

JERRY AZZINARO

DEFENSIVE LINE/ ASSISTANT HEAD COACH

3RD YEAR IN NFL / 3RD IN PHILADELPHIA

COLLEGE: AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL



One of the best defensive line coaches in football and a coaching confidant of Eagles head coach Chip Kelly, Jerry Azzinaro is in his third season in Philadelphia as the team's defensive line/assistant head coach.

In 2014, the Eagles defensive line was one of the most productive in the NFL as they helped the defense rank 5th in the NFL in yards per rush attempt (3.7 yards), while aiding the defense in tying for the 2nd most sacks in the NFL (49). Fletcher Cox earned 2nd team All-Pro honors with 70 tackles, four sacks and three fumble recoveries, while Vinny Curry ranked 2nd on the team with a career-high nine sacks.

In 2013, the Eagles defense tied for third in the NFL in games holding their opponents to 21-or-fewer points. They also tied for third in the NFL with 31 takeaways.

From 2009-12, Azzinaro worked as the defensive line coach at the University of Oregon under Kelly. He was part of a coaching staff that led the program to a 46-7 record and four BCS bowl games in four years. That includes a 35-17 win over Kansas State in the 2013 Fiesta Bowl and a 45-38 win over Wisconsin in the 2012 Rose Bowl. In 2010, Oregon went 12-1 en route to an appearance in the National Championship game.

Azzinaro was instrumental in the development of Oregon's standout defenders. Dion Jordan earned back-to-back first-team All-Pac-12 honors under Azzinaro's watch after posting a combined 12.5 sacks and 23.5 tackles for loss. He developed current Eagles DE Brandon Bair, originally a tight end, to become a second-team all-conference performer in 2010 after posting three sacks and 16 tackles for loss. Kenny Rowe also earned second-team All-Pac-12 honors that same year after collecting seven sacks and 16.5 tackles for loss.

Upon being hired by Oregon in 2009, Azzinaro was charged with rebuilding the Ducks defensive line that would return just one player from the previous season. Oregon would lead the Pac-10 in sacks during Azzinaro's first two years tutoring the d-line, posting 36 sacks in 2009 and 45 sacks in 2010.

Prior to arriving at Oregon, Azzinaro served as the defensive line coach at Marshall in 2008. He also mentored New Hampshire's d-line in 2007.

Azzinaro has had stints as a defensive coordinator at several stops, most recently at Duke (2004-06) and earlier at Massachusetts (1994 and 1997) and American International (1987-91). He was also the head coach of Division-III Western New England in 1986.

Serving as defensive line coach and recruiting coordinator at Syracuse from 1999-2003, Azzinaro mentored All-American and future NFL All-Pro DE Dwight Freeney. Freeney finished his career ranked second in school history with 34 sacks, as well as NCAA single-season records with 11 forced fumbles and three fumble recoveries in 2001.

AZZINARO'S COACHING TIMELINE

1978-81	American International	Linebacker (player)
1982-84	American International	Graduate Assistant
1985	Westfield	Running Backs
1986	Western New England	Head Coach
1987-91	American International	Defensive Coordinator
1992-93	Massachusetts	Linebackers/ Recruiting Coordinator
1994	Massachusetts	Defensive Coordinator
1995-96	Boston College	Defensive Line
1997	Massachusetts	Defensive Coordinator
1998	Maine	Defensive Line
1999-03	Syracuse	Defensive Line/ Recruiting Coordinator
2004-06	Duke	Defensive Coordinator
2007	New Hampshire	Defensive Line
2008	Marshall	Defensive Line
2009-12	Oregon	Defensive Line
2013-	Philadelphia Eagles	Defensive Line/ Assistant Head Coach

Azzinaro's coaching roots began in New England, where he served as an assistant at Maine, Boston College, Massachusetts and Westfield. He began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at American International while simultaneously serving as head wrestling coach at Hopkins Academy (Hadley, MA).

A former linebacker at American International College, he led his team in tackles his senior year. Azzinaro received his undergraduate degree in psychology in 1981 and his master's in educational psychology in 1985.

A native of Staten Island, NY, Azzinaro was born on 7/11/58. He is married to Alison Rourke. They have a Great Dane named Zeke.