12:10pm	Dr. Loren Robinson Department of Health	Active Living
12:15pm	Mrs. Christina Smith York County	KSG Host City
12:20pm	Dr. John Deitch Wellspan Health	KSG Partnership
12:25pm	Senator Lisa Baker Chair—Health & Human Services	PA Health
12:30pm	Representative Matt Baker Chair—Health Committee	PA Health
12:35pm	Mr. John Wetterau	Hall of Fame Induction
	Senator Robert D. Robbins KSG Board Member	Hall of Fame Honoree
	Mr. Roger Sharrer KSG Ice Hockey Director	Hall of Fame Honoree
	Mr. Franco Harris KSG Founder	Hall of Fame Honoree
12:50pm	Mr. James Costello 2017 Games Kickoff	KSG Executive Director
12:55pm	Mr. John Wetterau	Closing Remarks

I would like to take a moment to thank
all of those in attendance today:

The Inductees, their families, friends,
honored guests from the Department
of Health, Wellspan, York County
Convention and Visitors Bureau and
the General Assembly Members.

A special thanks to KSG Board
President, Mr. John Wetterau, and all
of the KSG Board Members for
celebrating our rich history and to
Kickoff the 36th Annual Keystone State
Games Festival of Sports!

James J. Costello
KSG Executive Director



Mr. Franco Harris Chairman of Governor's Council of Physical Fitness and Sports

Franco Harris Kicks-off the 1987 Games by speaking to the athletes at Opening Ceremonies: "You really met the challenge. You rose above the competition. Maybe it took a little more sweat, a little more commitment, but that's why you're here. You make your community proud, you make your parents proud and make your commonwealth proud."

Franco Harris is well-known for his outstanding career in the National Football League, one so productive that it earned him a 1990 induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. During his 12 years with the Pittsburgh Steelers, Harris established many team and league records, played in nine Pro Bowls and led the Steelers' charge to four Super Bowl victories. Harris was named MVP of Super Bowl IX. His "Immaculate Reception" in the final seconds of the 1972 American Football Conference is considered the greatest individual play in NFL history.

After retiring from football, Harris applied his college degree in food service and administration from Penn State and helped establish Super Bakery Inc.. Super Bakery promotes kids' health and nutrition and sponsors many community programs such as the national MS Walk-a-Thon and The Greater Las Vegas After-School All-Stars. Harris served as the Chairman of the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports for eight years under Pennsylvania Gov. Robert P. Casey.

Among his numerous honors are the NFL Man of the Year, The American Academy of Achievement Golden Plate Award and the National Urban League's Whitney M. Young Award. In 1997, he was honored as the National Multiple Sclerosis Volunteer of the Year. In October 2005, Penn State honored him as an Alumni Fellow, the highest honor conferred by the Penn State Alumni Association.

In 1979 Governor Thornburgh and Franco Harris spearheaded the first Governor's Physical Fitness and Sports Conference. From this conference came the formation of the Keystone State Games. In a 1986 interview about the Keystone Games, Franco said "One of our goals is to get people thinking about health. The Council promotes physical fitness and health within the Commonwealth, and we see the Games as a primary way to accomplish that goal. If we can reach the kids and get them to start thinking about their health, then we'll be successful. The Keystone State Games offer the thrill of competition for all of Pennsylvania's young athletes. They will be winners just by getting out and participating."



Executive Summary

History of the Keystone State Games:

The Keystone State Games was created as a result of a resolution by Representative Joseph R. Pitts (Chester County) and approved by the Pennsylvania General Assembly in 1980. Keystone State Games Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, was formed in 1983 with the help of former Governor Richard Thornburgh.

Since its inception Keystone State Games, Inc. has attracted over 500,000 participants of various age groups into our events. Our primary focus is for the athletes, their families, and all of the volunteers to have a memorable sporting event experience like no other throughout Pennsylvania.

Keystone State Games, Inc. Mission

The mission of the Keystone State Games is to promote physical fitness, sports activity, and sportsmanship as a health improvement and disease prevention strategy for all Pennsylvanians and other participants and to create an expanded, coordinated and citizen-sponsored program of amateur athletic competition.

Keystone State Games Festival of Sports

Keystone State Games Festival of Sports, modeled after the Olympic Games, are PA's largest annually held multi-sport competitions providing Pennsylvania's amateur athletes an opportunity to compete against athletes from throughout the Commonwealth in a festival atmosphere that promotes all of the positive aspects of amateur sports. The 2017 Games are being held in the Greater York County from July 26 - 30, 2017.

