



## **Joe Russo**

**Joe Russo has been the head women's soccer coach at The College of New Jersey since the program's inception in 1990 and has turned the program into a national power. TCNJ's women's soccer program has captured three NCAA Division III titles winning in 1993, 1994 and again in 2000. The Lions have qualified for 21 straight NCAA tournaments and are the all-time leaders in victories in the tournament with 51.**

**Last season, Russo hit a career milestone as he collected his 400th career win as the Lions captured the 2011 New Jersey Athletic Conference title with a win over Richard Stockton College. He added another win in the NCAA Tournament raising his career record to 401-49-28 in 22 seasons. Those 401 wins rank fourth all-time in Division III and his winning percentage of .868 is third among all NCAA Divisions.**

**Since women's soccer was introduced as conference sport in the New Jersey Athletic Conference, Russo has boasted an impressive 133-7 record and have claimed 15 of the 18 championships.**

**Russo was chosen as the 1993 NSCAA/Umbro Division III National Coach of the Year as well as being named NJAC Coach of the Year eight times and is a six-time honoree as the New Jersey College Coach of the Year.**

**When he is not coaching the Lions, Russo also coaches the New Jersey branch of the Olympic Development Program. He led the NJODP U-17 team to back-to-back regional titles in 2010 and 2011. Russo is also active in camps and clinics in the tri-state area, ranging from camp director to guest speaker.**

**A native of the Trenton area, he is well-known in area soccer circles. Prior to taking over the women's program, Russo served as an assistant men's soccer coach at the College for seven seasons (1981-87) and twice during his tenure (1981 and 1984) the Lions gained NCAA Tournament.**

**A standout player in his own right, Joe excelled at Ewing High, garnering All-State honors in both soccer and basketball. In college, Joe was a two-time captain at Alderson Broaddus College in West Virginia, leading the Battlers to the national finals as a junior. We welcome Joe Russo into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.**