



National Lacrosse Hall of Fame Nomination & Selection Process

Approved by the USA Lacrosse Board of Directors – December 2021

Goal: To select the absolute best of the best within the context of an individual's era of participation.

Character Beyond Reproach

The following are areas of evaluation used to determine character beyond reproach:

- Practice and perpetuation of positive sportsmanship on and off the field
 - Positive relations with peers, opponents, subordinates, and supervisors within the game
 - Service and honors within lacrosse, civic, community, and military community
- * Service, not honors, are better at determining character
- ** Only nominees that satisfy the minimum criteria and undergo a criminal background check can be officially elected



National Lacrosse Hall of Fame Structure and Process

Overview:

The National Lacrosse Hall of Fame (HOF) selection process is managed and maintained by the Men's and Women's Games Administration staff (USAL Staff), in conjunction with the USA Lacrosse Athlete Experience Committee (AEC). There are three groups of individuals that come together and participate in the process annually:

1. The Ballot Development Leadership Group (BDLG) provides oversight and direction to the Ballot Development Group (BDG) and reviews the voting results before submission to the BOD.
2. The Ballot Development Groups (BDG) creates a 12-person game-specific ballot to vote on.
3. The Voting Groups (VG) review the individuals on the ballot, and each member submits a ranked order of individuals who are most worthy to least worthy in the context of the current ballot.

These Men's Game and Women's Game ballot development and voting groups are annually convened by USAL staff. Each group's game-specific chair is identified in December of each year and submitted for approval through the EC of the Board. Once the chairperson for each game is approved, they will work with USAL staff and the BDLG to form the BDG and VG, who will participate in the processes listed below. The work of the HOF Process will be concluded by April of each year, and the BDG and VG will be dissolved at the end of their work. The HOF classes are announced by USA Lacrosse by Memorial Day weekend each year.

Ballot Development Leadership Group (BDLG)

Composition: 8 Members: (2 from the USAL BOD, 2 from the USAL Foundation Board, 2 Games Administration Staff, 2 Game-Specific Chairs)

Term: One Year/One Process

Purpose: The BDLG provides oversight and direction to the BDG and reviews the voting results before submission to the BOD.

Ballot Development Groups (BDG)

Composition: 8 Members: (1 Chairperson, 1 Game Administration Staff, 1 USAL Board Member, 1 Foundation Board Member, 1 Coach Representative, 1 Official Representative, 1 Administrator Representative, 1 Player Representative)



The BDG should have strong representation from current or past U.S. National Teams and/or members of the Lacrosse Hall of Fame. Members should represent diverse backgrounds, experiences, geographical representation, and school affiliations. Individuals should have a significant amount of time involved with the sport, twenty (20) years or more, and possess the utmost historical and current knowledge of the game. Active participation in all meetings, calls, and emails is required of all members.

Term: One Year/One Process

Purpose: The BDG performs a comprehensive evaluation of all eligible candidates via an in-person meeting and/or by virtual meeting(s) and identifies those individuals that are to be included on the 12-person National Lacrosse Hall of Fame Ballot. Each ballot must represent more than one category. To be included on the ballot, each nominee must receive a minimum of 75% vote of approval from the ballot development group members. The ballot development group deems all individuals on the ballot worthy of induction into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame. Once completed, the ballot will be accompanied by the biographical and accomplishment information for each candidate.

Once the ballot is created, the individuals on the ballot will be notified by USAL and asked to confirm their interest in being on the ballot, submit to a personal background check, and agree to the Anti-Harassment Discrimination Policy.

Voting Groups (VG)

Composition: 13 Members (8 members of the Ballot Development Group and 5 Additional Voters).

The 8 members of the group that developed the ballot shall populate the first 8 positions on the Hall of Fame Voting Group. Additional Voting Group members should be comprised of members of the Hall of Fame, current or former US National Team players and coaches, elite level high school or college coaches, elite members of the officiating community that have officiated or assigned at the Division 1 level, or individuals that have contributed to the growth of the sport on a national or international level. Active participation in all calls and emails is expected of all voting group members.

Term: One Year/One Process

Purpose: Members of the Ballot Voting Group must thoroughly review and rank the 12 candidates that appear on the ballot 1-12, 1 being their top choice/most qualified candidate, and 12 being the last choice/least qualified candidate.



