

Official By-Laws
Washington-Greene Co. Chapter Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame
(As of August 3, 2020)

Article I

Section 1 – Washington-Greene Co. Chapter Sports Hall of Fame:

- A. It is a non-profit organization founded to perpetuate the memory of athletes – male and female, who have brought lasting fame and recognition to the state of Pennsylvania through their athletic achievements.

- B. Also eligible for such distinction are those individuals who have brought similar recognition to the state through their contributions to sports in general, in managerial, promotional, or other influential capacities.

Article II

Section 1 – Membership is Open to ALL:

- A. Membership in the Washington-Greene Co. Chapter Sports Hall of Fame is open to all sports minded individuals interested in perpetuating the memory of all athletic greats who brought recognition to the state during their careers, either through their own achievements, personal influence or personal contributions.

- B. The membership fee is \$10 per year. The Chapter retains \$6 of the full sum for expenses, although no salaries are paid to any officers, chairman or members of committees. They all serve on a volunteer basis.

Article III

Section 1 – Banquet:

- A. The Washington-Greene County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies Banquet is a memorable event. It is a unique gathering of people covering athletic achievements. The ceremonial banquet is held on the second weekend of June.
- B. The Master of Ceremonies will give a brief introduction of each inductee.

Article IV

Section 1 - Chapter Meeting Schedule:

January: Voting of chapter members for yearly class of inductees.

February: Release of that year's Induction Class.

March: Progress report on Induction Ceremonies, program sales and letters sent to high schools by Scholar-Athlete Chairman.

April: Progress report on induction ceremony.

May: Program completion, final arrangements for induction ceremony. On the Monday before the banquet, all committee chairman meets for detail.

June: Final report, ceremonies, banquet, program. General discussion of all aspects of ceremonial and recommendation for improvement.

July: Vacation

August: General discussion

September: General discussion – fundraisers.

October: Nomination of officers for next year and deadline for nominations.

November: Presentation of nominees (distribution of bios), election of officers.

December: Second and final presentation of nominees and vote by the executive committee (in executive session) for the final approval of ballot of potential inductees.

Article V

Section 1 – Membership Eligibility:

- A. Chapter meetings are open to the public with the exception of Executive Sessions. All are invited to attend Chapter meetings and assist in the identification of potential award recipients.
- B. Members who have attained their 21st birthday and have attended four (4) minimum previous meetings in the current year shall be eligible to vote for the nomination and election of Chapter officers and other Chapter business.
- C. One must be an inductee or elected to the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame Washington-Greene Co. Chapter to hold a chapter office. In addition, the president -- or one acting on his behalf -- may appoint a chapter member to fill a term. That member, if agreed upon by the executive committee, would then be eligible to become an elected officer.

Article VI

Section 1 – The Officers shall be:

- A. President
- B. Vice-President
- C. Recording Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Membership Chairman
- F. Biography Chairman
- G. Scholar-Athlete Chairman
- H. Banquet Chairman
- I. Executive Committee Chairman
- J. General Secretary

Article VII

Section 1 – Line of Succession to the Presidency shall be:

- A. Vice-President
- B. Recording Secretary
- C. Treasurer

Article VIII

Section 1 – Duties of the President, Officers & Executive Committee:

- A. Fill unexpired terms of Officers on the Executive Committee.
- B. Act on behalf of the membership in regard to the By-Laws.
- C. Review and validate all Chapter inductee nominees to ensure nominees meet required nominating requirements.
- D. Validate ballot count of general membership inductee ballots.
- E. Approve all applications of inductees.
- F. Shall be the presiding Officer of the Membership.

Article IX

Section 1 – Duties of Officers:

- A. **Vice President:** Shall have the power to act for the President pursuant to his direction or absence and have coordinating responsibility.
- B. **Recording Secretary:** Shall be responsible for keeping minutes of all the meetings of the membership.
- C. **Treasurer:** Shall be the official custodian of all the funds of the Hall of Fame and ensure their safekeeping.
- D. **Biography Chairman:** Shall perform or maintain the following:
 - 1. Master file of all those individuals nominated for Induction into the Hall of Fame.
 - 2. Prepare the Chapter inductee nominating form report for submission and validation to the Executive Committee.
 - 3. Prepare the inductee nominating ballot for submission to the membership.
 - 4. Collect and compile results of the membership ballot for validation by the Executive Committee.
 - 5. Carry out special assignment of the President.

