



## The Section V Boys' Basketball Committee

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### A Letter to the Coaches, Administrators, Players, and Fans of Section V Boys' Basketball

In 2017, I announced to the committee that I would be stepping down as the seeding coordinator and website manager for Section V Boys' Basketball. The 2017-2018 basketball season was my last as a member of the Section V Boys' Basketball Committee and writer of the Section V Basketball Website.

There are so many people that I have to thank. The early years, I have to thank coaches Paul Mueller and Jim Miller from Pittsford-Sutherland who worked to give me skills to write for the world-wide-web, John and Mike Doser for 25 years of sharing scores every evening, Bret Bystricky, Richard Aylward, and League representatives from all 11 sections in NYSPHSAA who helped with our brackets website. Thank you to all the coaches, who called or texted in scores every night after every game. Thank you to A.D.'s, secretaries, photographers, scorekeepers, students, and school personnel for sending me photos, rosters, schedules, changes, and anything else I ever requested. Thank you to the members of the media. Thank you to all the writers and reporters at newspapers from Rochester to Olean to Corning who I used to call in the early days after midnight to get some scores. The website was the collaborative effort of a cast of thousands. Thank you for the friendship we now share.

Thank you to Doug Westcott for asking me on the committee and allowing me to find my way forward to produce the seeding reports and seed the tournament. Everything, including the website we did, grew from that simple charge. Thank you to Jack Purificato and the Section V Committee for allowing me to create processes to write a website (the first of its kind, I believe) in 1995, produce and publish schedules, rosters, photos, league reports, handle Coach of the Year balloting, and post tournament brackets. Thank you for your understanding of me, even when the work seemed so overwhelming.

Thank you to my mom and to my dad. Dad helped me out with directory information, the mileage chart, and increased communications with schools and mom fed us. Thank you to my twin daughters, Kelsey and Allyssa, you two allowed me to do this work, and came with me to many games, days at headquarters, and allowed me to share what became a passion of mine.

I plan to find a way to stay involved as an independent. We have a brackets website for the entire state that I have been working at for a number of years with some very dedicated basketball fans. That site will still be around going forward. I look forward to being able to help Section V Boys' Basketball in any way I can as the changes in the new leadership and the new website happen.

It's been one of the great privileges of my life.

Philip Abel  
Section V Boys' Basketball Committee 1992-2018