

Tom Bouma

Athletic Director, Husband, Dad, Follower of Jesus

It is an honor to be nominated by an official for this award. This is one of a very few groups that I would fill out a resume for. I consider myself a partner with officials in putting on a great experience for athletes. As an experienced athletic director, I know that there is no better way to have a great experience for our kids than to have my administrative things lined up and have great officials working. When we have officials that work hard and know the game, then coaches, players and parents all feel safe in the athletic environment. So, first, thank you for being a great group to work with! We have the best officials' association in the state. I count many officials as friends and partners in the high school athletic experience. Many of our officials in West Michigan have devoted years to their calling as officials, and I believe that is a noble thing!

My resume is simple. I have worked at Calvin Christian for thirty-eight years. This is my thirty-third year as the Athletic Director here. I have been a part of the OK Blue and the OK Silver divisions. The OK Conference AD's work hard at their craft and are devoted to the athletes in our area. They go above and beyond to do the best they can for student-athletes. I am proud to be a part of the organization! I have coached middle school basketball and track; junior varsity baseball and varsity football at the high school level. I was blessed to watch all four of my children participate in many different athletic teams here at our school. I have been involved in almost every aspect of athletics as a parent, coach and administrator. It has been a blessing!

I have seen great athletic performances at Calvin Christian that include many state championship performances by our teams and individual athletes. I have witnessed acts on the courts, fields, pool, etc. that have been great testimonies to athletes and coaches' faith and devotion. Unfortunately, I have had to discipline coaches, athletes and fans at games to show them what our expectations are and let them know we care enough about them that we are willing to spend that time in discipline. Those are never pleasant things, but they are important. We need to keep high expectations for all parts of the high school athletic experience, so that it remains a great educational event for student-athletes.

Thanks for what you guys and gals do for the kids of our area! We really are blessed to have such wonderful people working with our kids!

Thanks and Blessings,

Tom