6. When the list of new inductees is finalized, the Biography Chairman will submit their names and sport to the local print media for publication within thirty (30) days. Also, this article should mention the date of the induction dinner.
7. Complete biographies and pictures, if possible, of new inductees will be submitted to the local print media in time for publication in the weeks prior to the induction ceremony.
8. All nominees will be listed in alphabetical order on the ballot.

- E. **Membership Chairman:** Shall be responsible for the master membership file.
- F. **Scholar-Athlete Chairman:** Shall be responsible to be the liaison between the Hall of Fame and the schools in the Hall of Fame area and present the names of all of the students to the membership for induction purposes.
- G. **Banquet Chairman:** Coordinate all aspects of the banquet, securing the venue, programs, flowers delivered and distributed, music, awards and so forth.
- H. **Executive Committee Chairman:** Shall be responsible for the following:
1. Responsible for all actions of the Executive Committee and report to the President if any rules are being violated.
 2. Responsible for submitting recommendations brought by any member of proposed amendments to the By-Laws to the Executive Committee.

Article X

ELECTION TO THE HALL OF FAME

Section 1 – Eligibility:

- A. Nominees must have brought lasting fame and recognition to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its people through outstanding achievements in sports endeavor.
- B. Nominees must have been native Pennsylvanians or non-native Pennsylvanians participating in Washington-Greene County based organizations.
- C. Nominees must have been active participants as coaches, individuals, managers, sports officials, or promotional, administrative or news media personnel.
- D. All nominees must meet the criteria on requirements established by the Executive Committee.
- E. Teams of Yesteryear and team members.
- F. Professional athletes, living or deceased, who were established in their sport on a “major league level” for at least one complete year are eligible for automatic induction into the Chapter. All other conditions for induction will apply. “Major league level” will consist of:
 - 1. Major League Baseball (MLB), NFL, CFL, NBA, NHL, WNBA, English
 - 2. Premier Soccer League, Major League Soccer
 - 3. WTA Tour and ATP Tour (Tennis).
 - 4. Golf: PGA and LPGA tours, full members, or career earnings of \$1 million or more on other tours
 - 5. Boxing: At least 15 professional fights and fought for a recognized championship and a winning record.

Section 2 – Nominating Procedure:

- A. Any dues-paying member of the Washington-Greene Co. Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame may nominate individuals for consideration for induction. To be eligible to nominate and vote: one had to be a member in good standing -- by July 1 of each year – with a current dues-paying card.
- B. The nominees must ascertain that he or she will be present for induction, if elected.
- C. The number of inductees, living and deceased, as stipulated in approved policies are:

1. Living, minimum of ten (10).
 2. Deceased, maximum of two (2).
 3. Professional athletes, maximum of (2)
 4. Team of yesteryear, minimum zero, maximum (2)
- D. Nominations must be submitted by the regularly scheduled meeting or meeting dates.
- E. The Biography Chairman will validate all Chapter nominating forms to ensure they comply with established criteria and mandates of approved executive committee policies. Also, the executive committee formulates the final twenty (20) on the ballot for the membership for finalization on the final ballot.
- F. Nominations not submitted on the official nominating form or online and not received in accordance with the Chapter activities calendar, shall be considered void.
- G. The nominees on the final ballot who fail to be inducted shall be eligible for one (1) consecutive year to be listed on the initial ballot for consideration for the final twenty (20) for submission to the Executive Committee.
- H. If an individual is nominated and does not make the ballot in two successive years, that nominee will wait two consecutive years to be re-nominated.
- I. Team inductions – the member who nominates a “Team of Yesteryear” for induction shall be responsible for the following:
1. Researching and presenting all pertinent facts on the team’s accomplishments.
 2. Establishing or attempting to established contact with a team member who will responsible for notifying other team members of the induction. The team will also be responsible for collecting addresses and phone numbers.
 3. If a team member cannot, or will not, be responsible for notifying other team members, a present administrator, coach or other official at the school will be asked to accept on behalf of the team at the annual awards dinner.
- J. A Nomination Committee will cut whatever number of nominees to 30 nominees. From that 30 (including people/teams returning to the ballot automatically and those automatically returning to be considered for the ballot), the Executive Committee will then vote to the cut the 30 to 20-22 (whatever number is decided on) to be placed on the ballot for

election. Membership then votes on the next class.

