

**NOMINATION FORM**  
For  
**HONORED MEMBERSHIP**  
In The  
**U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD HALL OF FAME**

**Bobbie Burns**

Date & Place of Birth: June 27, 1938 Born in: Athol, Idaho

Address of Candidate: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Is the candidate still living? If not, provide date and place of death: Yes

**Nominator information:**

Name: Jim Garrison & Dick Dorworth

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

For what category are you nominating this candidate?

Athlete:    

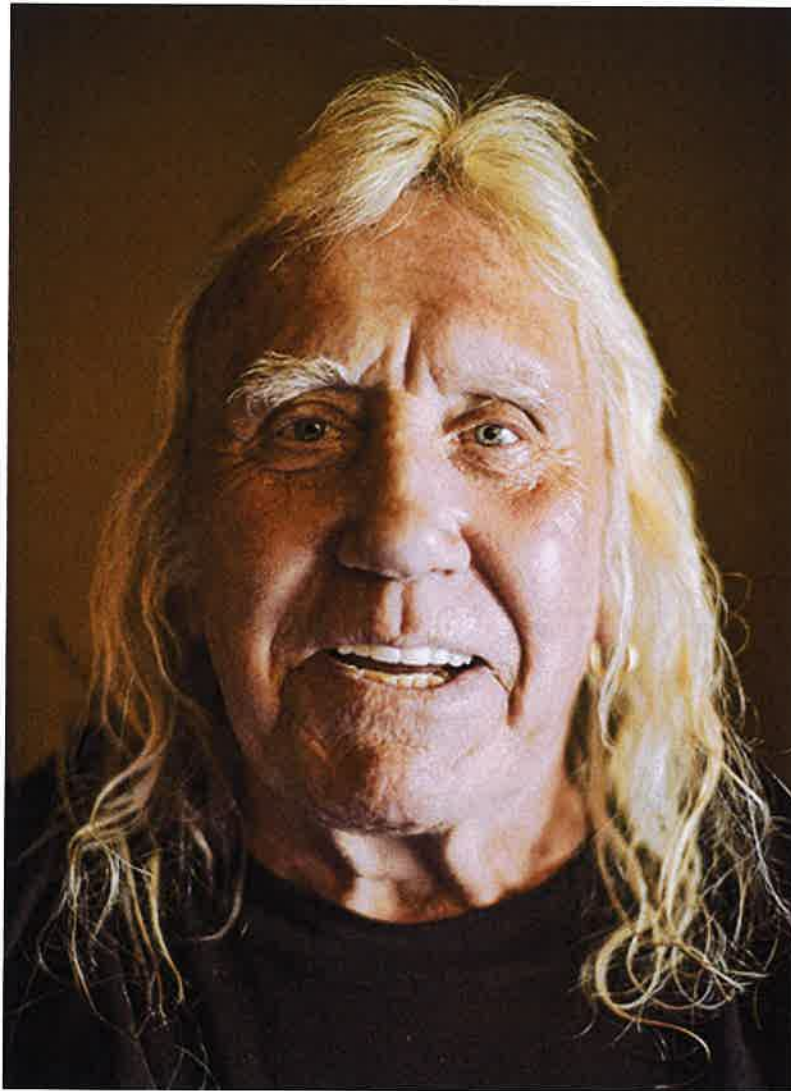
Snowsports Builder:   X  

Heritage:

An 8 x 10 photograph of the candidate must be supplied:  X



Bobbie Burns revolutionized the techniques of mogul skiing, the concepts of free skiing and the possibilities of showmanship in the 1960s. Living in Sun Valley, Burns had a higher balance point than the skiers of that time practicing more traditional techniques. By using longer poles and holding his hands above his head rather than in front of his



torso he was able to absorb bumps better while skiing them faster than anyone had ever done before. With his long, blonde hair, unorthodox technique, unbelievable athleticism and huge smile Burns changed the world of performance skiing, in some ways simply because he was having more fun than everyone else.

Dick Barrymore saw Burns skiing bumps in Sun Valley and remembered, "The sight changed my life as a filmmaker. Burns' style was not like any I had seen before....Burns attacked a field of moguls like Errol Flynn attacking a band of pirates. When he skied bumps, he sat down in a permanent toilet-seat position, with his arms

high over his head holding 60 inch long ski poles....Bob Burns was, in 1969, the first hot dogger."

Modern freestyle skiing grew from the creative athletic skiing techniques Burns developed.

In 1968 he went to work for K2 skis in Seattle, and by studying the construction of the best European skis developed skis for Marilyn and Bob Cochran, Mike Lafferty and Spider Sabich. Marilyn Cochran became the first American to win a World Cup ski race on skis made by Burns.

