



## ***Play Like a Champion* Jack Mack Champions for Children Award Goes to Marty Raines and the Diocese of Columbus**

**Play Like a Champion** praised Raines and the Diocese of Columbus for their commitment to educating sports parents.

June 28, 2019

The *Play Like a Champion Today Educational Series* presented the Diocese of Columbus and Marty Raines of the Diocesan Recreation Association the 2019 Jack Mack Champions for Children Award. The award was established in honor of Jack Mack, who provided endless hours of dedicated service as a volunteer and helped develop Play Like a Champion's mission and vision.

The 2019 award was presented by Jacqueline Mack during a Friday evening dinner at the 2019 Play Like a Champion Today Sports Leadership Conference, held June 21-22, 2019 at the University of Notre Dame. Jacqueline was married to the late Jack Mack and resides in Columbus, OH.

As a long-time partner with the *Play Like a Champion* program, the Diocese of Columbus has invested countless hours working with the coaches and parents of the Diocesan Recreation Association. Prior to each athletic season, local trainers provide workshops for coaches and parents that are designed to give them the tools they need to create a safe, caring and developmentally appropriate environment for Catholic youth sports.

Marty Raines has led this effort as the Associate Director of Athletics for the Diocese of Columbus Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. In doing so, Raines has dedicated her time and energy to assuring that area children grow physically, mentally and spiritually through sport. "Marty is a gift to the children of Columbus and our Play Like a Champion community," said Kristin Sheehan, Program Director of Play Like a Champion. "Her dedication to educating parents and coaches should serve as an inspiration to leaders everywhere." Raines accepted the award while taking part in this year's conference, serving as an important voice in roundtable discussions with fellow partners.

Pope Francis has indicated that “Dialogue with the family, particularly with parents, becomes an essential aspect in the promotion of an organic and continuous pastoral care through sport especially aimed at children and young people.” Play Like a Champion is proud to recognize Marty Raines and the Diocese of Columbus for their commitment to educating parents and living out this important mission.



*Marty Raines (far left) celebrates her award with Jacqueline Mack (center) and other award recipients at 2019 Play Like a Champion Conference.*

*For more information on the Play Like a Champion Today Educational Series, visit the website at [www.playlikeachampion.org](http://www.playlikeachampion.org) or you may contact 574.250.6424.*