

Maureen McKannan or better known as Coach Moe is a native of Mobile, Alabama. She is the youngest of seven children, raised in a Catholic family by her parents, Cyril and Jean Sullivan. She graduated from Davidson High School in Mobile, where she was All-City in volleyball for three years. After High School she attended Southern Mississippi on a volleyball scholarship. While at University Southern Miss, Maureen was a four year starter during 1981 through 1985. She was ranked in the top 10 in the Nation for service aces and kills, and was named to the All-Metro Conference her senior year. Maureen came to Huntsville in 1987 where she has become a fixture in the volleyball community.

Maureen is the mother/stepmother of four children, Ryan McKannan, Kenny Spencer who attends Troy University, Jennifer McKannan, who attends and plays volleyball for Birmingham Southern and Kayla Spencer who has 2 years of college volleyball experience. She was involved with children by coaching all the sports they played, such as basketball, volleyball, softball, and baseball. Presently, she and her husband, David are active fundraisers for the ALS/MDA Foundations. David was diagnosed in 2008 with ALS. He is Coach Moe's drive to never complain about the small stuff, take one day at a time, and never give up. They participate in the MDA fundraiser—David McKannan Run for ALS Research in May and ALS walk in August. In 2009, her JPII volleyball players got involved by heading up a raffle for ALS research which raised \$2,400.00.

Coach McKannan started the Huntsville Volleyball Recreation program in 1996 and continued for 6 years as the leader to keep this program strong. She was a PE teacher/coach at Ed White Middle School for 2 years, and Whitesburg Middle School volleyball coach for 3 years. She also coached in the club system for North Alabama Spikers Association (NASA) for 4 years and for the Rocket City Volleyball Club (RCVC) for 8 years. She has been the head volleyball coach at JPII for 3 years. In the 2nd year, lead her team to the State Tournament, finishing in the Final Four—best volleyball finish in the school's history. As Athletic Director at JPII, this is her first year.

Her coaching philosophy is to help young athletes at all levels in reaching their potential, encouraging athletes to pursue their dreams and goals while maintaining a balance with other sports and education. She believes in the chemistry of a team. How good chemistry of a team can help you reach your goals, no matter how high. She is a natural encourager and enjoys seeing athletes achieve their goals. She is convinced that athletic goals, no matter how big or small, can positively impact all other areas of life. Success is more than the wins and losses. She believes that being part of a "team" will help you become a successful adult.

"My husband and I have coached for years," states Coach Moe. "Both of us have previous athletes write, email, or just stop by to check up on us. When we see or hear from kids we have coached, it never fails to make us feel so blessed. The best part of coaching is the goofy times. Those times truly outweigh the bad. Neither of us has ever regretted giving up the time on the court, field, or track. It has been our calling. The kids have a talent of turning a bad day at work into a great day at practice."