

Boys Coach of the Year - Class 1A

Kelly Willard - Metamora

Kelly Willard's 24th season as the head coach for the Metamora Redbirds was historic. Here are some highlights:

- 24-2 dual match record - unbeaten against class 1A teams
- Champions of six multiple team invites
- Mid-Illini Conference champions
- Sectional champions for the third straight year and twelfth time overall
- Qualified all six players for the state tournament
- 3rd place at the state meet - first team tennis trophy in school history
- Brian Lelm and Harry Hawbaker finished 2nd at the state tournament in doubles, while Bryton Short, Keagan Nevitt, and Griffin Hammond were also named all-state
- Kelly's overall record at Metamora is now 373-67 in his 24 seasons

Coach Willard shared his thoughts on the 2021 campaign.

“After losing a year when I thought we would have been a great team, our guys were even hungrier in 2021. Twenty-four years ago, I never dreamed we would be welcomed back into our little town after the state tournament with a fire truck escort, state medals around our necks, and a big trophy in the front seat of the bus. This season was truly one that none of us will ever forget.”



Congratulations, Kelly, on your 2021 award as the IHSTCA Boys Class 1A Coach of the Year!