In 1974 Burns returned to Sun Valley and began making The Ski which revolutionized free skiing for the masses in much the same way as Bobbie Burns revolutionized free



skiing for elite athletes of performance skiing. The Ski was soft lengthwise and stiff torsionally with simple blocks of color for artwork unlike anything seen in skiing before. In the mid-80s Burns sold his company. Since then he has continued to make skis for select customers, designed clothes, taught skiing, worked as a consultant, raised his children and skied most days.





On one page provide additional data, anecdotes, etc. that you feel are pertinent to this nomination:

“The Ski” was the innovative brainchild of Bobbie Burns, manufactured in Sun Valley, Idaho and Ogden, Utah from approximately 1970 into the 1980s. Its Sun Valley roots provided the testing grounds where it was tested and proved on Bobbie’s favorite mountain – Baldy – the proving ground slopes for its unique configuration and performance – including the surrounding native sage brush finish of a number of his base designs.....

Bobbie continued to hand produce The Ski in his shop in Sun Valley well into the 2000’s. In the 2013/14 season, Scott re-introduced The Ski in Europe and in 2014 The Ski was named the “European Ski of the Year” ..... A further testimonial of the popularity of its unique design.

**Please list the names and addresses of those people who are supporting this nomination (Minimum of three - limit six):**

Dick Dorworth - HOF Honored Member - 2011  
Wayne Wong - HOF Honored Member - 2012  
Glen Flake - HOF Honored Member - 2010  
John Clendenin - HOF Honored Member - 2013  
Genia Fuller - HOF Honored Member - 2015  
Bernie Weichsel - HOF Honored Member - 2016  
Jake Moe - Founder, Powder Magazine.

April 12, 2019

Hall of Fame Selection Committee  
c/o Mr. Justin Koski  
U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame  
P.O. Box 191, Ishpeming, MI 49849

**RE: Bobbie Burns, Snowsport Builder Nomination.**

Dear Mr. Koski and Selection Committee:

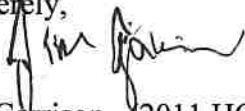
It is our great collective honor to nominate Bobbie Burns for consideration as an Honored Nominee as a Snowsports Builder into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. Attached is a completed Nomination Form and a small sample of the vast array of collateral materials, including photographs, and Letters of Support. We thank the Selection Committee for their consideration of one of most innovative and creative ski builders of our generation - Bobbie Burns.

Bobbie's ski design and manufacturing innovations commenced in the 1960s at K2 Ski Company and progressed into his own company, The Ski Company, in the early 1970s. Based on his innovative designs, The Ski progressed quickly into being a ski of choice for professional and amateur mogul skiers and the general skiing public alike. Spurred on by the rapid success of the Freestyle competitions around the world, The Ski featured prominently on winners podiums regularly. The Ski skiers posted no less than 33 World Championships on the U.S. National and International circuits in Moguls, Aerials, All-around and World Ballet from 1971 to 1979.

The telltale innovative top base graphics and quirky sagebrush embedded in the clear base were trademarks of the creativity of Bobby Burns in ski construction and the graphic image.

His outgoing personality making him an icon of the ski manufacturing industry make him a worthy candidate for nomination and induction into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and we thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,



Jim Garrison (2011 HOF Pioneer of Freestyle, 2012 HOF, Jerry, "Assignment K2")  
Dick Dorworth (HOF 2011)  
P.O. Box 3156  
Sun Valley, ID 83353  
206-914-1404  
[Jim.d.garrison@outlook.com](mailto:Jim.d.garrison@outlook.com)

To the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame  
Selection Committee

I want to endorse Bobbie Burns as a candidate for the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Bobbie's influence on the sport of skiing has been profound and lasting. I met Bobbie in 1963 when we were roommates while skiing and working in Sun Valley, and we have remained friends ever since. He was a phenomenal athlete who skied like no one we'd ever seen. He did everything wrong according to the technical standards what we thought we knew about skiing. Bob sat back on his heels, locked his feet together, held his hands way too high, swiveled his skis like windshield wipers and violated every basic tenet of 'traditional skiing.' And he smiled the entire time as if he was really having fun. Nobody skied the bumps of Exhibition like Bobbie Burns and I was one of many who viewed him as an anomaly instead of the revolutionary if not prophet of the ski world that he really was.

Every freestyle skier of the past more than half a century is beholden to Bobbie Burns.

