

# Hiroshi Fujimoto

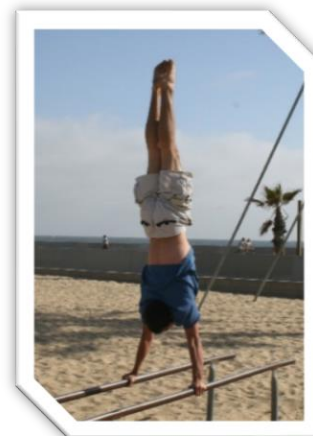
## RECOGNITION AWARD

This award is handed out each year at the Men's Region 1 Championships. The recipient of the award is a person in the Region who has given of himself/herself above and beyond other members of Region 1. This award is in recognition of selflessness of the recipient in either the prior year, or in a cumulative basis throughout many years. This award is the most prestigious award given to a member of our Region 1 Men's Gymnastics community. It reflects the dedication of that year's recipient to the development, administration, vision and/or quality of men's gymnastics in Region 1 in the spirit of Hiroshi Fujimoto's contribution to our Region.



3/31/1949 – 2/28/2014

*The 2023 Hiroshi Fujimoto  
Recognition Award is presented to:*  
**Matt Lowry**



Many of us have heard that Matt was born with chalk in his veins. He has spent the majority of his lifetime in the gym as an athlete or a coach. Matt began his gymnastics career as an 8 year old after watching the 1992 Olympics. His love for the sport followed him into his college years where he competed on the NCAA Men's Gymnastics Team at Temple University, later transferring to Cal Poly Pomona. It was while he was at Cal Poly that he began coaching full time at Payke Gymnastics. Over the next decade he worked his way up from Assistant Coach to Head Coach, leading Payke to become the SoCal Optional Club of the Year in 2015. Matt has coached a few hundred competitive athletes, sending many to continue their training at the collegiate level as well as a couple athletes that have clinched National Titles. He is known as being an attentive, highly respected coach. His athletes work hard for him and parents appreciate the culture that he creates in the gym.

Outside of coaching, Matt has also served many years on the Board of SoCal Men's Gymnastics Association (SCMGA). He has filled the roles of Treasurer and President/Director as well as serving as the webmaster. As State Director he runs the state Compulsory and Optional clinics. Under his leadership, SCMGA has been able to thrive as it advances the sport in Southern California. At the Regional level, he runs the Future Stars Program and started the Regional Compulsory Camps. Matt brings an invaluable mixture of coaching knowledge, experiential wisdom and technological skills to every position he fills.

Matt continues to use his unique blend of skills to assist other gyms and coaches. He prepares equipment layouts for competitions, runs ProScore at meets, and creates computer programs that provide useful data and systems for coaches, SCMGA and Region 1. He is currently living his dream of opening his own gymnastics facility in Bakersfield, CA. Matt's passion, energy, and vision provide a framework for his success and the health of any organization he supports.