Section 3 – Nominating Living Individuals:

- A. Been in the sport or position a minimum of four (4) years; or
- B. Other extenuating circumstances to be approved by a majority of the executive committee.
- C. Nominees must be 35-years of age at beginning of calendar year and a “Team of Yesteryear” 20 years from graduation or championship to be nominated.
- D.

Section 4 – Nominating Deceased Individuals:

- A. Must be deceased a minimum of two (2) years prior to nomination; and
- B. Submit the name of nominee’s representative who will represent the deceased individual at the annual induction ceremony.

Section 5 – Nomination of Honorees:

- A. Honorees are those individuals who meet the criteria approved by the majority of the Executive Committee:
 - 1. Meritorious community services in the field of sports.
 - 2. Courageous Award.

Courage Award (Definition)

- An individual who overcomes a great challenge or set back in life — illness, accident, domestic situation — and made an impact in the athletic arena.
- An individual, who through his /her ability to overcome or achieve in the face a great adversity has inspired, moved, motivated or impacted others.
- An individual who has passed away or continues to battle and overcome challenges and adversities.

Members of the executive committee will provide a list of candidates for this category. The committee will review and examine the list and come together to select the yearly honoree at the Chapter’s monthly meeting in February each year. Preliminary work will need to be completed by a Courage Award Committee in the preceding months (November-January).

- 3. Student-athlete.

4. Youth Services.
5. Special Honoree.
6. "Hall of Fame Moment"

- Would be awarded annually to someone who may have a good resume but not quite a HOF resume or someone who enjoyed or experienced a one-time, huge, impactful moment in local sports.

The Wash-Greene Sports HOF would accept nominations from Chapter members. Those nominations would be due by the October meeting each year. A committee would reduce the number to five nominees. To create excitement, the five nominees/moments would be placed on the Chapter's website and Facebook pages, allowing for a public vote. Five points for first, three points for second and one point for third. That public vote would weigh as half of the part of the final decision, which would be voted on by our executive committee -- again, five points for first, three for second and one point for third. The two outcomes would be added together to determine the yearly "Hall of Fame Moment."

NOTE: Numbers 2 and 6 will be annual categories to be recognized at the induction banquet each year and the person and moment selected will be an honoree and of the Washington-Greene Co. Chapter of The Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. Speeches will not be given in these categories. The information about the honorees will be written and publicized in the banquet program. The Biography Chairman will be responsible to write, or a designee to write, feature stories on each of these honorees in lieu of speeches.

Section 6 – Voting Procedures:

- A. Every member eligible to vote shall receive a complete biography of all eligible nominees and receive a user name and password online to vote electronically.
- B. Prior to the final vote count and the February meeting, all members eligible to vote will receive, by mail, biographies of all nominees and an official ballot, complete with voting instructions.

- C. Members who vote by mail must have a completed ballot returned on or before the February meeting.
- D. Only complete and correctly filled out ballots will be counted as valid.

Article XI

Section 1 – Responsibilities of Membership:

- A. Approve all amendments to the By-Laws of the Hall of Fame.
- B. Approve all policies formulated by the Executive Committee.
- C. Determine the number of inductees to be elected into the Hall of Fame.
- D. Determine inductee nominees who shall be placed on the membership ballot.
- E. Elect all officers.
- F. Establish membership dues of the Hall of Fame.

Article XII

Section 1 – Donations:

- A. A maximum of \$1,000.00 per year and a maximum of \$100 per check, except for specific circumstances.