Dick Barrymore saw Bobbie skiing bumps in Sun Valley and remembered, "The sight changed my life as a filmmaker." And Dick's films introduced the public to the possibilities of freestyle skiing.

In 1968 he began designing and producing skis for K2 ski racers, including Marilyn and Bob Cochran, Spider Sabich and Mike Lafferty who all had successful careers on those skis. In 1969 Marilyn Cochran, using those skis, was the first American to win a World Cup race.

In 1974 Burns started his own company and began making The Ski, a ski designed specifically for his style of skiing. The Ski revolutionized free skiing for the masses in much the same way as Bobbie Burns revolutionized free skiing for elite athletes of performance skiing. The Ski was soft lengthwise and stiff torsionally with simple blocks of color for artwork unlike anything seen in skiing before. In the mid-1980s Burns sold his company, but The Ski is still a popular and easily identifiable ski on slopes around the world.

I do not know of a better inductee into the Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. Please accept my endorsement.

Dick Dorworth



Dear Honored Members of the US Ski and Snowboard Hall Of Fame,

It gives me great pleasure to endorse Bobbie Burns as a candidate for the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Bobbie was truly a hero and, inspiration that had a tremendous influence on my skiing career. That "BIG SHIT EATING GRIN" and, performing unbelievable "WHEELIES" on the tails of his K2 skis, made me want to ski just like him. We called them "BURNS TURNS, SIT WAY BACK AND BOUNCE FROM MOGUL TO MOGUL". Now, that was freestyle skiing, before we even knew what Freestyle Skiing was.

Can you imagine the impact he had on a 21 yr old kid from Vancouver, Canada. The very thought of being in the same base lodge and on the same ski run, was a dream come true. I was in the same arena as Bobbie Burns, HOLY S..T! This was at the very first National Championship of Exhibition Skiing held at Waterville Valley, NH, in 1971.

Not only was Bobbie a great athlete, his contributions to the aspiring Freestyle Skiing Movement was monumental. If you weren't skiing on K2 skis, then you were competing on Bobbie's creation, "THE SKI" with the legendary Sage Brush Core. OMG! "THE SKI", with its signature Geometric Block graphics, instantly, became synonymous with Freestyle Skiing.

Hall of Famer, Bob Salerno, and other Freestyle Champions like Mark Steigemier, Jack Taylor, and Alan "the Puppet Man" Schoenberger, all competed on "THE SKI".

46 years have passed and "THE SKI" brand, can still be found on ski slopes and ski shops around the world.

As for Bobbie, recognition for his contributions to skiing as an Athlete and Snow Sports Builder is long overdue.

Sincerely,  
Wayne Wong  
Hall of Fame Class of 2012

Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame Nomination Committee

To Whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter of recommendation for the nomination of Bobbie Burns to the US National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. This is not a bio for Bobbie others have prepared that; this is a personal letter about my friend.

Bobbie Burns not being in the Hall of Fame is a thumbing of the nose to what most people consider skiing today and the history of freestyle skiing today. His unorthodox history is a benchmark against the industry's status quo.

Bobbie Burns "the skier" graces the best cover of all time on Powder Magazine. He was the model skier that the judges were told to measure all others against in the first Hot Dogging contests. "what are we looking for?"....."just pick the guy that skis most like Bobbie Burns."

Bobbie Burns "the designer" created arguably the coolest longest lasting ski graphics Ever.

Bobbie Burns "the entrepreneur" leaves an industry job and goes out to start "THE" ski brand turning the industry on end with his privateer brand and its sage brush core. The idea of THE ski is the epitome of gorilla marketing and is the basis of all private label ski brands that we know today; providing skis for the counter culture of the industry. He also went on to develop EIR sweaters and the bobbie burns brand.

Bobbie Burns "the mentor", over the years I've had long engaging conversations with Bobbie concerning my own unorthodox career, Bobbie is my yoda that I can always call.

Knowing that Bobbie Burns is not in the Hall is just not right and leaves an empty place in my heart. I questioned my own inclusion into the Hall of Fame knowing he was not. I've been told that my admittance was a turning point in the nomination committee and since I'm proud to say that some of my skiing influencers have been inducted, and yet "the Man" that influenced them has yet to be.....

Bobbie Burns fits all criteria to be admitted into the US National Ski Hall of Fame, both under the skier definitions, and the industry influencer categories.

Please consider this my endorsement of Bobbie Burns.

