

# Randy Reay, Jaffray Jr. Secondary Coach

## *About Randy Reay:*

Randy is the athletic director at Jaffray Jr. Secondary in Jaffray, BC. He's coached or been involved with boys volleyball and basketball for 30 years at both Jaffray and Fernie Secondary.



## *First Coaching Experience:*

“My first coaching experience was with elementary boys basketball. I had played basketball all through my schooling and loved the sport. I was a substitute teacher, working on a ranch and subbing when I had time. I decided I would take on a really keen group of kids at the elementary school. I thought, ‘this brings a lot of satisfaction.’”

## *Why He Became a Coach:*

“I loved working with kids and it was just really gratifying. We have a rural community and the kids had a really good work ethic. They worked hard, tried their best and were well behaved. It was gratifying to see the progress they made.”

## *Biggest Challenge:*

“Years ago it was getting from place to place - the ability to take a team from a small country school to a bigger competition. Today the kids aren't as committed. They have more time to do their own thing and don't have a lot of responsibility at home. Many aren't willing to work as hard to be their best.”

## *Most Rewarding Experience:*

“I had an exceptional volleyball team that went to the summer games. Now these boys from that team, their children are at our school. One of them is coaching our junior boys right now. Coaching builds character. I've always believed life is as good as you make it. If you put the best in, you get the best out.”



## *What Athletes Look for in a Good Coach:*

“Somebody who's fair. Somebody who has high expectations. A good athlete has to know if their feet aren't held to fire, they're never going to achieve success. A good athlete looks for a coach who's fair in criticism and praise equally. I'm a pretty demanding person so something I have to work on is for every negative comment, always make a couple positive.”