

John F. Reilly

Football, Wrestling, Basketball, Baseball

1945-48

John F. Reilly was an exceptionally versatile athlete. He suited up for Nyack in four different sports, playing four years of baseball and football, three years of wrestling, and two years of basketball. Jack was successful as an individual athlete, but more importantly was a key contributor to multiple championship teams at Nyack.

Reilly wrestled at 154 pounds, earning All-County honors in the sport in 1947. Jack was named a member of the Exemplar Club as one of two students achieving 1000 points in sports, earning 1250 points himself. Jack also played on the offensive and defensive lines for the football team. He helped lead the team to a county title in 1946, opening up holes on offense for his teammates and creating havoc for opponents on defense.

Jack earned four varsity letters in baseball, serving as a co-captain his junior year. He played second base and shortstop, often hitting high up in the batting order thanks to his knack for getting hits and getting on base. Reilly played a key role in Nyack's run to the 1948 Rockland PSAL baseball title alongside teammate Bob Garrecht (NHSAHOF Class of 2015). In the final game of the 1948 campaign against Spring Valley, Jack earned a walk and scored in the first inning to help Nyack on their way to a 6-1 victory that would secure the title.

Reilly's athletic career did not end after he graduated from high school as he was one of the top bowlers for the Nyack Firemen in the Nyack Booster League. He also coached in the Nanuet Little League from 1969 to 1972, contributing to the development of the next generation of Rockland athletes.