

Santa Rosa City Schools
211 Ridgeway Ave.
Santa Rosa, Ca 95401

RE: Doug Courtemarche

To Whom it May Concern,

I have known Doug since the early 1990's when he was an age group coach and his team worked out at SRHS. I was coaching at SRHS at that time and had a good sense of his talent as a coach and his treatment of his athletes. When asked by the SRHS AD at the time about a replacement for the outgoing coach, Ken Goetzel, I immediately suggested Doug for the Head Coaching position. I had been coaching track in Santa Rosa City Schools for 20 plus years and had seen a great number of coaches in the North Bay Area. An experienced coach knows when he/she sees an excellent coach and there was never any doubt with Doug Courtemarche. Track is a complex sport to coach with 16 different events to master. Seldom do you find a person who can coach them all, maintain the equipment and facilities, be capable of putting on dual meets and multi-team track meets and be able to coach, control and lead 100 or more adolescent athletes. I was a head coach at Cook Middle School 1972-1976 and Montgomery High School 1976-1979 so I have some experience in the challenges of being a head track coach. Doug has done it for 27 years...amazing. When you walk onto a track to see a Doug coached team you immediately sense the practice is well organized; the athletes are engaged and enjoying the experience and Doug is having fun.

They don't make them like Doug anymore. He is the total package.

I coached with him his first couple years as a head coach and it was a wonderful experience. I wholeheartedly recommend the SR City Schools name the SRHS Track The Doug Courtemarche Track.

Michael Grace
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