**U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame**

**Rules of Governance for the Election of**

**Honored Members**

**Updated: April, 2018 JK**

**Vision**

The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame provides highly respected perpetual recognition to athletes competing in skiing and snowboarding and to the builders of these sports who have made the highest level of national and/or international achievement and contribution to American skiing and snowboarding.

**Honored Members**

The Honored Members collectively must represent the highest level of national achievement and contribution in America featuring prominent athletes, snowsport builders and trail blazers whose accomplishments showcase American skiing and snowboarding. The standard of excellence will bring the highest level of respect and honor for those individuals whose names are recorded on the Roll of Honor.

**Candidates for Nomination**

Individuals put forward as candidates for nomination and election for this honor must have accomplishments at the highest level of skiing and snowboarding in America. Their accomplishments must have impacted the sport on a true national scope.

Candidate athletes must have achieved significant levels of international success compared to their peers within skiing and snowboarding in America during their time of competition. They should be known for their national and international accomplishments, sportsmanship and for being leaders among their peers.

Candidate snowsport builders and trail blazers must have made highly significant and lasting contributions to the growth and recognition of American skiing and snowboarding, whether the origin of their work was regional or national. They should be known for their vision and leadership or for their pioneering and innovative efforts, standing out among their peers for the results they have achieved for the benefit of skiing and snowboarding in America.

**Section One: Definitions and Structure**

**1. Chairman, Hall of Fame Board of Directors**

The chairman of the Board of Directors maintains oversight of the selection and election of Honored Members through the appointment of the chairman of the Selection Committee and the appointment of the National Voting Panel.

**2. Chairman, Hall of Fame Selection Committee**

The chairman of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee serves at the pleasure of the chairman of the Board of Directors and is responsible for appointing the Selection Committee, managing its deliberations and for submitting the committee’s recommendations to the Board of Directors.

**3. Hall of Fame Selection Committee**

The Hall of Fame Selection Committee is made of up of no less than fifteen (15) and no more than twenty (20) people appointed by the chairman of the Selection Committee. They are chosen for their knowledge of skiing and snowboarding history and their commitment to the furtherance of the sports. Members of the Selection Committee shall serve for one-year terms and are invited annually by the chairman of the Selection Committee to serve with no limit on their annual re-appointment.

**4. National Voting Panel**

The Hall of Fame National Voting Panel is responsible for the actual election of Honored Members to the Hall from nominations put forward by the Selection Committee. It is constituted annually as follows:

Those automatically entitled to a place on the panel will be:

• Members of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee

• Living Honored Members of the Hall of Fame

• Current Board of Directors of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame

• Current Board of Directors of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA)

• Current members of the USSA Awards Working Group.

• Current Board of Directors of other industry organizations as approved by the Chairman of the Board of the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame

• Additional persons appointed by the chairman of the Hall of Fame, including persons having distinguished careers in snowsport and with expert knowledge in snowsport history.

Members of the National Voting Panel shall serve for one year and must signify their willingness to continue to serve each year by responding to an invitation from the chairman of the Hall.

**5. President/CEO**

The President/CEO shall assist chairmen of both the Hall of Fame and the Selection Committee in fulfilling their duties including assembling the nominations for review by the Selection Committee and administering the election of Honored Members by the National Voting Panel.

**6. Inductees/Honored Members**

Honored Members are individuals whose names are added to the Honor Roll following their successful nomination, election and induction into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

**7. Nominators**

Nominators are individuals who take on the responsibility for completing the Nomination Form on behalf of a specific candidate. Nominators must insure that the information provided is complete and accurate. They may not nominate themselves. A member of the Selection Committee must recuse themselves from voting on ballot placement if they have an active nomination up for consideration. A member of the National Voting Panel must recuse themselves from voting if they have an active nomination that makes the national ballot in the category / categories their nominee resides.

**8. Candidates**

Candidates are those persons put forward by Nominators for consideration in the selection process. Nominations are only accepted for the Athlete and Snowsport Builder categories. Nominations to the Heritage category are only accepted through the Hall of Fame Selection Committee or through the Hall of Fame Board of Directors.

**Section Two: Eligibility**

1. Nominations are open to any individual regardless of citizenship or national origin.

2. If two potential candidates, over a substantial period of their careers, closely, fully and in substantially equal measure collaborated with one another on activities that individually would qualify them for consideration as prospective elected members of the Hall of Fame, the Selection Committee may accept and consider a valid nomination for joint induction of such individuals as joint candidates if, firstly, a majority of Selection Committee members, according to such criteria, agree that such action would be appropriate, and, secondly, the board of directors, by formal majority vote, approves such Committee action at the Committee's prior request. Once a candidate is accepted by the Committee and the board of directors as a joint candidate during a particular election cycle, that joint candidate may not be considered in that same election cycle as an individual candidate.

