



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June xx, 2026

ASCA Announces 2026 Impact Coach Award Finalists; Winner to Be Revealed at World Clinic in Orlando

The American Swimming Coaches Association (ASCA) has announced the finalists for its 2026 Impact Coach Award, recognizing coaches whose influence extends far beyond race results and championship banners.

The award celebrates coaches who make a lasting difference in the lives of athletes, fellow coaches, and their communities through leadership, mentorship, service, and dedication to the sport. The 2026 recipient will be announced during the ASCA World Clinic on September 11 in Orlando, Florida.

The finalists were selected by the ASCA Awards Committee from nominations submitted by coaches, athletes, parents, and members of the swimming community. The committee evaluated candidates based on their demonstrated impact on athletes, mentorship of fellow coaches, service to the sport, and lasting influence within their communities.

This year's World Clinic theme is "**Grassroots to Podium: It Starts With Us,**" highlighting the essential role coaches play at every level of athlete development—from introducing young swimmers to the sport to guiding athletes to the highest levels of international competition.

The 2026 finalists represent a diverse group of coaches whose nominations highlighted their commitment to athlete development, mentorship, and service to the swimming community.

Bill Siderys — Washington Township Swim Club (IN)

Bill Siderys was recognized for the profound and lasting influence he has had on both athletes and coaches throughout his career. Siderys currently serves as a coach with the Washington Township Swim Club in Indianapolis.

According to his nomination, Siderys' impact extends far beyond the pool deck as he serves as a mentor, leader, and culture-builder who consistently elevates those around him. His dedication to developing people, not just swimmers, has left a lasting mark on the swimming community and exemplifies the spirit of the Impact Coach Award.

Adam Miles — Ridge Point High School, Fort Bend ISD (TX)

Ridge Point High School coach Adam Miles was nominated for what was described as "relentless dedication, selflessness, and unfaltering commitment."

His nomination highlighted Miles' ability to connect with athletes on a personal level, understanding not only their strengths in the water but also their motivations, challenges, and goals outside the pool. He was credited with creating an environment where athletes feel accepted, valued, and supported both athletically and academically.

Miles was also praised for his commitment to mentoring fellow coaches, generously sharing his knowledge and experience and dedicating significant time to helping others succeed in the profession.

The nomination concluded that Miles exemplifies what an impactful coach looks like through his service to athletes, colleagues, and the broader aquatics community.

Ashleigh Kramer — Rochester Aquatics / Rochester Swim Club (MN)

Ashleigh Kramer, Program Director of the Swim America Swim School and Executive Administrator for Rochester Aquatics, was recognized for her leadership, mentorship, and commitment to growing the sport.

Her nomination highlighted her role in expanding Rochester Aquatics' learn-to-swim programs while creating a welcoming, athlete-centered environment for young swimmers and their families. She was also praised for mentoring instructors and helping build a positive culture throughout the organization.

Beyond her work in the pool, Kramer was recognized for her dedication to the Rochester aquatics community and for helping create opportunities that introduce new families to swimming and support the development of future competitive athletes.

Tony Santino — Cardinal Community Swim Club (IN)

Tony Santino, Head Coach of the Cardinal Community Swim Club, was recognized for more than 25 years of service to swimming in Muncie, Indiana.

His nomination emphasized his ability to work effectively with swimmers of all ages and abilities, from beginners learning the fundamentals to elite athletes pursuing high-level goals. Santino was praised for his enthusiasm, knowledge, and ability to motivate athletes to train with purpose while fostering a lifelong love for the sport.

The nomination also highlighted the significant impact he has made within his local swimming community through his dedication to athletes, families, and fellow coaches.

Celebrating Coaching Impact

While competitive success remains an important part of coaching, the ASCA Impact Coach Award focuses on the broader influence coaches have on the people and communities they serve.

The four finalists collectively represent decades of service, mentorship, leadership, and athlete-centered coaching. Their nominations reflect the countless ways coaches shape lives, build confidence, create opportunities, and strengthen the sport at every level.

"These finalists embody the spirit of our 2026 World Clinic theme, *Grassroots to Podium: It Starts With Us*," said ASCA CEO Jennifer LaMont. "Whether they are teaching a beginner to love the water, mentoring a young coach, or guiding athletes toward their highest goals, each of these coaches demonstrates the extraordinary impact that great coaching can have on individuals and communities."

The 2026 ASCA Impact Coach Award winner will be announced during the ASCA World Clinic in Orlando on September 11. Additional information about the World Clinic, including registration and schedule updates, can be found at www.ascaworldclinic.com.