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Media Contact

David.Bevivino@ncc.edu

516.572.6641



Nassau Community College Athletics

First in the State to Offer Women's Wresting for Junior College Athletics

Garden City, **NY** - The Nassau Community College Athletics department is taking a big step forward for a new generation of women athletes. Women's Wresting will be coming to Nassau this fall as a varsity sport.

NJCAA Wrestling Hall of Famer, Paul Schmidt will oversee the new women's wresting program. Under Coach Schmidt's direction Nassau Community College Men's wrestling team is a nationally recognized wrestling program that consistently produces national champions, All-Americans, and professional fighters like Chris Weidman. Coach Paul Schmidt has, for more than 30 years, been part of the Coaching staff. Since he has become the head coach he has led teams to 8 National titles, been named the National NJCAA Coach of the year 7 times and had been inducted into the National Wrestling hall of fame in 2015. Coach Schmidt has been the driving force in bringing the women's wrestling program to our campus.

"I am very excited about bringing women's wrestling program to NCC". As the head Coach of the men's program Coach Schmidt has made sure to always surround himself on his staff with talented and experienced coaches. He continued "We will share the talents of our entire men's wresting coaching staff to build our new women's wresting team. We are all committed to the success of the women's program."

Nassau Community College has announced that Sam Thomas, NCC alum, and former NCC wrestler himself, has been named as the new head coach for this team. He brings years of his own experience as both a former athlete and NCC Coach. Additionally, former two-time World Champion, European Champion and Olympian, Coach Vougar Orounjov will be working hand-in-hand with training and coaching our women's wrestlers.

NCC Athletics Athletic Director Kerri Ann McTiernan stated "We are committed to be in the forefront for women's athletics", she continued "women's wresting is a growing sport and we are proud to have this team be part of our National award winning wresting family".

Women's wrestling has been gaining a lot of traction nationally as the NCAA is now reviewing adding the sport to its list of varsity programs.

For more information about this new program or any other Athletic programs, visit <u>Nassaulions.com</u> or call 516-572-6641.