



**“The Keepers of the Game”**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**2016 INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED FOR MFCA HALL OF FAME**

The Minnesota Football Coaches Association (MFCA) Hall of Fame Committee has announced six inductees for the MFCA Hall of Fame. The 2016 inductees will be formally enshrined in the MFCA Hall of Fame at the 52nd Annual Football Hall of Fame Banquet on April 2, 2016 at the Doubletree Hotel Minneapolis Park Place, 1500 Park Place Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55416.

**The 2016 Hall of Fame inductees are:**

***High School Division***

<u>Name</u>	<u>School(s)</u>
Don Henderson	Triton
Bernie Litecky	Totino-Grace
Flint Motschenbacher	Detroit Lakes
Leo Pohlkamp	Pierz

***College Division***

<u>Name</u>	<u>School(s)</u>
Steve Johnson	Bethel University

***Citation Division***

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Rand Middleton	West Central Tribune (Willmar, MN)

**MFCA Hall of Fame History:**

- The MFCA established the Hall of Fame in 1965.
- The first Hall of Fame class (1965) included Bernie Bierman, Jake Christiansen, Frank Cleve, Bernie Cole, Vern Morrison, Bronko Nagurski, Ted Peterson and Lew Swearington.
- The Hall of Fame has 284 inducted members through 2015.

## Further information about the 2015 MFCA Hall of Fame inductees:

### Don Henderson, Triton

- 29 years as a head football coach:
  - 3 years at Hayfield/Dodge Center (1987-1989, record 16-11)
  - 26 years at Triton (1990-2015, record 220-67)
- Career record as a head coach is 236-78
- His teams have played in nine State Tournaments and four Prep Bowls (three state championships, one second place finish)
- State Championship teams (3): Class B 1994; Class 2A 2000, 2006
- Assistant Coach, Outstate, Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game (1996)
- Coached seven players who played in the Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game

### Bernie Litecky, Totino-Grace

- Graduate of DeLaSalle High School (Minneapolis) and St. John's University
- Earned a Master's degree from the University of Minnesota
- 43 years as a Minnesota high school football coach (1973-2015), all at Totino-Grace High School
- Has coached under two MFCA Hall of Fame head coaches (Dave Nigon and Jeff Ferguson)
- Has been on the coaching staff for nine state championship teams at Totino-Grace
- MFCA Butch Nash Award winner (1994)
- MFCA Assistant Coach of the Year Award winner (2003)
- Assistant Coach, Metro, Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game (1996)

### Flint Motschenbacher, Detroit Lakes

- Graduate of Audubon High School and Moorhead State University (now Minnesota State Moorhead)
- 31 years as a football coach (assistant coach and head coach)
- 18 years as a head coach (1998-2015), all at Detroit Lakes High School.
- Career record as a head coach is 139-49 (all-time wins leader at Detroit Lakes)
- Five conference championships
- His teams have played in five state tournaments
- One State championship team (Class 4A 2001)
- MFCA Coach of the Year Award winner (2001)
- 1996: Assistant Coach, Outstate, Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game
- 2005: MFCA President
- 2008: Head Coach, Outstate, Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game
- 2011: Assistant Coach, North, Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game
- Coached 14 players who played in the Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game

### Leo Pohlkamp, Pierz

- Graduate of Pierz High School and St. Cloud State University
- 36 years as a football coach (assistant coach and head coach)
- 30 years as a head coach (1986-2015), all at Pierz High School.
- Career record as a head coach is 242-81
- 14 conference championships
- His teams have played in 11 state tournaments
- Two State championship teams (Class 2A 2004, Class 3A 2015)
- 2003: Assistant Coach, Outstate, Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game
- 2004: MFCA Class 2A Coach of the Year Award winner
- 2011: Assistant Coach, North, Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game
- 2014: Minnesota Vikings "Coach of the Year" Award winner
- Coached eight players who played in the Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game

### Steve Johnson, Bethel University

- Graduate of Richards High School (Oak Lawn, IL) and Bethel College (now Bethel University)
- Master's degree from St. Cloud State University
- 36 years as a football coach (assistant coach and head coach at the high school and college level)
- Head coach at St. Cloud Cathedral High School (four years, 1982-1985, record 26-16)
- 27 years as a college head coach (1989-2015), all at Bethel University.
- Career record at Bethel University is 192-81-1
- Five MIAC championships
- Eight NCAA Division III playoff appearances, with two appearances in the NCAA Division III National semifinals
- West Region "Coach of the Year" Award winner four times (1996, 2007, 2010, 2013)
- 2011: MFCA "Man of the Year" Award winner

### Rand Middleton, West Central Tribune (Willmar, MN)

- Graduate of Cadillac High School (Michigan) and Michigan State University.
- Earned a Master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado
- Started with the West Central Tribune in 1974 and has served as a reporter, columnist and photographer for that publication for 43 years.
- His primary coverage area has been the 19 schools in West Central Minnesota, including such programs as BOLD, Benson, New London-Spicer and Dawson-Boyd.
- Has covered numerous MSHSL State Tournaments, including the first overtime state football championship game in 1974 (Class C, Battle Lake 34, Bird Island 26 in two overtimes)

### Hall of Fame Banquet Information

Date: Saturday April 2, 2016

Time: 5:00 Social Hour  
6:00 Dinner

Location: Doubletree Hotel Minneapolis Place, 1500 Park Place Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55416

Tickets: \$35.00

Purchase Hall of Fame Banquet tickets on-line on the MFCA website at [www.mnfootballcoaches.com](http://www.mnfootballcoaches.com). The deadline for banquet reservations is Tuesday March 29.

Please direct any questions about the Hall of Fame Banquet to the Banquet Chairperson Dave Nelson at [dave.nelson@minnetonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:dave.nelson@minnetonka.k12.mn.us).

Please direct any questions about the MFCA Hall of Fame to Hall of Fame Committee Co-Chairs Scott Tschimperle ([stschimperle@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:stschimperle@gsl.k12.mn.us), 320-864-2440) or Paul Lemke ([plemke@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:plemke@gsl.k12.mn.us), 320-864-2432).

The Minnesota Football Coaches Association congratulates the 2016 inductees to the MFCA Hall of Fame. They are outstanding "Keepers of the Game".