

**Deputy grand marshal**  
**Robert Palmer**

Rob Palmer attended Burke Catholic High School in Goshen, NY, where he played ice hockey. He began his college studies at Long Island University where he played hockey for his freshman year before transferring to SUNY Cortland where he found his love for rugby. He graduated from Cortland State University with a bachelors degree in Kinesiology, and received his Masters in Physical Education at Manhattanville College. Rob moved to Rockaway, New York when he accepted a staff position with the NYC - DOE teaching physical education at Canarsie HS in Brooklyn.

Once in moved to Rockaway he started playing rugby for the fish heads. He also continued to play hockey for a men's club at the Aviator facility . He founded a rugby program at Canarsie HS and led the team to two PSAL championships. He now also coaches JV Football at Canarsie. Since his start with the Fisheads he gravitated towards teaching youth rugby and coaching young men develop physically and mentally with the sport of rugby.