



U.S. OLYMPIANS & PARALYMPIANS ASSOCIATION

Tim Willis, PLY - Track and Field (1992, '96, '00) - Georgia Chapter

The USOPA Award of Excellence honors Olympians and Paralympians who continue to live out the values of the Games long after competition ends—demonstrating courage, perseverance, integrity, and service in all they do.

Tim Willis' story is one of vision—not defined by eyesight, but by belief. As a blind athlete competing at the highest levels of NCAA Division I and the Paralympic Games, Tim did not simply participate—he broke barriers and changed what was possible.

A three-time Paralympian, Tim made history as the first blind runner to compete in NCAA Division I cross country. His achievements on the track are remarkable, but his impact goes far beyond competition. Through his determination and innovation, Tim has helped shape systems and opportunities for athletes with disabilities, ensuring that those who follow have greater access and support than ever before.

Tim's journey is a powerful example of leadership in action. He didn't just run races—he expanded pathways. His commitment to inclusion and equity has helped redefine the landscape of sport, inspiring athletes, coaches, and communities alike.

In recognition of his extraordinary accomplishments and lasting contributions, Tim was inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame. He was also honored with the USOPA Award of Excellence, recognizing his continued leadership, service, and dedication to advancing opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Tim Willis' legacy is one of perseverance, impact, and vision. Through his work, he continues to inspire others to push boundaries, challenge limitations, and believe in what's possible.

The Georgia Chapter of the United States Olympians and Paralympians Association is proud to present the USOPA Award of Excellence to Tim Willis.