

Wayne M. Barone

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Wayne Barone started playing handball around the age of ten. He learned his basic skills in the schoolyard like so many, eventually beating his older brothers.

When Wayne turned 16, his brother, Tony, gave him a membership to the Jamaica Y. What started out as a Tuesday night sports activity among brothers and friends became a lifelong passion.

By the time he was 25, Wayne was competing on the state and regional levels, culminating in participation in national competition. With his family tagging along, he traveled across the USA (California, Arizona, Nevada, the eastern seacoast, Georgia, and Florida) as well as to Europe, playing twice in Ireland, England, and France.

Wayne's home courts were Sportset on Long Island and the NYAC in NYC. There his exposure to handball's finest players helped fine tune his craft. Playing such greats as John Bike, Eric Klarman, Fred Munsch, Ken Ginty, John Duggan, Lou Russo, and Paul Williams, and under the watchful eyes of the Obert brothers, improved his game.