Glen Plake  
HOF 2010

To Honored Hall of Fame Selection Committee

Bob Burns

“11 Minutes and 59 Seconds of Skis and Skiers” was a K2 product film that went as viral as a film could in 1968. The Dick Barrymore production simply followed 4 exciting skiers around Mammoth Mountain. Bob Burns was often in front and, when he was, it was difficult for us to keep up. Not only was Bob fast, he was also mysterious. How did he ski with his skis so close, quick, and precise? We were all challenged just trying to keep up with this rabbit from Sun Valley whose poles went up to his nose. Watching Bob perform in this film could arguably be the beginning of “Freestyle Hot Dogging”. Bob went on to star in many Barrymore films and he is credited with being the original K2 Performer. Bob’s creativity was not limited to his skiing, a fact well documented in this application. My intent is to share his incredible contribution to the Art of Skiing. Bob’s skiing and his life set a high-water mark for my generation of skiers. This is one more opportunity to say - Thank You Bobbie Burns!

Respectively yours,  
John Clendenin

To: Nomination Committee  
US Ski and Snowboard Hall of fame  
Ishpeming, Michigan

Letter of Support for Bobbie Burns

To whom it May Concern,

I whole heartedly support the nomination of Bobbie Burns as a Snowsports Builder. I have watched film and in person the amazing abilities and personality of Bobbie before (mid late 60's) and during my competition career. His incredible and unique style of mogul skiing made me want to go out and train harder and be better. Helping to bring K2 to the forefront with innovative designs that no one had seen before and getting incredible results in the racing field, Bobbie's development of "The Ski", gave many a mogul skier a huge career boost through technology and cool graphics and up front advertising and athlete support. Everyone wanted to ski like Bobbie Burns or at least have half as much fun as he had every run! The fun factor, the brashness, the versatility of "The Ski" all added up to an unforgettable product that skiers still crave today. Bobbie Burns deserves a spot on the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame for his 50 plus years of contributions to the Snowsports Industry.

Genia Fuller Crews  
Honored Member and Board of Directors  
US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame

February 11, 2019

Nomination Selection Committee  
U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD Hall of Fame  
Dear Selection Committee:

I write to support the Nomination of Bobbie Burns to become a candidate for election to the US SKI & SNOWBOARD Hall of Fame. Bobbie's application is being submitted by Jim Garrison and Dick Dorworth, in the SnowSports Builder Category.

I have known Bob since the early days of Freestyle skiing – back when it wasn't called "Freestyle" but Hot Dog Skiing because the skiers slashing down the most gnarley, steepest mogul runs were, in the vernacular of the day, "Hot Doggers" – meaning. In everyone's eyes who saw then – and trust me everyone stopped to look when a great Hot Dog skier came down the hill - they were the best, the wildest, the hot's! And the person who set the standard for what a Hot Dog skier looked like on the hill was Bobbie Burns. With his oversized poles and his gyrating body and his knees slicing his skis thru the bumps – all natural back then – he was unmistakable! Bob set the standards of what a "Hot Dog Skier" could do on the Mountain. This was before the creation of the IFSA (The International Freestyle Skiing Association) Tour that I oversaw in the winter of 1974, but anyone who knows that era, will acknowledge that there probably wouldn't have been a tour, or any competitions, if Bobbie Burns hadn't excited so many great skiers to get out there – and get out of the race courses – and ski the MT the way they wanted – Hot and wild!

But Bob Burns influence didn't end there – knowing that the skiers he was motivating to go out and ski the Mountain the way he was - and they wanted to – required special skis; So, Bob went out and created the perfect Freestyle Mogul ski – THE SKI! Probably as much as the style of skiing Moguls he created, this action left Bob's mark on the sport. But Bobbie didn't only build skis for some of the best Freestyle skiers of the day – he sponsored, and supported, many of them; a look at the competition results for the early days of competitive Freestyle will show that many of the top skiers used THE SKI.

What's interesting that even today his influence is still felt. He might not be the hottest skier on the mountain any more but his passion – and mastery of bump skiing – combined with his life-long dedication to the sport of Skiing – keeps Bobbie, in my eyes, as an inspiring figure who, I know, I still want to follow down the hill (if only I could keep up with him!). Bobbie Burns has an outstanding record of accomplishments as a Freestyle skiing innovator – in technique as well as product development. It is all these qualities, and history, that make Bobbie Burns more than qualified to be inducted into the US SKI & SNOWBOARD Hall of Fame.

Thank you for reading this message. If you need more information from me Re: Bobbie Burns qualifications, and background, for nomination into the US SKI & SNOWBOARD Hall of Fame, please don't hesitate to ask. Thank you for reading this message. –

Bernie Weichsel - President – BEWI Productions, Inc.



