

U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame

Rules of Governance

for the

Election of Honored Members

Reviewed: May, 2024

Section 1: Vision and Standards

Vision

The vision of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame is to provide highly respected perpetual recognition to athletes and sport builders who have made the highest level of national contribution to the recognition and growth of American skiing.

Honored Members

The elected Honored Members of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame collectively represent the highest level of national achievement and contribution in America featuring prominent athletes and sport builders, all trailblazers whose accomplishments showcase American skiing and snowboarding. This standard of excellence will bring the highest level of respect and honor for those individuals whose names are recorded on the Hall of Fame's Roll of Honor.

Standards for Nomination

Individuals put forward as candidates for nomination and election must have achievements at the highest level of skiing and snowboarding in America. Their accomplishments must have had a profound impact on the sport at a truly national or international level.

Candidate Athletes must have achieved significant levels of international success compared to their peers in 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 fellow athletes.

Candidate Sport Builders 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 2: Definitions and Structure

1. Chairman, Hall of Fame Board of Directors

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

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, appointing the National Voting Panel, managing its deliberations, and submitting the committee's recommendations to the Board of Directors.

3. Hall of Fame Selection Committee

The Hall of Fame Selection Committee is made 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:

- 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 U.S. Ski & Snowboard
- Current members of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Awards Working Group
- Current Board of Directors of other industry organizations as approved by the chairman of the Selection Committee.
- Additional persons appointed by the chairman of the Selection Committee, 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. Executive Director

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame Executive Director, along with Hall of Fame staff, shall assist chairs of both the Hall of Fame Board of Directors 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. 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 & Snowboard Hall of Fame.

7. Nominators

Nominators are individuals who take on the responsibility of completing the Nomination Form on behalf of a specific candidate. Nominators must ensure that the information provided is complete and accurate. They may not nominate themselves.

Updates to a nomination in subsequent years, transfer of that nomination to a new Nominator, or any subsequent appeals to a nomination may be made at the discretion of the original

Nominator. If the original Nominator is unavailable, the Appeals Committee will act to name a new Nominator.

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.

8. Candidates

Candidates are those persons put forward by Nominators for consideration in the selection process.

9. Appeals Committee

The Chair of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame shall annually appoint an Appeals Committee consisting of up to five persons, including an appointed chair. A majority of the Appeals Committee should consist of currently serving members of the Board of Directors. No current member of the Selection Committee may serve on the Appeals Committee, nor can any individual who is the Nominator of or a supporter of a current Candidate.

Section 3: Eligibility for Nomination

1. General Eligibility

Any individual who has achievements at the highest level of skiing and snowboarding in America is eligible for consideration. Organizations are not eligible for consideration, only individual persons.

2. Citizenship

Nomination is open to any individual regardless of citizenship or national origin. Candidates must have had athletic career success at the national level in the United States or have had a profound impact on the sport at a national level in the United States.

3. Joint Candidates

A nomination of up to two Joint Candidates will be considered. The two potential Candidates must have collaborated with each other on activities that would qualify each of them for consideration as either Athletes or Sport Builders. Their close and full collaboration must have occurred over a substantial period of their careers and have been in substantially equal measure. Joint candidates must first be reviewed and approved by the Selection Committee, then submitted to the Board of Directors for review and approval before they may be considered for the ballot by the Selection Committee. Once a Joint Candidate is accepted, no further approval is required for future election cycles as long as the Joint Candidate remains in the Candidate Pool. Neither of the individuals named as a Joint Candidate may be considered in the same election cycle as individuals.

4. Athlete Retirement

Athletes whose accomplishments have come in competitive skiing and snowboarding are

eligible for nomination three years after their stated retirement from active international competition in Olympic, Paralympic, World Cup, and similar international competition tours. In a case where an athlete has not stated a formal retirement, that athlete would be eligible three years after his or her final international competition.

Athletes whose accomplishments have come in non-competitive activities where retirement is not well defined, such as big mountain skiers and snowboarders, are eligible for nomination at any time.

Section 4: 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 in 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. The 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, either specific competitive athletic accomplishments or exploitation of their athleticism. They must have achieved the highest levels possible in their discipline. Consideration may also be given to the candidate's contribution to the promotion and development of their particular discipline.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration as an Athlete Candidate

All athlete Candidates must have achieved one or more of the following criteria to be considered for selection:

- Olympic or Paralympic medalist
- FIS (International Ski & Snowboard 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. Sport Builders

Sport Builder Candidates 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.

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.

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: $100\% / 4 \text{ candidates} = 25\%$; $25\% \times 1.5 = 37.5\%$

Section 5: Nomination Procedure

1. Official Digital Nomination Form

Only Candidates submitted using the official digital nomination form of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame will be accepted. Nomination forms must be completed in their entirety before acceptance.

2. Required Nomination Information

Each form must include:

- Complete contact information for both Nominator and Candidate (or family contact if Nominee is deceased)
- Supporting letter from the Nominator introducing the Candidate. (single page PDF)
- Documentation that specifically addresses how the Candidate's achievements meet the high standards of the Hall of Fame and national impact on the sport.
- A biography of the Candidate that addresses his or her accomplishments and background including verifiable factual information to validate the achievements.
- A timeline of the Candidate's achievements citing verifiable factual data points.
- Endorsement letter from up to three supporters, including full contact information from each supporter (single page PDF for each letter)

3. Nomination Deadline

Nominations may be received throughout the year but only those fully-completed nominations received by the annually-designated deadline will be reviewed by the Selection Committee.

