

BY: Senator GRIFFO

HONORING Doug Meiss upon the occasion of being
inducted into the Rome Sports Hall of Fame

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to outstanding athletes who have distinguished themselves through their exceptional performance, attaining unprecedented success and the highest level of personal achievement; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Doug Meiss upon the occasion of being inducted into the Rome Sports Hall of Fame, to be celebrated at a Ceremony on Sunday, July 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Every year, the Rome Sports Hall of Fame publicly commends the pursuit of athletic excellence, recognizes those who have excelled, and strives to preserve Rome's rich athletic heritage; Doug Meiss is truly deserving of this prestigious award; and

WHEREAS, Life-long Roman Doug Meiss grew up in a family of athletes; at a young age, he began his officiating career serving as a volunteer referee for the Rome Fort Stanwix Youth Hockey Association; and

WHEREAS, Since then, Doug Meiss has officiated NCAA Division I, Division II, and Division III men's lacrosse games for more than 40 years, including the quarter- and semi-finals of the NCAA Men's Division III Tournament, the National Junior College Athletic Association Championship Game, and numerous college conference and league championship finals; and

WHEREAS, In addition to officiating scores of games each year and serving as mentor to young officials, Doug Meiss has held numerous administrative roles such as observer of Division III college men's lacrosse officials for the District II region; Empire State Games boys lacrosse officials' coordinator; New York State Boys High School Lacrosse Officials Association President; Competition Chairman on the Tri-City Lacrosse Board of Directors; and is a member of the Central New York Lacrosse Officials Association; and

WHEREAS, Doug Meiss also officiates ice hockey games and has served as an Eastern College Athletic Conference men's hockey official, both president and assignor of officials for the Central New York Ice Hockey Officials Association, and a linesman in the professional Northeastern Hockey League; and

WHEREAS, A three-sport athlete, Doug Meiss received high school All-Conference awards in football, ice hockey, and lacrosse during his playing days at Rome Free Academy (Class of 1972); as a member of the Syracuse Junior Blazers in the NY-Penn Junior Hockey League, he was selected to represent the league by being named to the Lester Patrick All-American United States Junior Hockey team; and

WHEREAS, Later, Doug Meiss was a player/coach for the semi-pro Copper City Chiefs and coach in the Rome Youth Hockey Association; and

WHEREAS, Doug Meiss has clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of his Rome community; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such outstanding athletic accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Doug Meiss upon the occasion of being inducted into the Rome Sports Hall of Fame; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Doug Meiss.