3. Candidates must at least have had career success at the national level in the United States or have had substantial impact upon snowsport at a national level in the United States.

**Section Three: Categories for Election**

Those elected to the Hall of Fame are all treated equally and in one category as Honored Members. For the purpose of the election only, there shall be three categories to assist the review and fair election of candidates. These categories are only to assist the review and nomination process. Reference to them will not be made in announcing the successful candidates following the election.

These categories are: Athletes, Snowsport Builders and Heritage.

**1. Athletes**

Athlete candidates are recognized in a wide range of skiing and snowboarding disciplines for their national and international accomplishments. Candidates will be recognized for their specific athletic accomplishments or exploitation of their athleticism. They must have achieved the highest levels possible in their discipline. Consideration must also be given to the candidate’s contribution to the promotion and development of their particular discipline. Candidates may be considered from any of the categories listed. Nomination documents must speak directly to the accomplishments in the specific category.

**Selection Process**

• The Selection Committee will put forward up to six Athlete candidates for the National Voting Panel ballot.

• The National Voting Panel will elect at least the top two vote-getters regardless of percentage and up to a maximum of four, based on the achievement of a minimum of 25% percent of votes cast. 25% calculated as follows:

**100% / 6 candidates = 16.6667%**

**16.6667% x 1.5 = 25%**

**Minimum Criteria for Consideration as a Candidate**

• Olympic or Paralympic medalist

• FIS (International Ski Federation) or IPC (International Paralympic Committee) World Championship medalist

• Top-three season finish in FIS or IPC World Cup overall or discipline standings

• X Games medalist in skiing or snowboarding

• Athletes who competed prior to the modern day World Cup or comparable tours who distinguished themselves as notable international athletes for their achievements in the most recognized events of their time.

• Freeride, expedition or big mountain athletes who achieved the highest level of national or international notoriety related to their athletic accomplishments

• Professional skiers in alpine, freestyle, snowboarding or speed skiing who consistently won events or placed in the top three season standings on professional tours.

**2. Snowsport Builders**

Candidates in this category must have been involved at a significant level in skiing or snowboarding sports. Candidates must have had a clear national or international impact for their contribution and be widely known for their work. Candidates' qualifying experience must have been achieved as an individual, but may have been in conjunction with work with an organization.

**Selection Process**

• The Selection Committee will put forward up to five Snowsport Builder candidates for the National Voting Panel ballot.

• The National Voting Panel will elect at least the top two vote-getters regardless of percentage and up to a maximum of three, based on the achievement of a minimum of 30% percent of votes cast. 30% calculated as follows:

**100% / 5 candidates = 20%**

**20% x 1.5 = 30%**

**3. Heritage**

Candidates in this category must have been retired from their qualifying activity for 25 years or have participated in it for at least 25 years. The category is open to Athletes or Snowsport Builders. Candidates must have satisfied the criteria of one of the two categories in order to be considered as a candidate in the heritage category.

The Heritage category may include candidates whose previous candidacies were unsuccessful. In such cases their previous candidacies may not have come before the Selection Committee for at least five years.

A member of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee or a member of the Hall of Fame Board of Directors must sponsor each candidate.

**Selection Process**

• The Selection Committee will put forward up to four Heritage candidates for the National Voting Panel ballot.

• The National Voting Panel will elect only one, based on the achievement of a minimum of 37.5% percent of votes cast. 37.5% calculated as follows:

**100% / 4 candidates = 25%**

**25% x 1.5 = 37.5%**

**Section Four: Nomination Procedures**

1. Only candidates submitted using the official nomination form as posted on the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame’s web site or as obtained directly from the Hall of Fame’s headquarters will be accepted. Any nomination forms, which are not completed in entirety will be returned by the Hall of Fame and not sent to the Selection Committee.

2. Each form must include:

• Complete contact information for nominee (or relative if nominee is deceased)

• Quality printed photograph or, preferably, a digital image of the candidate

3. Endorsement by at least three individuals besides the sponsor. The nomination documentation must speak to the specific criteria established for that category, notably validation of the nominee's national contribution to the sport.

4. The Selection Committee will review only fully completed nominations.

5. Nominations may be received throughout the year but only those fully completed nominations received by May 31 will be reviewed at the next meeting of the Selection Committee.

6. All submitted nominations will be maintained in the archives of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

7. A non-refundable administration fee of $50 must accompany all non-athlete nominations. This fee covers the staff time of processing and brokering the nominations through the Hall of Fame office to the Selection Committee. In the event an application is incomplete or is returned to the nominator for any reason, the $50 administration fee is due once again.

