



Harry “Swede” Dahlberg



Harry “Swede” Dahlberg was the most successful coach in the history of high school athletics in the state of Montana! A stand-out at Butte High and the University of Montana, he was a versatile athlete as a youth and an even-more versatile coach as an adult. Dahlberg was a coach, teacher, athletic director, and more importantly, a mentor for 44 years at Butte High School. He coached from 1922 until 1966 and his teams won 30 state championships...10 in football, 6 in basketball, 13 in track and 1 in cross country.

Dahlberg coached football at Butte High from 1922-1955 (34 seasons). His record was 222-81-20...his Purple-and-White machine won State Titles in 1924, 1927, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1935, 1937, 1940, 1941, and 1951. His squads were also Runners-up to the State Championship in 1928, 1933, 1936, 1945, 1947, 1949, 1950, and 1953.

“Swede” coached basketball at Butte High from 1923-1951 (28 seasons). His record was 409-298-1...his teams won State Titles in 1924, 1925, 1928, 1932, 1933, and 1941. Dahlberg had a 58% winning percentage over his 28 seasons.

Dahlberg also helped develop the boys’ cross country program at Butte High School. His 1964 team won the State Championship...this is the only cross country title in school history.

His biggest love was track and field. Dahlberg stayed on as the Bulldogs track coach 44 seasons until 1966. He was head coach from 1923-1966 and his teams won State Titles in 1924, 1925, 1927, 1928, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1943, 1963, and 1966. His final team, the 1966 Butte High boys’ track team, sent him out as a winner by taking the championship in Missoula, MT. Dahlberg’s teams also were the Runners-up to the State Championship in 1923, 1926, 1929, 1932, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1949, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1957, 1964, and 1965.

The “Bigger than Life” coach was inducted into both the Montana and National High School Coaches Hall of Fames!