

Bill Ross

Head Coach – Baseball

1958-1990

The late Bill Ross coached baseball at Santa Ana High School from 1959-1990. He finished his career with 465 victories, highlighted by coaching the 1982 team to the CIFSS Division 3-A Championship. Following his 31 years as head coach, he served as Santa Ana High School's athletic director from 1989-1993.

A former Pepperdine College second baseman, he started coaching baseball and lower-level football at Santa Ana when he was only 24. He quit coaching football in 1976, after 18 years, and turned to officiating high school football and basketball games. Yet, despite his commitment to high school sports, his family remained foremost to him. Friend and former Santa Ana Athletic Director, Larry Arason, called Bill "a great family man, who loves his wife and kids."

In a 1985 interview, Coach Ross described his approach to success as a coach, stating, "if you're a good disciplinarian, you treat them fairly and you set up good rules, and if your lower-level coaches do the same, by the time I get the players, I don't have many problems." He loved what he did and the impact on his players is evident in the love they all have for him. Whereas most coaches are relieved at the end of a season, Coach Ross maintained his enthusiasm for coaching, stating in an interview toward the end of the season that "I'm already looking forward to next year."

In 2012 the Santa Ana High School baseball field was rededicated in an unveiling ceremony of the new scoreboard with "Bill Ross Field" prominently displayed across the top.