***\*\*Any active nominations are grandfathered in and not required to pay the fee***

**Section Five: Selection Process**

1. The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame will maintain a pool of nominated candidates that the Selection Committee has determined are eligible for election as Honored Members. There will not be any limits on the size of this pool. Candidates deemed at the meeting of the Selection Committee to be not qualified will be dropped from or not placed in the Candidates Pool,

2. The names of candidates will remain in the pool for five years after which time their names will be dropped from the pool.

3. Candidates dropped from the pool may be re-nominated only when they qualify for consideration as part of the Heritage category, in which case their nomination must be sponsored by a member of the Selection Committee or the Hall of Fame Board of Directors.

4. The Hall of Fame office, in posting the ballot for the Selection Committee, shall include the candidate’s biography in total as submitted by the person submitting the nomination

5. The Selection Committee will review the candidates in the pool and conduct a secret ballot poll to determine the names to be placed in each of the three categories. If there is a tie the Selection Committee will hold a second vote to break the tie.

a. Athletes: Six candidates

b. Sport Builders: Five candidates

c. Heritage: Four candidates

6. The ballot will then be submitted to the National Voting Panel. Members of the National Voting Panel may vote for up to:

a. Athletes: Up to four candidates

b. Sport Builders: Up to three candidates

c. Heritage: Up to one candidates

7. Candidates receiving the respective category calculated percentage (25%, 30%, 37.5%) or greater from the votes cast will be elected, up to the following maximums:

a. Athletes: Up to four candidates

b. Sport Builders: Up to three candidates

c. Heritage: Up to one candidate

8. In the event of a tie from the voting of the National Voting Panel, where the candidates receive the respective category calculated percentage (25%, 30%, 37.5%) or greater of the votes cast, there will be a run-off vote. In the event of another tie, the Board of Directors of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame will make the decision regarding their election.

9. The primary ballot will be submitted electronically. Members of the National Voting Panel must respond through the provided web link to properly authenticate their ballot. Ballots may also be returned via post, fax or email to the staff at the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. If an electronic voting system is used the results shall be sent directly to the Chairman, Selection Committee.

**Section Six: Timeline**

May 31 Deadline for the receipt of fully completed candidate packages.

June 15 Deadline to determine the individuals serving on the Selection Committee

July 1 Candidate packages to be sent to the Selection Committee

July Conference Call Meeting of the Selection Committee to establish the ballot

July 10 Latest date for the ballot package to be sent to the Selection Committee

July 15 Final deadline for the receipt of votes from the Selection Committee

August 15 Determination of the membership of the National Voting Panel.

Sept. 1 Ballot package sent to the National Voting Panel

Sept. 21 Deadline for the receipt of ballots from the National Voting Panel

October 1 Selection Committee Chairman submits report to the Board of Directors

October Board of Directors approves the report from the Selection Committee Chairman and determines the date for the announcement of the annual class of inductees.

**Section Seven: Induction of Elected Candidates**

1. Successful candidates will receive news of their election to the Hall of Fame, in writing, by the Chairman of the Board of Directors on or before November 1.

2. As inductees into the Hall of Fame they will be invited to be present at the place and on the date appointed by the Board for the Induction Ceremony. Deceased inductees can be represented by members of their family or by a close personal friend.

3. At least one member of the Board of Directors must be present to certify the induction.

4. With the agreement of the Chairman of the Board of Directors, an inductee may have his/her induction delayed until the induction of the following year’s class, or to seek an alternative induction in cases where an inductee is physically unable to attend.

5. Inductees may refuse to accept their selection to the Hall of Fame. In this case, their names will not be placed on the Honor Roll and will be removed from the candidates’ pool. Their records will be maintained in the archives of the Hall of Fame.

**Section Eight: Security**

1. The names of the members of the Selection Committee are to be held in confidence by the Chairman of the Selection Committee except for use by officers of the Hall of Fame in official business and in the conduct of the selection process.

2. The names of the National Voting Panel members are not to be released to the general public or members of the media.

3. The names of the successful candidates are to be released to the media and general public only by the Chairman of the Board of Directors or his designate.

**Section Nine: Rules for Special Elections**

1. While recognizing the importance of maintaining the integrity and credibility of the selection process, there may be special circumstances where the Board of Directors may elect up to one individual each year whose service to snowsport has had national importance of a kind that escapes wide public notice or individuals who face special circumstances in ability to attend an induction. Those selected by the Board of Directors must have come from the list of candidates put forward by the Selection Committee to the National Voting Panel in that year.

2. The Board of Directors should use appropriate discretion in exercising this right. A full explanation of the circumstances of each special election shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting during or immediately following the special election.