

Published August 21st, 2019

## Meadows named new Campolindo Athletic Director

By Jon Kingdon



Ray Meadows Photo Jon Kingdon

After heading an athletic department that led to Campolindo being named Cal-Hi's Division III School of the Year, Shannon Rogers has stepped away from the athletic administration and will be devoting all of her efforts to her role as a special education teacher.

Replacing Rogers will be Ray Meadows, who was recently named as Campolindo's athletic director, a position he is taking for the first time. Meadows is well aware of the legacy that Rogers leaves behind: "Shannon was phenomenal. She has transitioned everything over to me and it's really evident what a great job she did as the athletic director and putting together such an excellent coaching staff."

As an athlete, Meadows swam and played water polo at De La Salle and played water polo at UC Santa Barbara. His first job out of college, ironically enough, was teaching and coaching at Campolindo from 2004 to 2010: "There are still a lot of the same friends, teachers and contacts here when I left 10 years ago. We now have coaches that were students when I was teaching: Miles Price, our water polo coach, was an outstanding player and has done a phenomenal job with the program; Steve Dyer was a basketball player and is now the head coach of the state championship team; and Nikko Triggas, our wrestling coach, played water polo for me. I was always looking to get back over here."

Meadows left Campolindo to see the world: "My wife and I were looking to travel over the summer. We went to New Zealand where I was coaching a water polo club in their national league. One of my team's directors was a high school principal and he offered me a teaching position, which I took and taught economics and New Zealand history, which was an experience."

Meadows brought back more than memories: "My daughter was born there, but being far from home and family is what ultimately brought us back. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to live in a country that I learned to love. It was great to live somewhere else and make some lifelong friends."

After returning from New Zealand, Meadows taught and coached at De La Salle along with being the head coach of the Springbrook Swim Team. Campolindo was not far from his mind: "I was at Campolindo longer than when I was at De La Salle so this is kind of coming home for me in terms of my professional life."

Meadows, who will also be teaching freshman world history, understands the role of athletics at Campolindo: "I know the commitments the coaches, the parents and the administration make to the teams. I'm just hoping to keep everything going and to contribute as much as I can. It's already a very successful school athletically and I'm really excited to be a part of it. I'm trying to figure out my role and the ways that I can contribute to make everything continue to work as well as it has. Bob Wilson was the AD when I was there and he always helped me when I had questions and whenever I needed something to get done, he got it done. That's what I'm striving to do, to be the link between the coaches and the school and the community."

The term student-athlete is important to Meadows: "The student comes first because the school is so competitive academically and I think that it translates to their overall commitment. They're committed as students and they're also able to balance their time as athletes. The teachers and the coaches are demanding so it takes a special kid with special families to be able to participate on teams that ask a lot of them."

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