



John Klinnert

2022 NY Mills
**Wall of
Fame**

John Klinnert graduated from New York Mills High School in 1965. During his years there he participated in five sports and was awarded twelve letters. After high school, he ran cross country for two years at Moorhead State. He then spent eighteen years, from 1969-1987, in education as a teacher, counselor, principal, and athletic director with Royalton, Cyrus, and Underwood, while coaching four different sports. John is currently in his 35th year owning JK Sports and Outdoors with his two sons in Fergus Falls. He was appointed by the governor to the Minnesota State High School League from 2006-2010, where he served as treasurer in 2009-10, and he has served on the Minnesota State High School League Foundation Board since 2017. In 2019 he was inducted into the Minnesota Basketball Coaches Hall of Honor. As an official, John was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in 2006 by the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association, and he is now in his 45th year refereeing high school and college basketball and football. He has refereed over 3000 regular-season basketball games and over 500 regular-season football games at both high school and college levels. John has also refereed over 500 basketball and football tournament games, including over 100 district and section finals. In addition, he has refereed in thirty-nine high school and college basketball and football state tournaments, including five state championship finals.

Thank you for this great honor, as I am always proud to call New York Mills my hometown.