

## **RICH FISHER**

The Hall of Fame is full of Steinert graduates who have demonstrated their prowess on the field as players. But one former Spartan has earned his induction into the Hall as a celebrated sportswriter and friend of not only the local soccer community, but of all sports Mercer County. For his 37 years of outstanding reporting in promoting soccer on all levels in Mercer County, we welcome Rich Fisher into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.

Rich's career in writing has seen him cover the game from top to bottom. A long-time booster of the youth soccer scene, Rich has offered extensive travel and recreation round-ups in the local papers and in the vaunted Fish4Scores website. He has covered the local high schools as a writer with the Trentonian since 1981, also earning 14 New Jersey Press Association awards for soccer reporting over the years as a writer for the Princeton Packet newspaper chain.

While working for the Packet group, Rich provided weekly coverage throughout the season, including boys and girls state championship runs for Steinert in 1988, the 2009 Hopewell Valley girls co-state champions, and Nottingham's first sectional title in school history in 1986, along with countless other Mercer County soccer champions over the years.

Appreciating Rich as a Hall member, one needs to survey his work over the years. From his retrospectives on the careers of Bob Smith and Mike Perone to his sensitive reporting on the passing of Mooch and Maynard, from his coverage of local players in the professional ranks to his continued excellence in promoting the quality of Mercer County soccer, he is a respected member of the New Jersey soccer reporting scene, winning the New Jersey Collegiate Soccer Writer of the Year award on several occasions. He has also been a three-time CVC Soccer Writer of the Year.

A graduate of Point Park College with a degree in Journalism & Communications, Rich has the singular distinction of taking a speed reading class with fellow inductee Ted Kinter as the instructor. The soccer fraternity within Mercer County has accepted "Fish" as one of their own for years and tonight we welcome Rich Fisher into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.