ATHLETES’ HALL OF FAME

PREAMBLE
WHEREAS many Montana student-athletes have made, and continue to make, outstanding contributions to the high schools of Montana through their extraordinary efforts in interscholastic athletics; and
WHEREAS their efforts, dedication and desire have enabled them to excel in achievement or performance; and
WHEREAS student excellence should be recognized;
IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Montana High School Association shall set forth rules to organize and govern an Athletes’ Hall of Fame.

Section (1) NAME
This feature of the Montana High School Association shall be titled the Montana High School Association Athletes’ Hall of Fame.

Section (2) GOVERNANCE
The governance of the Montana High School Athletes’ Hall of Fame shall be embodied in the Montana High School Association Executive Board.

Section (3) SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
A. The Athletes’ Hall of Fame Selection Committee shall have twenty-five (25) anonymous members as follows:
   1. One (1) member from the Montana High School Association Executive Staff.
   2. Six (6) members from the Montana Coaches Association selected from a list of members submitted by the Montana Coaches Association.
   3. Three (3) members from the Montana Athletic Directors Association selected from a list of members submitted by the Montana Athletic Directors Association.
   4. Four (4) members of the Montana print media selected from the names of active or retired sports writers for Montana newspapers.
   5. Six (6) individuals selected from a list of people who would be familiar with athletes or athletic feats of those to be considered for recognition in the “old timers” category.
   6. Five (5) contest officials selected from a list of candidates submitted by the Montana Officials Association as well as from others who have officiated Montana High School Association contests.
B. Names of the Selection Committee individuals will be anonymous to the public.
C. Members of the Selection Committee shall be appointed by the Montana High School Association Executive Board President.
D. Vacancies on the Selection Committee shall be filled by the Montana High School Association Executive Board President.
E. All appointed members shall serve a four (4) year term.
F. Committee membership shall begin July 1st.

Section (4) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
The duties and responsibilities of the Montana High School Association office staff shall be:
A. To receive nominations of persons who shall be considered for election to the Athletes’ Hall of Fame.
B. To keep a current, accurate and complete accounting of the candidates for the Athletes’ Hall of Fame.
C. Prepare and send out all correspondence as required.
D. Tally committee ballots.
E. Prepare press releases of inductees.
F. Validate candidate information upon request for the selection committee.

Section (5) NOMINATIONS
A. Nominations for the Athletes’ Hall of Fame may be made by:
   1. Representatives of Montana High School Association member schools.
   2. Members of the Athletes’ Hall of Fame Committee.
   3. The general public.
B. Nomination for the Athletes’ Hall of Fame requirements and limitations:
   1. Cover Letter
   2. MHSA Athletes’ Hall of Fame Nomination form
   3. Photocopies (8 1/2” x 11”) of not more than six (6) of the following: newspaper clippings, magazine articles, event programs, or other such materials that detail information about the nominee’s accomplishments (DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS). Please do not use notebooks with plastic sheet protectors or highlighters to point out specific facts; either underline or draw arrows to mark copy.
   4. Letters - a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of four (4) letters of recommendation explaining why you think this individual is worthy of this honor. Please limit each letter to ONE typewritten page. Letters of recommendation for other awards or honors should not be used as a substitute for this requirement.
   5. A current portrait-type photograph of the nominee. Please include names on all photos. NOTE: All information submitted shall be retained by the MHSA and all actions necessary to the selection process shall remain confidential.
C. The selection of candidates will occur every other year, which will occur in each odd numbered year. Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Director of the Montana High School Association. Any nomination received after the candidates’ materials have been sent to the Selection Committee will be held until the next election. The time line is as follows:
   June 1st: Nomination forms are sent to schools and others as requested.
   Aug 31st: Nominations are due at the MHSA office.
   Sept 15th: Nominations are forwarded to the Selection Committee.
   Oct 15th: Selection Committee ballots are due to the MHSA office.
   Nov 1-15th: Inductees are notified.
   Dec 5th: Winners are announced to the media.
D. The two categories of the MHSA Athletes’ Hall of Fame are:
   1. Modern era - a person who has experienced outstanding achievement as a competitor in interscholastic athletics as sanctioned by the MHSA while enrolled in a Montana high school. A modern competitor is eligible for nomination a minimum of seven years after graduation.
   2. Legacy era - a person who has experienced outstanding achievement as a competitor in interscholastic athletics as sanctioned by the MHSA while enrolled in a Montana high school. A Legacy candidate has graduated fifty years before the induction date for that year’s Athletes’ Hall of Fame (i.e. to qualify for the 1996 Athletes’ Hall of Fame
the old timer must have graduated in 1946 or earlier.) At least one old timer will be inducted annually.

