

BRAVE BRAWLERS

WRESTLING STAFF

The 2018 Flathead Wrestling team returns from winning the State Championship the last two years. The Braves will return with one of the most experienced wrestling staffs in the state. Coach Thompson will again lead the Braves for another year. Coach Thompson has won six state championships and has had four national ranked teams in his nine years at the Flathead Wrestling helm. The Braves wrestling staff are ready for gearing up for the 2017-18 year and getting back on the mats.

The 2018-19 wrestling team will be led by six time Montana wrestling coach of the year (MCA) Jeff Thompson, who coached the Braves for ten years and completed an amazing 167-23 dual meet record and has had 122 state placers as the coach at Flathead High School. Coach Thompson has led the Braves to a 3rd place trophy in 2003, a state championship in 2004, and a runner-up finish in 2005 and state championships in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2017, and 2018. The Braves wrestling staff is looking to continue the winning tradition for the 2019 season and to try to bring home another state trophy. "This year looks a lot like a rebuilding year on paper losing 7 state placers but we like to look at it as a Reloading Year!. We will have a lot of talented wrestlers returning with some tough underclassman putting on the black and orange for the first time. It's going to be a lot of fun." States Coach Thompson As a 2X returning state championship team this year, the Braves are looking more at bringing home a state trophy and lots of individual hardware. Thompson, a former 3x state champion for Great Falls High School (Class of 1991) and High School All-American, wrestled at the University of Minnesota where he was an All-Big Ten Conference Wrestler and a member of the 1994 #1 Ranked team in the country. Thompson previously was the co-head coach at Pacific Lutheran University. Coach Thompson was a Regional National Coach of the year in 2008 and 2004. Coach Thompson enjoys training for triathlons and hiking in his free time. He completed the grueling Ironman in 108 degree weather in 2015 and an X-Terra in 2016. Coach Thompson is in his 19th year as a Business Teacher at Flathead High School and is married to Carrie Thompson, a Nurse Practitioner at Kalispell Regional Health Center. Coach Thompson has three daughters; Shayenn (18), Skyleigh (16), and Hunter McGillivray (15). He also has three boys in 13 year old twins Anders and Gunnar and Colt McGillivray who is 12.

Coach Thompson's Record at Flathead High School:

Year	Record	State Placers	State Finalist	State Champs	State Place
2001	12-6	7	2	0	6 th
2002	12-4	8	3	1	6 th
2003	15-3	11	3	1	3 rd
2004	16-3	15	8	1	1 st (38 th USA)
2005	17-1	12	6	2	2 nd
2006	17-1	17	7	0	1 st
2007	17-1	18	9	3	1 st (21 st USA)
2008	20-0	19	10	5	1 st (9 th USA)
2017	19-2	11	3	0	1 st
2018	22-2	15	5	3	1 st (#37 USA)
Overall	167-23 (87%)	122	53	16	

The Braves have assembled one of the best coaching staffs in the state. They are:

TYLER WELLS

Coach Wells is in his 2nd year as a coach for the Braves. Coach Wells was a 2008 State Champion for Flathead High School and wrestled for North Dakota State University. Wells was also a high school All-American and a Junior World Team Trials All-American. Coach Wells graduated from NDSU in 2012 and works for Payne Financial in Kalispell. Coach Wells was a Montana Assistant Coach of the year in 2017 and 2018.

DALLAS STUKER

Coach Stuker is getting back on the mat as a Braves wrestling coach. Coach Stuker has been a Montana Assistant Coach of the year (MCA) six times. Stuker was a very well rounded student-athlete from Helena Capital High School and graduated in 1998 where he competed in football, wrestling, and legion baseball. He was a 3X State placer in wrestling for Capital and was a state runner-up while in high school. He went on to play football and baseball at the collegiate level for the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota. He was a contributing factor for helping Payton Hume sign with the University of Mary for wrestling last year. He was twice named NAIA Academic All-American. He began coaching at Flathead High School in 2003 as a football coach and a Kalispell Middle School wrestling coach. Dallas is an assistant principle for Kalispell Middle School.

JUSTIN WHITMAN

Coach Whitman is in his 1st year as a coach for the Braves. Coach Whiteman was a State Finalist for Columbia Falls High School, a 3rd place finisher in the state of Georgia, and wrestled for the University of Providence where he was a starter and a National Tournament qualifier. Coach Whitman coached and taught at Wolf Point last year. Coach Whitman was also a 2X All-State Cross-country runner in high school. Coach Whitman graduated from college in 2016 and is also a science teacher at Flathead. Coach Whitman is also the head coach for the Flathead Valley Wrestling Club.

MARC NADEAU

Coach Nadeau is in his 3rd year as a coach for the Braves. Coach Nadeau wrestled for his dad at Oshkosh West High School in Wisconsin. After graduating from high school, Coach Nadeau then went into US Army Special Forces for four years. Coach Nadeau graduated from the University of Colorado, where he became a wrestling coach at Fairview High School in Boulder. Coach Nadeau was also an Assistant Wrestling Coach/Teacher at Columbia Falls High School for seven years before coming to Flathead. Coach Nadeau coached the Bigfork Wrestling Club for 10 years. Coach Nadeau is an English teacher at the VoAg. Center for the school district. Coach Nadeau was voted Montana Assistant Wrestling Coach of the Year for 2017 and 2018.

SULLY SULLIVAN

Coach Sullivan is in his 5th year as a Braves wrestling coach. He is a former University of Montana wrestlers and Whitefish Assistant Coach from 1998-2016. Coach Sully was voted Montana Assistant Wrestling Coach of the Year of 2017 and 2018.

KELLY QUINN

Coach Quinn is a former high school wrestler from Oregon and wrestled for Portland State University. Coach Quinn is in his 5th year as a Braves wrestling coach. Coach Quinn focuses on Flathead's heavier weight wrestlers where he coached both heavyweights to the state finals last year. Coach Quinn was voted Montana Assistant Wrestling Coach of the Year for 2017 and 2018.

KEVIN WILMOT

Coach Wilmot is a former All-American for the University of Wisconsin. He has spent the last several years as a volunteer wrestling coach for the Braves. Coach Wilmot is a great technician and his passion for the sport is contagious. Dr. Wilmot is a chiropractor and owns Northern Lights Chiropractic in Kalispell. Coach Wilmot is such an asset to this Braves wrestling team.

BOB WILSON

Coach Wilson has an extensive wrestling career as a coach and as an athlete. Coach Wilson was a state champion in high school in Libby. Coach Wilson wrestled in college at Western Montana and has coached for FVWC, Kalispell Middle School, and Flathead High for many years in the past. Coach Wilson brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Flathead Wrestling Program. Coach Wilson will also be helping coach the Flathead Valley Wrestling Club this season.