



MEET THE TEAM



Hermes was founded in 1981 and has built a reputation as Northeast Ohio's premier sport & event management company. Throughout the Northeast Ohio, Hermes produces and manages programs on behalf of hundreds of local and national businesses and organizations. Hermes also manages Susan G. Komen for the Cure races in Toledo, Findlay, Knoxville and Chicago. Additionally, Hermes operates the Corporate Challenge in Cleveland and Akron. This health and wellness, business, networking, team building and charitable initiative promotes camaraderie, pride and fitness among employees and organizations in the area. Hermes Sports and Social provides the highest quality sports leagues, tournaments and social events in Greater Cleveland.

Hermes is named for the winged-footed messenger god of classical mythology.



Neal Neroni

President

Neal Neroni is president of Hermes and has been a partner with the organization since 1993. Neroni has worked on hundreds of events in the Northern Ohio area since his graduation from Bowling Green state University in 1988. He began his sports management career as an intern for the Cleveland Cavaliers. Later, he joined the Cleveland Indians as an account executive. From 1989 to 1993, he worked in sports and operations for the Ohio Sports Festival, which was the first statewide amateur sports "State Games" in Ohio, assuming the director's position in 1991. From 1993 until 1999, he was the director of Sports and Operations for the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission, helping to bring several events to the city and guiding their management.



Nick Swingos

Finance Manager

Here at Hermes Nick is responsible for the company's technological advancements, computerized chip timing, and websites. Nick also heads up the division responsible for managing a dozen Susan G. Komen Race for the Cures across the country, which raises money for Breast Cancer Research. Nick is a graduate of Miami University with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance. Outside of Hermes, Nick enjoys soccer, skiing, and playing poker.



Gary Easter

Gary, along with Rich Lawhun, started Hermes Race Systems in 1981. At that time, the first race of the organization was the First Turkey Trot which was held in the Metroparks and had 600 runners. He was President of the Cleveland West Roadrunners from 1979-1981, and President of the Athletic Congress in 1984. Gary was Chairman of the Long Distance Running Division of the Athletic Congress from 1982-1984. He has completed 22 marathons, and is married with two children.



Rich Lawhun

Rich, along with Gary Easter, started Hermes Race Systems in 1981. Lawhun now serves as Hermes Logistics Manager and handles all race course management. He also travels around the country working with the Race for the Cure series to raise money for breast cancer research. Lawhun graduated from Ohio University where he ran track and cross country. Prior to Hermes, Lawhun coached cross country at St. Joes Academy and completed 10 marathons.



Joe Neroni

Marketing and Sponsorship Sales

A graduate from the College of Wooster, Joe is leading the marketing, sponsorship sales and new business development initiatives for Hermes. Prior to joining Hermes in 2011, Joe held a number of sales and management positions in the Advertising Division at The Plain Dealer responsible for strategic plans, product improvement / development, co-promotion, association partnerships, sales, and support staff.



Matt Peters

Race manager

Matt graduated from Cleveland State University with a B.A. in Communications. After serving as an intern for the company, Matt officially joined our Hermes family in 2010.



Dominic Tremaglio

Manager of the Akron and Cleveland Corporate Challenges and the Sport & Social division of Hermes

In 2015, after completing his internship with Hermes as a Corporate Challenge Assistant Dominic was more than ready to take on his current role with the company. Prior to joining the Hermes family, Dominic gained an abundance of experience which included: working at the youth, high school, collegiate, professional, and recreational levels of sport. While working with those various levels Dom gained experience in directing, operating, and supervisory roles. Dom is a proud graduate of Marietta College, where he obtained his B.A. in sport management.



Adam Petrovic

Race Manager

Before joining the Hermes family in 2013 Adam gained experience as an intern in the sports department at Fox 8 Cleveland. He also worked as an event coordinator at Hawk's Cay Resort and as a project manager at Gallagher Benefit Services. Adam graduated from Mount Union College where he earned his B.A. in Sport Management in 2004. In his free time, Adam enjoys music of all kinds, record shopping, craft beer, running (roads and trails) and movies. His favorite area to visit is the Pacific Northwest.



Haleigh Bartlett

Race Manager

Haleigh Bartlett is a 2016 graduate of Ohio University, where she earned a dual degree in Sport Management and Communications. During her time at OU Haleigh competed as a student-athlete on the Swimming and Diving team and worked as a Marketing Associate for Ohio Athletics. Prior to joining the Hermes family, Haleigh gained experience working as an event coordinator for Alliance Sport Marketing (Nashville, TN). Haleigh also Coaches part time at CTOWN CrossFit and is a Board Member for the Ohio University Alumni Cleveland Chapter. Along with Athletics, she enjoys traveling and craft beer.



Patrick Yackmack

Race Manager

While earning his degree in Sport Business and Human Resources from the University of Mount Union in 2014 Patrick began his journey by becoming a member of the university's tennis team. He also acted as the student coordinator for Preview and Orientation while attending the university. Prior to joining our Hermes family, Patrick held seasonal positions at four ATP/WTA events as well as a position with USTA in South Carolina. Patrick enjoys playing tennis, listening to music, and travelling the country to see his favorite tennis players.



Karen Hentemann

Race Manager

Before joining Hermes full time in 2016 Karen worked as one of the company's weekend staff members for 6 years. Prior to joining the Hermes family Karen worked in sales and retail banking. Karen is a devoted runner with over 25 years of experience of participating in races ranging from 5Ks to marathons. Karen is a graduate of Bowling Green State University where she earned her degrees in English Literature and Political Science.



Ryan Harrison

Race Timing & Results Specialist

Before joining Hermes in 2019, Ryan spent 5 years working with Vertical Runner Race Management, fulfilling a similar role in Wooster, Ohio. He also held a position as a Freight Logistics Coordinator at Jarrett Logistic Systems in Orrville, Ohio for several years. Ryan graduated from Bowling Green State University with a B.A. in Sport Management in 2013. In his free time, Ryan enjoys attending Cleveland sporting events, running (roads and trails), golfing, and traveling.