

The Arena Wrestling Academy (AWA) is Harford County's Premiere Training Program for Wrestling. This academy boasts all-star staff including, **Gary Siler** (Director of Wrestling, National Wrestling Hall of Fame MD Chapter inductee), **Jay LaValley** (Director of Kolat Wrestling), **Danny Whitenak** (Accomplished Kolat Wrestling Coach), and guest clinicians throughout the year.

AWA also has a top notch facility to help your wrestler succeed on the mat. Clinicians will help wrestlers develop techniques and skills to succeed in all wrestling disciplines. This is the only program in the area to offer a year round training academy dedicated to wrestling.



Coach Gary Siler

The Arena Club Sports Academy
Presents:



3036 Churchville Road
Churchville, MD 21028
www.thearenaclub.com
410-734-7300

The Arena Club Sports Academy

Presents

Harford County's Premiere
Wrestling Training
Program



Mondays & Thursdays

The Arena Club Sports Academy
3036 Churchville Road
Churchville, MD 21028

410-734-7300
www.thearenaclub.com

Director of Wrestling Coach Gary Siler

- Served honorably in the US Army after graduating from Bel Air High School. While in the Army he was active in both boxing and wrestling. He was promoted to E4 rank after only 13 months of service and was honorably discharged after a tour overseas. Following his time in the military, Siler began working in the masonry field, eventually running his own business. When the opportunity arose to work as a masonry instructor at a local high school, he jumped at the chance. He began teaching and coaching wrestling and baseball. After being hired at Harford Tech, he continued his education and received his degree from the University of Maryland in Vocational Education.
- When Coach Siler arrived at Harford Tech in 1988, he took on the challenge of coaching a failing wrestling program. His first year fielded a team of only 8 wrestlers and 8 dual matches. The second year fielded about 20 wrestlers and a full schedule. From there, Siler slowly built the Harford Tech wrestling program with 1995 marking the first year of a full JV squad. Since then, Siler has put together three full rosters consisting of JV, Varsity A and Varsity B. Over his 24 year career, he has brought the first County, Conference, Regional and State Championships to Harford Tech. He has amassed over 350 wins, 33 Harford County Champions, 12 "100" Win wrestlers, 31 Regional Champions, 19 Upper Chesapeake Bay Athletic Conference Champions, 15 State Finalists, 3 State Champions and 36 State Placers.
- Coach Siler has collected numerous coaching honors including Male Coach of the Year, Harford County Coach of the Year, District Coach of the Year and the 2006 All-Metro Coach of the Year, after winning the Maryland State Championship. Most recently, Coach Siler was inducted into the 2012 MD Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. The wrestling community is truly important to Siler. He spends his spare time co-chairing Grapplers Wrestling Club, serving as a moderator on the Maryland Wrestling Forum and is the Northern Representative of the Maryland State Wrestling Association.
- Coach Siler strives for gold in the classroom, as well as, on the mat. He has produced 12 state champions and 5 national place winners in SkillsUSA masonry competitions. He has been honored with the Educator of the Year Award by the Maryland Special Needs Vocational Personnel, the Maryland Teacher of the Year Award and the Maryland Educator of the Year Award by the Maryland Vocational Association.

Why Should I Join AWA?

The Arena Wrestling Academy is for boys and girls that are looking to gain confidence, discipline and determination from a sport. We will accept all wrestlers, from beginners to advanced, and have a set training schedule in place so that all levels will excel. AWA teaches participants the necessary life skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. It is important that every wrestler leaves the academy feeling a sense of accomplishment and self-worth.



AWA Membership

- Premiere year round wrestling academy in Harford County.
- Practices are Monday & Thursday 6:30pm-8:00pm
- Fee is \$100/Month with \$50 Registration Fee
- Registration fee includes AWA shirt & bag. This is a one-time fee.
- Program runs September through October.
- All wrestlers must have a USAW membership (\$35/year). Register for membership at marylandwrestling.org/how-to-become-a-member/
- Sign up for our Starz Package for \$150/Month, which will include your AWA membership & a junior membership at The Arena Club (\$55/Month, Ages 12-21, fee is 12-month minimum obligation.)

Coaches Bio

Jay LaValley

Co-wner, Director, & Head Coach of Kolat Wrestling Club

- From 2009-2012, LaValley has trained and coached 7 Champions and 79 All-Americans in High School Freestyle Nationals, High School Greco-Roman Nationals and High School Nationals Preps. Also, he has trained and coached the MD Schoolboy National team (Age 13-14) two consecutive years to a double All-American 22-0 record and an All-American 10-0 record, respectively.
- Coach LaValley began his career in Massachusetts and wrestled with Harvard and Boston University wrestling clubs before moving to Maryland to train with Kolat, where he completed his training in 2010. That same year, he was nominated to the Maryland State Wrestling Association Board of Directors. He is now the Chairman of the MSA Board of Directors, USA Wrestling State Chapter.



Danny Whitenak

- Coach Whitenak finished his high school career at 74-22 including 38-3 as a senior.
- 2011 Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association champion
- 2011 Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association champion
- 2010 Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association champion
- 2010 Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association champion
- 2010 PowerAde Christmas Tournament runner up
- 2010 Walsh Ironman Tournament third place