



Bill Baldrige Bio:

Basketball has been a part of my life for over 30 years now. I was a player at UIC in the late eighties and became a coach in the early nineties at Elgin High School. Elgin was coached by Jim Harrington at the time who is one of the best coaches in the history of Illinois basketball. I was an assistant for many years under Coach Harrington and his career culminated with the 1998 Elite Eight Team. 1998 was arguably the best and deepest high school basketball “class” that our state has ever produced. In 1998 players from our state comprised more than 10% of the top 100 high-school recruits in the United States, and more than 40 seniors went on to compete at the Division I collegiate level. The 1998 Elgin Team made it into the USA Today's Top 25 nationally after opening the season at 20-0.

After coaching HS basketball for almost 15 years, I started coaching grassroots basketball with the Illinois Wolves, who are a founding member of the UAA Circuit. I coached there for 5 years and had great success coaching and training players that eventually went on to some of the following schools; Kentucky, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Michigan State, and Iowa State to name a few.

I created my own program called HIT Basketball in 2014. In 2017, my oldest team at the time was 15U and eventually later that season my 15U team became nationally ranked at #23 in the country. HIT became a very competitive program competing nationally.

That is a little of my history. Being here at M14 is super exciting for me. I think the opportunities the players have to improve and develop is second to none. I'm looking forward to meeting all the families and helping their son or daughter become a better basketball player and more importantly a better person.

