

<https://ultimatehall.org/members/larry-schindel/>

Larry Schindel, Frisbee Hall of Fame

Larry Schindel was one of the early developers of the game of Ultimate, as player and general manager of the Columbia High School team from 1970-72. While others were interested in little more than tossing a disc around, Larry had the prescience to realize how important promotion, communication, and the development of a critical mass were to the survival and growth of Ultimate. He was one of the key forces in the institutionalization of the sport, working closely with Irv Kalb from 1970-78 in the development of the rules of the game. Together with Irv, Larry was the “Johnny Appleseed” of Ultimate, and he tirelessly promoted the expansion of the sport in the 1970s at high schools and colleges across the East Coast. He chaired the first “East Coast Captains’ Meeting” in 1975, with 56 representatives from 32 teams attending, which was crucial in facilitating interscholastic and tournament competition in that pre-Internet era when communication was much more difficult. Larry was the founder of the Washington Area Frisbee Club in 1977 (now one of the largest clubs in all of the U.S.), and was coordinator and then director of the Smithsonian Frisbee Festival (later called the National Frisbee disc Festival) from 1977-95.

Larry lives in Bryantown, MD, with his wife Shirley, and their two children. He works as a billing coordinator and estimator for a full-service printing company. Larry is very active in community affairs; he and his wife have been therapeutic-care Foster Parents since 1995, he was Co-founder of Recycling Action for Charles County (Md), he is on various boards of his church, and he has been named as Citizen of the Year by his local Lion’s and Rotary Clubs. He was the Commencement Speaker at Columbia High School (Maplewood, N.J.) in 1996. His mottos are “Anything worth doing is worth doing well” and “Organize so that others can enjoy.”

Contributions & Service

- **1970:** Was one of 11 who challenged the "original" CHSVFS on June 18th 1970 and then became the CHSVFT
- **1970-1978:** Involved with the rules revisions for Ultimate Frisbee (as a member of CHSVFT, and as Ultimate Frisbee Coordinator until the UPA’s inception).
- **1970:** Larry Schindel, Robert Evans, and other RAG members sent the Ultimate Frisbee rules to many other high schools in northern New Jersey, inviting them to form teams. Often they used their connections with fellow Boy Scouts to spread the word. Millburn High School responded and on the night of November 7, 1970, the

first interscholastic Ultimate Frisbee game pitted Millburn against the Columbia Varsity. The game was covered by the "Evening News" and the publicity generated interest from students at other schools, who subsequently requested more copies of the rules. The New Jersey Frisbee Conference was then formed.

- **1973:** Traveled with other CHSVFT members to Copper Harbor, Michigan to compete in Guts Frisbee at the International Frisbee Tournament, and to introduce the 1FT to Ultimate Frisbee.
- **1974-1976:** Teacher of one of the first college's Frisbee classes which gave physical education Credit – Rochester Institute of Technology.
- **1974, 1975:** Coordinated with Wham-O for the introduction, at the World Frisbee Championships — Rose Bowl, of "Netbee Ultimate" and "Hot Spot Ultimate."
- **1974-1977:** Competitor, World Frisbee Championships, Rose Bowl
- **1975:** Chairman of the FIRST Ultimate Frisbee Captain's meeting held at Columbia High School. 56 representatives from 32 teams attended, despite a massive snowstorm.
- **1977:** Accuracy Champion, Virginia State Frisbee Championships
- **1985, 1989:** Served on coordinating committee for the 1985 and 1989 Ultimate Nationals in Washington, D.C.
- **1977-1983:** Frisbee advisor to the Smithsonian Frisbee Festival (later, the National Frisbee Festival).
- **1984-1995:** Director and logistics coordinator: The National Frisbee Festival. These events were the world's largest gathering of people playing Frisbee, ranging from 3,999 to 25,999. The Festival's purposes were: playing, exhibition, and instruction of all Frisbee skills, including Ultimate.
- Logistics and site coordinator for the canine Frisbee championships in Washington, DC —Ashley Whippet Canine Championships, and SkyHoundz Canine Championships