Jeff J. Cluff
Associate Director

Brenan L. Jackson
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Jan H. Whittaker
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UHSAA Mourns the Passing of Associate Director Jeff Cluff

It is with heavy hearts that the Utah High School Activities Association shares the passing of our dear friend and colleague, Associate Director Jeff Cluff, on Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2026. He was 49.

The Cluff family has shared a beautiful tribute to Jeff, remembering him as a man who lived with integrity, kindness and a deep sense of fairness, both on the field and at home. Their full statement, along with information about memorial services, is available through family spokesperson Kennedy (KP) Cluff at instagram.com/kpcluff.

A Letter from All of Us at the UHSAA

To our member schools, officials, coaches, students and the entire Utah high school activities community:

When you hang it up, when you walk off the field knowing you've played your last game, the moments that matter stay with you for a lifetime. You remember the wins and the losses, the people who carried you through the hard moments, and the lessons you learned just by watching someone else play the game. When your mind goes back to the good old days, it always finds its way back to the people.

With Jeff, it felt like we still had more game to play. We'd venture to say there are hundreds of people across this state who feel the same way. Jeff is there in so many of the memories we return to, in moments that helped shape who we are. Many of us are realizing just how much those moments meant as we tell those stories again this week.

So many of those stories happened because of the work Jeff did. He came to the UHSAA in 2014 as our Supervisor of Officials and became the longest-tenured member of our current leadership team. He oversaw officiating and baseball across the state, and he handled much of the work most people never see, from eligibility and compliance to technology, media and communications. Before joining us, he spent 13 years at Dixie State University, now Utah Tech. And long before any of that, he was a Tooele Buffalo, playing four seasons of baseball for his high school.

The game never left him. Jeff was a respected NCAA Division I baseball umpire who worked the Mountain West, West Coast and Western Athletic Conferences, and he led the baseball umpires of the Scenic West Athletic Conference. For four decades, he officiated nearly every sport you can name.

There will never be another Jeff Cluff. He was tenacious and passionate in everything he did, and he brought energy and laughter into our office every day. He cared about people in a way that made them feel they mattered. Jeff didn't know how to give less than everything. Whether it was a state championship or a small detail no one else would notice, he wanted it done right.

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In the middle of all this heartache, the people who make up our athletics community have been calling, checking in, and sharing their memories of Jeff. We've felt so much love from people who are hurting right alongside us. We keep coming back to how grateful we are that we get to hold on to those memories together.

We are a small staff, and we lean on each other like family. Jeff was at the center of that family. His fingerprints are on everything we do, and we will honor him by carrying his work forward.

Above all, Jeff was a husband and a father. To Monica and the kids: we love you, we are praying for you, and whatever you need, we are here. The family has asked for privacy as they grieve, and we ask that everyone respect that.

Losing a colleague is hard. Losing our friend has been heartbreaking.

Rest easy, Jeff.

With love,

All of us at the Utah High School Activities Association