



Our final inductee's route to CBA was much different from our previous ones. In fact, he went through most of his life not only not wanting to come to CBA, but consciously avoided it. It took his wife Darcy's ultimatum to even have him consider sending his daughter to CBA. But after they got his foot in the door he began to understand what CBA is really all about and bought in hook line and sinker!

You see Doug was a lacrosse star at Jamesville Dewitt. After a year at Loomis Chaffee, his accomplishments earned him a scholarship to Syracuse University where he was a four-year letterman. Doug was selected team captain as a senior and scored 2 goals in the National semifinal game but it wasn't enough as the Orangemen (before we worried about political correctness and they still had the Saltine Warrior as a mascot) came up short. For his efforts, Doug was chosen to for North South all-star game. He was fortunate to have played for one the best coaches in the history of the game of lacrosse, Roy Simmons Jr. Following that season, he was ready to put away the cleats and go into the real world where he could put his Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography to work. Along the way he married Darcy O'Connor, a woman whose grandfather and brothers all attended CBA. They were blessed with three daughters who Doug envisioned would wear the red and white of his alma mater. Well the O'Connor part of the family had a different idea, so much to Doug's chagrin, oldest daughter Claire entered CBA in eighth grade in 1994.

Doug's CBA coaching career actually began in Soccer. Godwin Iwelumo, who was Kelly Niland's skipper, asked Doug to help him with his team. Although Doug did more counseling to the players than coaching, he did learn about how to deal with a team during that time. A few years later, girls' lacrosse coach Gina Burrows asked for his assistance and Doug, for many reasons, jumped on board. This was actually in his wheelhouse. He became a valuable member of the staff and started to enjoy working with young people. As fate would have it, a few years later the head girls lacrosse coaching position came open and while he knew it would be a strain on him, the urging of Darcy and the chance to coach his daughter Sarah won out. As a side note, Doug expressed interest in the position only if we didn't have any qualified candidates. Full disclosure, the Athletic Director never even looked for any other candidates. He knew that Doug was the man we needed to take over the program! Doug knew how to run a successful business so he just needed to find a way to take the traits that made him a great CEO and transfer them over to make him a great C O A C H. He knew the formula; he had

the knowledge and a caring way about him. He knew he needed to surround himself with great people and over the years that is exactly what he did. As Coach K did for USA basketball, Doug put together his dream team. His daughter Claire was his assistant from the beginning. Then he added Fran Webster with his defensive genius, and Pat Britton with his ability train the girls physically. Finally, he added Dan Queri at the JV level and his management and people skills allowed each of these coaches to make positive contributions to the program.



In his first few years of coaching his teams has some success. In his first six years, his teams won nearly 70 percent of their games (82-36). They made two appearances in the sectional final, both times coming up just short to Skaneateles. However, it was that second championship game loss in 2010 that actually set the stage for the turning point of the program. Coach Sedgwick agonized over that loss. It ate away at him, they were right on the doorstep but something was missing. What plays could we have run, or what defense should we have played. The turning point came one year later, almost to the day. The Brothers again would face the feared Lakers for the sectional championship. It was a hard fought contest, tied at 6 at the half. Then at 9 with just over nine minutes left.

Nine minutes to erase the memory of the past two championship games. Sedgwick called timeout. Calmly and confidently, like a general in the field, he gave the girls, his soldiers, their marching orders. And they executed to perfection. His team scored the last 3 goals of the game and became sectional champions. What were the girls thinking? It was put into words by Sophie Rachatti who was later quoted as saying, "We're having fun, it's our family vs. their team". That was it, the missing piece. It wasn't a problem with the X's and O's, those in coaching high school are overrated. It is being able to reach the hearts of your players, the Lasallian way. Once you have done that, anything is possible. That year the great CEO became the great C O A C H. And oh yes, the team did go on and win the Class C state championship.

The individual honors came pouring in. Sedgwick was selected the CNY Coach of the year and was honored by the Syracuse Sports Corporation with the Reed Hawke Sportsmanship Award. But it was that win that sent the program catapulting through the glass ceiling. Since that season, Doug's teams overall record is 111 – 16. His teams have won six consecutive league championships 5 out of six sectional championships... 2 in C, 2 in B and 1 in A... His teams have advanced to the final four in five out of the last six years and after winning that Class C championship in 2011, they followed it up with the B Championship and in 2016 won the Class A Championship. Last years undefeated team also finished ranked second in the Country in the final USA lacrosse poll. Doug is finally receiving the accolades that he deserves. He was selected by Syracuse University as a Letterman of Distinction in 2012, named the CNY Coach of the Year in 2016 and just two weeks ago was inducted into the Upstate New York Lacrosse Hall of Fame.



I know the magnitude of the honor you are receiving tonight pales in comparison to some that you have already received. Nevertheless, I hope you understand that what is being bestowed upon you tonight is a heartfelt thank you from the entire CBA Community