



Ray Baca Canyon High School

Ray Baca grew up in Canyon, Texas with his parents T.B. and Juanita Baca and one brother Mark Baca. He graduated from Canyon High School in 1988 and from West Texas A&M in December of 1994.

Ray began his career in education as a 7th grade science teacher and volunteer track coach at Bowie Middle School in Amarillo, Texas, for one semester in Spring of 1995. In the fall of 1995, Ray began his teaching and coaching career in Hereford, TX. He got hired as an assistant coach for cross country, basketball, and track. He became the head coach of track in the 1996-97 school year and continued as the assistant basketball coach. The following school year he took over as the head coach of the girls and boys cross country teams and the girls track team. Coach Baca taught Biology at Hereford High School. In the fall of 2010, Coach Baca accepted the position of head girls cross country and track coach at his alma mater Canyon High School. Coach Baca still holds this position today.

Throughout his time in Hereford and Canyon, Coach Baca has had the honor of coaching both individuals and teams at the UIL State Cross Country and UIL State Track meets.

Coaching Accomplishments

26 years as a Head Cross Country Coach

26 years as a Head Track and Field Coach (w/ one Covid year)

Cross Country:

79 Individual State Qualifiers
26 Medalists
2 Individual State Champions
5 Individual State Runner-Ups
2 4A (now 5A) Individual State Record Holders
26 State Team Qualifiers
10 State Team Medalists
6 State Champion Teams
1 State Runner-Up Team

Track & Field:

105 State Qualifiers
59 Medalists
29 Individual State Champions
3 State Champion Teams
1 State Champion Runner-Up Team
6 State Records
5 All-Americans

Coach Baca has been extremely fortunate to be a member of the Texas Girls Coaches Association and other coaches' associations that have recognized his teams' successes and therefore awarded him with following awards:

TGCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 6X
TGCA Track COY – 2X
CCCAT COY – 6X
USTFCCCA COY – 1X
NFHS Southwest Section COY – 2X
NFHS Texas COY – 3X
Texas Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame Track COY – 3X
Texas Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame Cross Country COY – 1X

More than championships and accolades, Coach Baca is proud of the lasting relationships he's developed with his athletes, families, and coaches over the years. He has loved serving coaches' associations throughout his career and has held several positions that he is extremely proud of.

President of TGCA
TGCA Board of Directors

Numerous TGCA Track and Cross Country Committees
Executive Director of the Cross Country Coaches Association of Texas
(CCCAT)
TTFCA Board of Directors
Several THSCA committees

He has been honored to be an advocate of his sports across the state of Texas.

The thing Coach Baca is most proud in his life is his wonderful family. He is married to Kate Baca and has 5 kids: Christopher of New Braunfels, Ryan of Fort Worth, Michellie of Canyon, Regan and Reece who are still at home in Canyon, and granddaughter Nora of Canyon.