E. The number of candidates to be elected every two years shall be:

1. The number of inductees shall be a maximum of eight (8) per ceremony.

F. The Selection Committee shall consider all candidates sent to the individual committee members. Each committee member shall vote for a maximum of twelve (12) candidates each year. At least one inductee must be from the “old timer” category.

G. The Selection Committee will receive an updated packet of information for each candidate for each election. Files of inducted candidates can be discarded. Files of unsuccessful candidates will be retained by the MHSA office to which new files will be added and distributed for each election. A candidate who has not been elected within five (5) ballots will be dropped from the list of eligible candidates and shall not have his/her name reconsidered again unless re-nominated.

Section (6) RESEARCH

Should any Selection Committee person desire clarification or validation of information contained on a nomination or résumé he/she should contact the MHSA. If the information requested would be beneficial to the rest of the committee, it will be forwarded to them.

MEMBERS OF THE ATHLETES’ HALL OF FAME

1993 Inaugural Inductees
Gene Lee Davis
Wayne Vernon Estes
Bob Hawke
Vicki Heebner
Ed Kalafat
Ray Eugene Kuka
Michael James Lewis
Jeanne Marie McNulty
Lawrence Pretty Weasel
Roy Robinson
Craig Allen Stiles

1994 Inductees
George “Doug” Brown
Julie Brown
Pat Donovan
Joseph “Greg” Rice

1995 Inductees
Peter Lazetich
Mary Osborne
Earle Parsons
Larry Questad
Pamela Spencer
Duane Walker

1996 Inductees
Paula Good
Marti Kincer Vining
Milt Popovich
Robin Selvig
Bill Sprinkle
Scott Steckel

1997 Inductees
Mike Guin
Danny Hanley
Bob O’Malley
Loren Perry
Denise Pidcock

1998 Inductees
Kelly Pilcher Beattie
Katheryn Jarvis Coggon
William Crtalic
Allan Nielsen
Todd Riech

1999 Inductees
Branch Brady
Robert “Lefty” Byrne
Shane Collins
Glenn Havskjold
Shannon Cate Schweyen

2000 – No Inductions

2001 Inductees
Dave Dickinson
Dick Gregory
Skip Grodahl
Gordon Ruttenbur
Skyla Sisco
Karen Deden-Westwater

2002 – No Inductions

2003 Inductees
Cass Bauer-Bilodeau
Carla Beattie-Cunneen
Shannon Butler
Julie Callahan-Bauer
Bob Graves
Mike Welton
Don Wetzel
Bill Zadick

2004 – No Inductions

2005 Inductees
Daren Engellant
Mark Gilman
Bill Halverson
Les Leininger
James Soft
Dean Studer

2006 – No Inductions

2007 Inductees
Rick Goodman
Mark Kato
Sam McDonald Jr.
Terry Schlabs
Kristin Schmitt-Salonen
Willie Weeks

2008 – No Inductions

2009 Inductees
Ed Hauser
Mike Huggins
Kathleen Monaghan
Fernandel Omeasoo
Loree Payne
Stacey Smiedala
Mike Zadick

2010 – No Inductions

2011 Inductees
Mandi Carver
Ken Christison
Wayne Edwards
Brian Morris
Natalie Streeter-Chamberlain
Kermitt Young

2012 – No Inductions

2013 Inductees
Harry Clark
Scott Hanser
Joe Kelly
Angie Thill-McDaniel
Ristine Olson

2014 – No Inductions

2015 – No Inductions

2016 – No Inductions

2017 – No Inductions

2018 Inductees
Travis Dorsch
Lindsey Graham-Gustafson
Tim Hauck
Terry Idler
Gary Monahan
Zoe Nelson
Joslyn Tinkle
Travis Walker

2019 – no inductions

2020 Inductees
Jeff Ellis
Tyler Emmert
Josh Huestis
Jeff Larson
Marjie (Connors) Markle
Duane Olson
Gary Peck