Vote Value: The voters shall have point values based on the following scale:

Vote Rank	Vote Value
1	12
2	11
3	10
4	9
5	8
6	7
7	6
8	5
9	4
10	3
11	2
12	1

Tallying Votes: All ballots shall be signed and returned by the date specified by USA Lacrosse staff. Ballot results are compiled anonymously.

Induction Class Requirements

Once all votes are tallied, the total number of points is generated for each candidate. The candidates receiving the 4 highest rankings are to be elected into the HOF in compliance with the category allotment listed below. Based on this system, a maximum of 4 individuals per ballot/per game will be elected annually for a class of 8 in total.

In each class, the inductees cannot all be from the same category (player, coach, official, and contributor). Every category must have a worthy individual inducted, at least one time, every three years. Each induction class slate must have one individual over the age of 65 per game.

All members elected to the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame are subject to approval by the USA Lacrosse Board of Directors Executive Committee and must have completed a background check through USA Lacrosse.

Hall of Fame Process Review Timeline

To ensure that the Hall of Fame process and criteria are providing opportunities for candidates of the highest caliber in the men's and women's games to be considered for induction, US Lacrosse will formally review and, if necessary, propose changes to the process every three years. The HOF process will be up for its next formal review in 2023.



Minimum Criteria and Induction Categories

Category: Player

Minimum Criteria for Men and Women

1. Must be retired* from playing the game for at least five (5) years OR must have had at least fifteen (15) years lapse from a scheduled college graduation year and be retired* from the game. (Note: College attendance is not a prerequisite for consideration)
2. Must be inducted into at least one USA Lacrosse, local or affiliated, Hall of Fame. The exception noted where greatest lacrosse achievements and contributions occurred in an area where no USA Lacrosse, local or affiliated, Hall of Fame is established and active.
3. Must have played collegiate lacrosse in the United States of America
4. Must have demonstrated character beyond reproach

* retired = not participating at the level of play for which candidate is being evaluated for induction

Accomplishment Criteria for Men and Women

To be eligible in this category, all nominees must have achieved at least one of the following criteria in collegiate, international, or professional play:

Collegiate (one of the following)

1. 2-time 1st Team Collegiate All-American
2. 3-time combination of 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Team Collegiate All American
3. 2-time USILA or IWLCA award winner as either: Player of the Year
4. Attacker of the Year Midfielder of the Year Defender of the Year Goalie of the Year

International (one of the following)

1. 2-time U.S. Senior Team member (Men-World Championship Team, Women- World Cup/Championship Team)
2. 1-time U.S. Senior Team member (Men-World Championship team, Women- World Cup/Championship team), with ILF, IFWLA, or FIL International playing honors as:
3. Member of an All-World Team
4. World Championship/Cup Tournament MVP World Championship/Cup Offensive MVP World Championship/Cup Defensive MVP
5. 3-time U.S. Touring Team member

Professional (one of the following)

1. 2-time All-Pro (MLL, PLL, WPLL, UWLX, AU, or NLL)
2. 3-time combination of 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Team All-Pro
3. 2-time Professional League Player of the Year



Category: Coach

Minimum Criteria for Men and Women

1. Must be at least five years retired* or at least twenty years active as a head lacrosse coach at the high school, collegiate, international, and/or professional level.
2. Must be inducted into at least one USA Lacrosse, local or affiliated, Hall of Fame. The exception noted where greatest lacrosse achievements and contributions occurred in an area where no USA Lacrosse local or affiliated, Hall of Fame is established and active
3. Must have demonstrated character beyond reproach

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Accomplishment Criteria for Men and Women

To be eligible in this category, all nominees must have achieved at least one of the following criteria in either high school, collegiate, international.

1. High School Head Coach (one of the following)
 - a. 350 wins or greater
 - b. Career winning percentage of 65% or better
2. Collegiate Head Coach (one of the following)
 - a. 250 wins or greater
 - b. Accumulated a career winning percentage of 65% or greater
 - c. 2-time NCAA Coach of the Year
3. U.S. National Team Head Coach
 - a. Senior
 - b. U20
 - c. Box



Category: Official

Minimum Criteria for Men and Women

1. Must be at least five years retired* or at least twenty years as an active official/umpire
2. Must be inducted into at least one USA Lacrosse, local or affiliated, Hall of Fame. The exception noted where greatest lacrosse achievements and contributions occurred in an area where no USA Lacrosse, local or affiliated, Hall of Fame is established and active.
3. Must have demonstrated character beyond reproach

* retired = not participating at the level of play for which candidate is being evaluated for induction

