



THE OWEN SOUND AND AREA
SPORTS HALL OF FAME CONSTITUTION
Amended October 2024

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1. **PURPOSE:** To honor and perpetuate the names and deeds of those whose athletic prowess brought fame to their community and to themselves; of those who's interest in and work for sport, resulted in a climate which benefited the City and area.
2. **NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION:** The Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame is a non-profit organization with the above purposes; working toward that aim shall be carried on without purpose of gain by the Committee Members and any profits or other accretion to the organization shall be used in promoting its objects.
3. (a) **STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION:** The organization shall be governed by a Board of Directors and other Committees, as follows:
 - Chairperson
 - Immediate Past Chairperson
 - Recording Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Directors

CHAIRPERSON: Titular head of the Hall of Fame Committee; serves a two (2) year term. The Chairperson is chosen by members of the Sports Hall of Fame Committee from within its ranks, if possible, the Chairperson is an ex-officio member of all Committees. Announcements of selectees to the "HALL" are made by the Chairperson.

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRPERSON: Shall have the right to attend all Executive Committee meetings where he/she shall act in the advisory with full voting privileges.

SECRETARY: In charge of correspondence; meeting minutes etc.

TREASURER: Shall keep the books and financial records of the Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame.

DIRECTORS: There shall be a maximum of eleven (11) Directors.

ORGANIZATION OF RULING BODY OF OWEN SOUND SPORTS HALL OF FAME: There shall be NO ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS for the Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame. It is of the utmost importance that there be continuation of the aims and desires of the Hall and to that end the Executive may appoint members (subject to ratification by simple majority vote of the Executive).

If any member of the Executive Committee resigns or retires for any reason, the remaining members of the Executive shall discuss the names of possible successors who shall be approached. One member of the Executive shall be taxed with the duty of approaching the candidate(s) (in order) until receiving an affirmative answer. That person's name shall be brought before the Executive for ratification by majority. If no one is elected as Chairperson, the Chairperson may stay on for another term if they wish to do so, even though they have held a two (2) year term prior.

(b) **CONSTITUTION:** Any/all Additions/Changes etc. to the Constitution, must be brought before all "HALL" COMMITTEE MEMBERS to be discussed upon. After discussion, a vote will be taken to either accept or decline the item discussed. Results of the vote must have 2/3 of the votes casted, by committee members present. Any/All adjustments will be discussed at our general meeting in October.

4. **CRITERIA FOR INDUCTION:** Numbers of Inductees: To be elected bi-annually, shall be determined by the Board of Directors, restricted to Athletes, Builders and Teams of Sport having direct connection to the City of Owen Sound and Area.

5. **ATHLETES:** Athletes to be considered for admission to the Hall of Fame must have been (or be) outstanding in their field of endeavour or to have achieved better than average proficiency in a number of sports even if not reaching the absolute top level in any one. The label “outstanding” must be applicable over an extended period of time in competition against peer athletes. This involves those competing on a strictly local level and those going on to District, Provincial and National events as well as those who enter professional sports. However, distinction should be made in the nomination papers as to the reason for the nomination. An athlete who is prominent locally over a period of time should not be downgraded for this if he/she achieves top proficiency in a wider area whether this be amateur or professional. The criteria must necessarily be broad, however, documentary evidence should be available, plus views of his/her contemporaries, if possible.