Keystone State Games Board of Directors

John W. Wetterau, President
Mr. Joe Swartz, Vice President
Garry S. Taroli, Esq., Treasurer
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Mr. Marty Trimmer
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Senator Robert D. Robbins KSG Board Member

Senator Robert Robbins has touched many lives. From the wrestling room at Greenville High School, to the jungles of Vietnam, to the halls of the Pennsylvania Legislature, and to all of the countless number of amateur athletes he supported during his time as a Keystone State Games Board member.

The Honorable (HON) Robert D. Robbins was born and raised in the northwestern Pennsylvania borough of Greenville. He graduated from Greenville High School in 1962 winning the 127-pound PIAA state championship his senior year. He entered the United States Military Academy at West Point with the Class of 1966. At West Point, he was a two-time NCAA place-winner (sixth in 1965 and fifth in 1966) and was recognized with All-American status both years.

After graduation from West Point, HON Robbins was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Regular Army and served two tours in Vietnam as a paratrooper, eventually serving as Company Commander with D Company, 501st Airborne Infantry Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. During his time in the U.S. Army he earned the Bronze Star with Valor, Soldiers Medal for Heroism, the Combat Infantry badge, and Ranger tab. Robbins also won the 1967 All-U.S. Army championship and also won the Inner Service Freestyle title in 1967. He also won the 101st Airborne Division Cross County and 2-mile championship that same year. He left the Army in 1971 with an honorable discharge at the rank of captain.

With his Army service complete, HON Robbins earned his teaching certificate from Geneva College in 1973 and then returned to Greenville, where he became a teacher and an extremely successful wrestling coach at Greenville High School.

In 1982, Robbins won election as a Republican to a Mercer County-based seat in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and subsequently served four terms in the body. In 1990, Robbins ran for State Senate in the 50th Senate District. He rose through the ranks of Senate Republicans to become Majority Caucus Secretary. Robbins served as Vice Chairman of the Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee, and also served as Chairman of the bipartisan Local Government Commission, Vice Chairman of the Athletic Oversight Committee, and a member of the Keystone State Games Commission. Upon his retirement in 2013, Robbins said, "But most importantly, I have been blessed to have the unwavering support of my wife, Cindy. I'm forever grateful for the many friends I have made and for the opportunities I've been given to serve." Senator Robbins, we are forever grateful to have had you in our lives.



Mr. Roger Sharrer KSG Ice Hockey Director

Roger Sharrer was instrumental in making hockey a part of the Games — so much so that KSG named a trophy after him, the Sharrer Cup, which has been awarded annually since 2005 for the region that performs the best at the annual ice hockey tournament.

In 1965, Roger began coaching youth hockey for his oldest son's team. He could barely skate, but he wanted to get his son involved in the sport he loved so much. He was instrumental in the formation of an ice hockey club where his five children attended school. They went on to win the very first state championship ever held in 1975. From that moment on, Roger became one of the most influential leaders in amateur ice hockey throughout the state.

From 1982 thru 2004 Roger was part of the Keystone State Games organization as a volunteer coordinator and eventually the ice hockey sport director. In 1982, the inaugural year of the Keystone State Games, Roger was the Regional Coordinator for Region IV, now known as the West Region. He became the Ice Hockey Sport Director in 1985 and held the position until 2004 when he retired.

In 1986 he was awarded the Bell of Pennsylvania volunteer service award. In 1988 he won the Outstanding Sport Director Award for the Keystone State Games. Roger was selected multiple times throughout his career as one of the Top Twenty volunteers by Tri-State Area Hockey Association. He was also a volunteer with USA Hockey, holding multiple positions, from 1987 through 2001.

Roger left the Keystone Games ice hockey program in great hands upon his retirement when he recommended Kathy Santora, his daughter, to take on the enormous role as sport director. In a 2011 article she was quoted, "It's a labor of love. It has to be. Work on the following year's tournament begins one month after the current one ends." Recently, Kathy has taken on another role in Games, that role is as a member of the Board of Directors for the Keystone State Games.

Roger's leadership and passion for amateur hockey was pivotal to the Keystone State Games ice hockey program. Roger meant so much more to the Games than his role as the Ice Hockey Director. It is easy to say that without Roger Sharrer, the Games would not be the success they are today.