4. Nomination Fee

A non-refundable administration fee of \$100 must accompany all non-athlete nominations.

5. Nomination Archives

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

Section 6: Selection Process

1. Candidate Pool

The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame will maintain a pool of 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 into the Candidates Pool.

2. Term in Pool

Candidates will remain in the Candidates Pool for five years after which time their names will be dropped from the pool. Nominators may choose to pause a Candidate from consideration in a given year by notifying the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame by the annual nomination deadline.

3. Re-Entering the Pool

Candidates dropped from the pool after five unsuccessful attempts at election, may be re-nominated only under the following criteria:

- At least five election cycles have elapsed since their last failed attempt.
- Candidate must be eligible for consideration as part of the Heritage category.
- The Candidate must be nominated by a member of the Board of Directors and will go to the Selection Committee for consideration as part of its annual process, including review with other Candidates to ensure compliance with minimum standards.
- Candidates who re-enter the Candidate Pool may remain in the pool for five election cycles only, and may not be paused. There is no re-entry after that additional five-year period

4. Biography Presentation

The Selection Committee shall be provided with the Candidate's full biography submitted through the Official Form by the Nominator. For the purpose of the National Voting Panel election, a standardized biography of each Candidate will be provided to voters, along with a link to full biography packets. The standardized biography will be provided to Nominators for advance review.

5. Selection Committee Review

The Selection Committee will review the candidates in the pool to first determine eligibility based on standards outlined in the Rules of Governance. It will then conduct a secret ballot poll to determine the names to be placed on the ballot in both the Athlete and Sport Builder categories. In case of a tie, the Selection Committee will hold a second vote to determine

the outcome between the involved Candidates only.

In addition to reviewing Candidates for eligibility, the Selection Committee shall identify candidates for the Heritage category, and provide those recommendations to the Board of Directors.

6. **Number of Candidates to Submit for Ballot**

As a result of its ballot election, the Selection Committee shall submit the following to the Board of Directors:

Athlete: Six Athlete Candidates for ratification by the Board of Directors and subsequent placement on the National Voting Panel ballot.

Builder: Five Builder Candidates for ratification by the Board of Directors and subsequent placement on the National Voting Panel ballot.

Heritage: Four Heritage Candidates for review by the Board of Directors and possible election by the Board.

7. **Number of Candidates to Elect**

Members of the National Voting Panel may vote for up to:

Athlete: Up to four candidates

Sport Builder: Up to three candidates

Heritage: The Board of Directors may elect up to one candidate

8. **Selection Process**

Athlete: 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. (The 25% is calculated as follows: $100\% / 6 \text{ candidates} = 16.6667\%$; $16.6667\% \times 1.5 = 25\%$).

Sport Builder: 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: $100\% / 5 \text{ candidates} = 20\%$; $20\% \times 1.5 = 30\%$).

Heritage: The election of Honored Members in the Heritage category is conducted by the Board of Directors, which will elect up to one Candidate by majority vote, from the recommended Candidates provided by the Selection Committee. <CONSIDER ONE MALE, ONE FEMALE>

9. **Tie Breaking Protocol**

In the event of a tie from the voting of the National Voting Panel, where the candidates receive the respective category calculated percentage or greater of the votes cast, there will be a run-off vote between those tied. 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.

10. **Ballot Methodology**

The 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.

Section 7: Appeals

The Appeals Committee is empowered to act on any complaints brought forward regarding any aspect of the selection process. Complaints may be filed only by the official Nominator of a Candidate. The Appeals Committee may also be called upon by the Board of Directors or the Selection Committee to act on any situations where those entities require clarification or interpretation of the Rules of Governance. Any determinations of the Appeals Committee are subject to review and acceptance by the Board of Directors.

Section 8: Timeline

A selection timeline will be established each Fall for the following year. The timeline will be developed by the chair of the Selection Committee together with the executive director of the Hall.

Timeline Guide

Sept.	Current year class election concluded and class announced
Fall	Appointment of Selection Committee Chair by board chairman for following year
October	Development of selection timeline
October	Appointment of Selection Committee by its chair, with approval by board chair
October	Internal review of Rules of Governance and operational details of selection process.
March	Induction ceremony
April	Public outreach to call for nominations
June 15	Deadline for receipt of fully completed candidate packages; Hall staff begins administrative review of candidates
June	Establishment of National Voting Panel for current year
June	Selection Committee meeting to review candidates
June	Selection Committee vote to determine National Voting Panel ballot
July	Board validation of ballot
August	National Voting Panel balloting; Board election for Heritage
Sept.	Validation of vote and public announcement

Section 9: 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. New Hall of Fame Honored Members 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 or her induction delayed until that of the following year's class, or 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 Hall of Fame archives.

Section 10: 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 at the direction of the Chairman of the Board of Directors or designate.

Section 11: 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 the sport has had national importance of a kind that escapes wide public notice, or individuals who face special circumstances inability 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.
3. This special election is in addition to the Board of Directors' responsibility for the election of the Heritage category.