Accomplishment Criteria for Men and Women

To be eligible in this category, all nominees must have achieved at least one of the following criteria:

1. Collegiate Officiating (one of the following)
 - a. Officiate 3 Collegiate National Championships
 - b. Officiate 6 Collegiate Semi-Final tournament games
2. International Officiating
 - a. Officiate an international competition (Men World Championship, Women World Cup/Championship)
 - b. 1 Collegiate National Championships or 2 Collegiate Semi-Final tournament games
3. Professional Officiating
 - a. Officiate a Professional Championship (MLL, PLL, WPLL, AU, NLL, UWLX)
 - b. 1 Collegiate Division I National Championships or 2 Collegiate Division I Final Four Tournament games



Category: Contributor – Administrator or Developer

Minimum Criteria for Men and Women

1. A Contributor must be at least 20 years active with the sport of lacrosse in one or more capacities.
2. Must be inducted into at least one USA Lacrosse, local or affiliated, Hall of Fame. The exception noted where greatest lacrosse achievements and contributions occurred in an area where no USA Lacrosse, local or affiliated, Hall of Fame is established and active
3. Must have demonstrated character beyond reproach

Accomplishment Criteria for Men and Women

To be eligible in this category, all nominees must have achieved at least two of the following criteria:

1. Serve in a national leadership position for development, management, or governance of the game for at least ten years (not consecutive)
2. Serve on a national lacrosse committee or council for at least ten years (not consecutive)
3. Serve in a regional leadership position for development, management, or governance of the game for at least ten years (not consecutive)
4. Create or establish a recognizable and tangible contribution to the game that has positively impacted lacrosse. To include, but not be limited to processes, a system of play, evaluation methods, and industry achievement.
5. Recipient of the USA Lacrosse Lifetime Achievement Award
6. Coached, played, or officiated at an elite level or has met 50% of the requirements of one of the other categories (Player, Coach, Official)



Additional Honors and Awards

Identification/Selection Process

It is the responsibility of the Ballot Development Group to identify individuals for the Lifetime Achievement Award and Team of Distinction Award.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes and honors the lifetime accomplishments, impact, and/or contributions of an individual to the sport of lacrosse of 30 or more years.

Criteria:

1. Outstanding accomplishment as a player, administrator, or official in connection with participation and leadership activities in local, regional, and national lacrosse organizations expanding over a career
2. Demonstrate a commitment to the sport of lacrosse that exceeds the norm
3. Demonstrate a passion and vision for the sport of lacrosse through action
4. Character beyond reproach

The Lifetime Achievement Award does not constitute election into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame. These awards shall be presented at an event during the year of selection. Each Ballot Development Group shall be entitled to elect one (1) individual to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award every odd year, but neither Ballot Development Group is required to confer these awards. An individual must earn a vote of 75% percent or more by the Ballot Development Group to be selected.

The Lifetime Achievement Award does not constitute election into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame. These awards shall be presented at an event during the year of selection. Each Ballot Development Group shall be entitled to elect one (1) individual to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award every odd year, but neither Ballot Development Group is required to confer these awards. An individual must earn a vote of 75% percent or more by the Ballot Development Group to be selected.

Past Winners:

Men's Game

Mat Levine - 2015
Warren Kimber - 2017
Tom Flatley - 2019

Women's Game

Jackie Pitts - 2015
Elaine Knobloch – 2017
Agnes “Aggie” Stegmuller - 2019



TEAM of DISTINCTION AWARD

The Team of Distinction Award recognizes and honors the accomplishments, impact, and/or contributions of an entire team achieved during a specific era of participation.

Criteria:

1. Impact/contribution to the game
2. Extraordinary win streak
3. National Championship or World Lacrosse Championship/ Lacrosse World Cup

The Team of Distinction Award does not constitute election into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame. These awards shall be presented at an event in the year of selection. Each Ballot Development Group shall be entitled to elect one (1) team to receive the Team of Distinction Award every even year, but neither Ballot Development Group is required to confer these awards. A team must earn a vote of 75% percent or more by the Ballot Development Group to be selected.

Past Winners - Men's Game

- 1950 John Hopkins University Men's Team -- 2016
- 1965 United States Naval Academy Men's Team -- 2018
- 1976 Cornell University Men's Team -- 2020

Past Winners - Women's Game

- 1969 United States Women's Touring Team -- 2016
- 1976 United States Women's Touring Team -- 2018
- 1989 US Women's World Cup Team -- 2020