VLADIMIR Vladev

OWNER & PROGRAM DIRECTOR

USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame • Class of 2023

Vladimir "Vladi" Vladev has dedicated more than 45 years to Acrobatic Gymnastics as an elite athlete, elite coach, International (FIG) judge, USAGymnastics judge ,mentor, program leader, and advocate for the sport. His career spans international competitions, athlete development, national and international coaching, judging, committee services, and the growth of Acrobatic Gymnastics in the United States.

AN INTERNATIONALLY DECORATED ATHLETE

Before beginning his coaching career, Vladi competed internationally for Bulgaria at the highest levels of Acrobatic Gymnastics. As a senior elite men's pair athlete.He earned more than 25 medals at World Championships, World Cups, European Championships, World Games and international tournaments.

Vladi was named National Master of Sport of Bulgaria in 1989 and International Master of Sport in 1993. He was the 1993 European All-Around Champion and 1994 Vice World Champion. He was recognized among Bulgaria's leading Acrobatic Gymnastics athletes of his era ,so as part of Bulgaria's best men's pair in Acrobatic Gymnastics and received a distinguished award of achievement from Bulgaria.

DEVELOPING ATHLETES ON THE WORLD STAGE

Throughout his coaching career, Vladi has helped to develop athletes who have represented Team USA and several countries at the highest levels of national and international Acrobatic Gymnastics.

Besides the hundreds of state, regional, national and international champions and medalists, athletes under his coaching and guidance have qualified for the Youth Olympic Games, and have competed, placed, medaled, and received distinguished honors at World Championships, World Games, Pan American Games, and World Cups!

His international influence has extended beyond Team USA. Vladi has helped develop athletes, programs, and gyms representing Bulgaria, Mexico, Australia, and assisted in bringing those athletes to the world stage. He has also shared his coaching expertise beyond Acrobatic Gymnastics, including his work with college-level synchronized swimming athletes.

COACHING, LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Vladi's impact on the sport extends far beyond competition results. Throughout his years with USA Gymnastics, he has served as a National Team Coach, national and international clinician, USA Gymnastics judge, and volunteer. His service has included involvement with developmental, elite, and selection committees within the USA Gymnastics Acrobatic Program.

His coaching honors include USA Gymnastics Junior Olympic Coach of the Year in 2010 and 2014 and USA Acrobatic Gymnastics Elite Coach of the Year in 2015, 2018, 2019, and 2021.He received the Gymnastic Association of Texas (GAT) Distinguished Award in 2016.He earned, as a coach, the distinguished award of Master of Sport in the United States with USA Gymnastics!

Vladi holds a bachelor's degree in Coaching Acrobatic Gymnastics and Physical Education, communicates in five languages, and brings more than 45 years of experience to the sport. Beyond gymnastics, his work with local schools and community programs has allowed him to use sport and education to help build and support his community.

A HALL OF FAME LEGACY

In 2023, Vladi was inducted into the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame as a coach, recognizing his decades of achievement's, leadership, athletes development, and contribution to Acrobatic Gymnastics in the United States.

His career as the first Bulgarian Acrobatic Gymnastics coach inducted into the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame represents a unique bridge between the international history of the sport and its continued development in the United States.

After stepping away from the day-to-day operations of AGSA for several years, Vladi has returned to a more active leadership role as Owner and Program Director. He continues to guide AGSA through the principles that have defined his career: strong fundamentals, disciplined training, positive coaching, long-term athlete development, and a commitment to growing the sport of Acrobatic Gymnastics.