

Port Washington Youth Activities
PYA HALL OF FAME

Greg Pond

Greg Pond's involvement with PYA culminated in his 9 years as a Board member, and 3 years as Secretary and key person on the organization's Insurance and Legal Committees. He was known for his clever communication skills in leading PYA as an officer and committee-head. His coaching tenure at PYA included 5 years as a head coach in girls' basketball, 1 year as coach in boys' basketball, 2 years as a head baseball coach, and 5 years as an assistant coach in football. He also officiated in the girls' basketball program.



Greg graduated from Tri-Valley High School in upstate Grahamsville in the Catskills, where he played 4 years of football, with 2 varsity seasons; he was team captain his senior year. Greg also was on Tri-Valley's track & field team for 2 varsity years as well. He made his way to Long Island soon after, heading to St. John's University, where he received his undergraduate degree in 1980. While he played inter-fraternity football there for 3 years, he also continued to develop his leadership skills as president of the Beta Epsilon Rho fraternity, treasurer of the Student Union, and was named one of twelve seniors in the Presidents' Society (The President's Society honors those students who combine scholarship, integrity, maturity, and a well-rounded personality with University-wide awareness, participation and leadership, demonstrated by their significant contributions to the extracurricular life of St. John's).

He stayed on at St. John's to pursue his law degree, which he received in 1983. Admitted to the NYS Bar in 1984, he held associate and partner position in a number of firms on Long Island over the years, and is currently a Partner at Certilman Balin in East Meadow where he chairs their Trusts and Estates practice. Greg also finds time to stay involved with his alma mater as he is an adjunct professor of business law at St. John's in the Tobin College of Business. Greg also volunteers at the university on the committee for their annual Father Dorr Golf Classic fundraiser. When he catches his breath, Greg manages to get in a round or two of golf, and keeps busy in the winter by hitting the slopes in the downhill slalom.

Greg has resided in Port Washington since 1987, and he and his wife Irene recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. His daughter Nikki, a Boston College alumnus, and his son Tim were both active PYA athletes. Nikki has been in Denver for the last 3 years working for AmeriCorps (a non-profit youth sports organization – sound familiar?). She will be heading back east to Harvard this fall for graduate school. Tim continued his athletic exploits as a lacrosse player at the Division I level for Holy Cross, graduating in 2013, and works in commercial real estate.

Greg stepped down as a PYA officer and board member in 2008, but stays active on our Alumni Board where his perspective and experience remain invaluable.