



Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame  
501 Broadway  
Nashville, TN 37203  
(615) 242-4750

## Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame Nomination Criteria

### A. Candidate Eligibility.

1. Any male or female participant in any recognized form of sports competition.
2. Those of Tennessee birth whose achievements were either in or outside the state.
3. Those born outside of Tennessee whose achievements within Tennessee brought fame to this state.
4. Others whose service has brought fame and honor to the State of Tennessee.
5. For an athlete to be eligible for consideration, he/she must be retired from that sport for a period of three (3) years, or if still competing, he/she must be fifty (50) years of age.

### B. Nomination.

1. To be considered for induction into State of Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame, an individual must be nominated. An individual is defined as one (1) person and cannot consist of a group, e.g. Smith Family, etc. Any citizen may nominate a candidate believed worthy of consideration for the Hall of Fame. The candidate's name, plus any biographical facts available, should be submitted in writing to the Executive Director of the State of Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame or through the Hall's website.

Members of the State of Tennessee Sport Hall of Fame board may at their election nominate individuals during their respective Grand Division meetings from the floor.

Once nominated, the candidate then remains in nomination each year until elected or for five (5) calendar years. Following expiration of the five (5) year qualification period, if the candidate is not inducted then a new nomination will need to be submitted per the process set out above.

2. The nominees will be divided into two (2) categories – Living and Posthumous. Living inductees must have been in retirement from the activity or sport for which they are nominated for at least three (3) years or in the alternative, may still be active in a sport or activity and be fifty (50) years of age or older.

### C. Election.

1. At a time following the nomination deadline, the membership of each Grand Division will meet under the direction of the Executive Director or TDTD assignee.

2. During the independent Grand Division meeting, the division shall: 1) select up to three (3) preferred nominees from that division to be approved by the Board; 2) up to six (6) as at-large candidates for consideration by the full board and 3) up to one (1) posthumous candidate which must hold a preferred or at-large selection.
3. Following the Grand Division meetings, the Board will meet to review the nominations. In considering the nominations, the Board has the responsibility to see that each person whose name appears on the ballot is worthy of being elected to the State of Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame.
4. The class of inductees for each following year may consist of up to fifteen (15) persons with no more than three (3) posthumous inductees.
5. Priority should be given to the performance of an athlete and the honors he/she has won. However other candidates who have rendered significant long-term service to sports in Tennessee, such as coaches, administrators, and media, may be given full consideration.
6. Following Board approval, the inductees will be honored at the annual Induction Banquet. The Board of Directors will determine the date of the Induction Banquet each year.

D. Honorees.

1. The nomination committee will consider any naming requests or new awards and will make recommendations to the full board for any changes or consideration.
2. The committee will invite nominations in the below categories as designated on the Hall of Fame website.
3. In addition to the nomination of individual inductees to the Hall of Fame, the Nomination Committee will be responsible for nominations of the following categories, if there is a worthy candidate:

<p>Tennessean of the Year: Honors an individual or organization that has made significant contributions to our society through sports or other methods, demonstrating strong character and high-profile leadership.</p>	<p>Courage Award: Honors an individual or group of individuals who possess strength in the face of adversity, courage in the face of peril and the willingness to stand up for their beliefs or protect others no matter what the cost.</p>
<p>Pat Summitt Lifetime Achievement Award: Honors an individual or organization that has made significant contributions to our society through sports or other methods, demonstrating strong character and high-profile leadership.</p>	<p>David Williams Significant Historical Achievement Award: Honors an individual or team whose accomplishments and contributions set the stage for positive change.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Legacy Award: Honors a high school program with a minimum of three (3) years sustained success. The merit-based award aims to spotlight teams from twenty (20) to thirty (30) years ago who achieved national recognition with an emphasis on those winning championships.</p>	

Female Amateur team(s) of the year	Male Amateur Team(s) of the Year
Female Amateur Athlete of the Year	Male Amateur Athlete of the Year
Professional Team(s) of the Year	
Female Professional Athlete of the Year	Male Professional Athlete of the Year

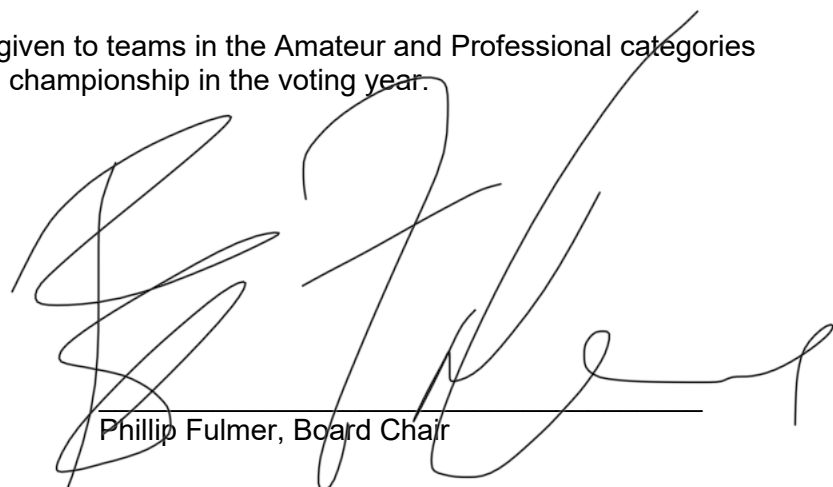
The full Board will vote to approve those selected by the Nomination Committee for Honoree categories.

4. Incomplete Season. Individuals nominated for awards that have not completed their season before the final meeting of the nomination committee will not be considered for the current year. Those nominees will be considered the following year, based on their accomplishments. However, the Board cedes authority to the Executive Director who separately in consultation with the Nomination Committee Chairman and Board President, until revoked by the Board or the Commissioner of the administratively attached state agency, to recognize teams that won a national championship following the Board's vote for Amateur Team of the Year but prior to the banquet.
5. Special consideration will be given to teams in the Amateur and Professional categories that won a National or league championship in the voting year.

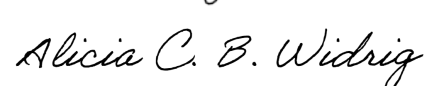
Approved by Board:

5/2/2024  
Date

5/2/2024  
Date



Phillip Fulmer, Board Chair



Alicia C. B. Widrig  
Alicia C. B. Widrig, Acting Secretary & Attorney

ADDENDUM 1 – TN SPORTS HALL OF FAME 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY, 2025

The Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame board having meet on May 2, 2024 and voted to expand the 2025 Induction Class in honor of its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Class.

The Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame Board sets forward the following alterations to the Nomination Criteria for 2025.

1. Each Grand Division shall receive three (3) preferred and seven (7) at-large candidates, only one (1) candidate of which could be a posthumous induction. The three (3) preferred candidates must receive approval from the Board. The at-large candidate pool could be up to as many as twenty-one (21) candidates which must be culled to eleven (11) slots.