## The Legacy Of Bobbie Burns

During the Winter of 68/69, Bobbie Burns, in my mind, was like the Pirate Of Penzance...swashbuckling, flamboyant, extravagant AND unique. Everywhere he skied....everywhere he went....a cadre of followers were in tow, including me. His ski style...especially on Exhibition and Holiday was so explosive and lightning fast...that most folks couldn't fathom how he pulled it off! Long, long poles, sitting back..as skis hit the moguls straight on...and then with enormous core strength...he rose up erect on his skis...only to attack the next mogul. Since this was before grooming, the size of the moguls were VW Bug size!

During the Winter of 69/70, Burns volunteered to instruct the Sun Valley Staff during special learn to ski time periods. I was lucky enough to be assigned to Bobbie's class...and during the morning of the class, the students were in complete awe watching such athletic brilliance. Turns were precise...but playful...the ski lines were difficult....but handled with complete confidence. Most remarkably, Bobbie's balance was always spot on!

During the Winter of 71/72, I launched Powder Magazine. In the ramp up to Powder, I found myself traveling to Colorado to sell advertising and collect editorial. While in Boulder, I stayed with Bobbie at his apartment. Burns had found a machine shop in an industrial part of Boulder that he could use at night to create the first test run of The Ski. One dark night, Mike Smith, Bobbie and myself gathered to 'lay-up' the very first pair of The Ski's. Mike and I pressed down on the internal fabric while Bobbie meticulously poured the resin into the mold. Watching Bobbie glide excitedly around that shop was like watching a mad scientist work on a rocket about to be launched to the Moon. The entire experience was incredibly thrilling....and funny as well...because while doing a really messy job of creating a ski in a very dirty machine shop....Bobbie insisted on wearing fabulously expensive Italian loafers!

During the Winter of 73/74, we at Powder Magazine were excited and proud to display Bobbie on the Cover of the Magazine, feature him with an extensive article....and produce a poster that became enormously popular nationally. Bobbie Burns... The legend, The athlete, The inventor...and The creator of Hot Dog Skiing was firmly in place in the Ski World.

During the Winters of 75-80, Powder Magazine featured Freestyle Skiing in so many photos and articles. More often than not, the photos of top competitors included The Ski...as the ski of CHOICE by skiers.

Bobbie Burns is an incredibly important icon in the history of skiing in North America AND around the World...just two years ago, The Ski .....was the Ski of the Year in Europe...

Jake Moe

Please provide a list of sources for visual material that can be used at the candidate's induction presentation:

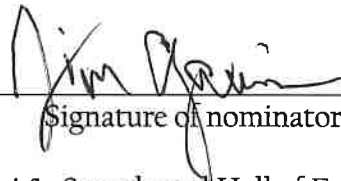
Jake Moe, - photo archives Powder Magazine.

Stan Larsen - \* film footage from Dick Barrymore including - "13 minute demo" featuring Bobbie that Dick made for K2 when he pitched them on "The Performers" film.

\* Video interview of Bobbie for the 40th anniversary K2 video and the the 50th anniversary K2 recognition project.

Phil Pugliese, - product photo archives.

Barrymore Productions - Numerous Film archives. (Blake Barrymore resource).



Signature of nominator

Mail completed nomination form to: U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 191, Ishpeming, MI 49849 or email to: [administrator@skihall.com](mailto:administrator@skihall.com)

## **Appendix One:**

### **Definitions of Categories.**

Note: These categories have been developed to assist the Selection committee and National Voting Panel in the review and fair election process of Honored Members.

#### **1) Athletes**

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. Up to six candidates will be accepted for the ballot with at least two and up to four selected, based on the achievement of 50% of the votes cast.

Minimum criteria for consideration as a candidate:

- Olympic or Paralympic medallist
- FIS or IPC World Championship medallist
- X Games medallist in skiing or snowboarding
- Top-three finish in a FIS or IPC World Cup event.
- Athletes who competed prior to 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 or big mountain athletes who achieved the highest level of national or international notoriety related to their athletic accomplishments
- Professional skiers in alpine, snowboarding or speed skiing who consistently won events or placed in the top three in season standings on professional tours.

#### **2) Snowsports Builders**

Candidates in this category must have been involved at a significant level in ski or snowboard sports. Candidates must have had a clear national 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.

#### **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 Olympic Athletes, Non-Olympic Athletes or Sport Builders. Candidates must have satisfied the criteria of one of the three categories in order to be considered as a candidate in the heritage category. A member of the Selection Committee or a member of the Board of Directors must sponsor each candidate.

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

# *Powder* MAGAZINE

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