(a) **AUTOMATIC SELECTION:**

- a. Any Owen Sound and area athlete who has won an Olympic Medal;
- b. Any Owen Sound and Area athlete who finished first, second or third in any international Championship considered authentic by the Executive Committee;
- c. Any Owen Sound and Area athlete who has won a Canadian Championship in a non-team discipline (as considered authentic by the Executive Committee)

(b) **DEFINITION OF OWEN SOUND ATHLETE:** For purpose of the Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame, an Owen Sound athlete shall be:

- a. Anyone who is not born here but who has been in the City of Owen Sound and proves his/her worth in an athletic sense. Said athlete may be considered even if he/she eventually moves away from the City;
- b. Anyone who has professionally represented the City of Owen Sound and Area;
- c. Anyone in (a) or (b) who, after a local amateur career, moves into professional sports elsewhere and who is deemed worthy of inclusion;
- d. Anyone in (a) or (b) who, after a local amateur career, moves into University sports elsewhere and who is deemed worthy of inclusion;
- e. Anyone in (a) or (b) who, after a local amateur career, moves into amateur sports elsewhere and who is deemed worthy of inclusion

6. **BUILDERS:** Includes officials, referees, umpires, sponsors, trainers, coaches, promoters etc. This would include those whose work for sport over an extended period of time has been outstanding, whether it be in organization of leagues and facilities; achieving a high degree of success in coaching teams and/or individuals; keeping a league or team active; providing services of a consistency high level over an extended period of time.

However, just because someone has worked many years for sport as a builder, it does not necessarily mean inclusion into the Hall of Fame. His or her work over that period of time, or over most of it, must have been of a consistently high level with regard to services provided or results achieved.

Builder nominees shall be eligible at any time. There shall be no waiting period in this category although the nominee may still be active in the role(s) for which they are being nominated.

7. **TEAMS:** Team nominations to be taken as for individuals, determining the merits of each team as a whole
8. **SPECIAL MERIT:** Where an Individual, Team or Community Group falls outside of the existing criteria for Hall of Fame consideration. The Committee may at its discretion, honour that party with induction under the Special Merit award.

9. **DECEASED CANDIDATES:** Each case to be decided, on the merits of the person involved by the Executive Committee.
10. **OFFICIAL CREST:** The Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame official crest shall be used on letterheads, scrolls, and any mementoes presented to nominees to the Hall
11. **AWARDS:** Each living Inductee to the Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame, and the family of each deceased Inductee to the Hall, shall receive a certificate with the Inductee's name inscribed thereon. Commemoration in the Hall of Fame shall be in the form of a picture, plaque or honor roll.

Each team named to the Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame shall be recognized in an appropriate manner (eg. Framed and inscribed team photograph).

No member of the Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame Committee is permitted to nominate any person/team for induction into the Hall of Fame.

The Chairperson will vote in the selecting of the inductees to be inducted into the Hall, from all of the applications received however a tied vote will result in a negative vote.

NUMBER OF INDUCTEES ELECTED, UP TO;

- Athletes – 9
- Builders – 3
- Teams – 4
- Special Merit – 1

Each inductee receives 2 free tickets to the Inductee Dinner and Ceremony.

12. PATH TO ELECTION TO THE HALL OF FAME:

Nominations: Made by general public, these are to be sent to the Chairperson or designate, along with supporting documentation. The Chairperson or designate, will turn over all documentation to the Committee members to review. After the Committee has reviewed each nominee application, a meeting will be held to select the Nominees to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Each nominee being voted on must receive two-thirds (2/3) of the votes of the Committee Members present and voting, to be eligible to be inducted into the "HALL". All information and discussion shall be confidential. Releasing the names of those elected shall be at a time after the nominees elected have been informed of their induction to the "HALL". The Chairperson or designate, will inform each inductee. When the inductees have been informed, the Chairperson or designate will then inform the Media of the Inductees and the categories which they have been elected.

Number of inductees elected is determined by the Committee.

13. **INDUCTION:** Inductions shall be held at an Inductee Dinner and Ceremony on a date selected by the Hall of Fame Committee every second year.
14. **FINANCIAL STRUCTURE:** The Hall of Fame operates as an independent organization with its own bank account and financial records. All revenues and expenses flow to and from this account. Multiple signatures, including the Chairperson and Treasurer, must be on all disbursements with appropriate documentation in place. All decisions with regards to the use of Hall of Fame proceeds, are the sole responsibility of the Committee.