

Florida School for the Deaf Alumni  
Association (FSDAA)

FSDAA Hall of Fame  
Guidelines

June 23, 2020

Committee:

Billy Lange '81

Richard Malcolm '71, Chair

Robert McMahon '70

BP Murphy '83, (Historian/Facilitator)

Johnny Samuels '68

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**FSDAA Hall of Fame Guidelines**

**Mission:** The purpose of the Florida School for the Deaf Alumni Association (FSDAA) Hall of Fame shall be to honor the Florida School for the Deaf (FSD) individuals who have displayed exceptional performance or services to the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB). The inductees for the FSDAA Hall of Fame (HOF) could be as follows: artists, athletes during their high school career, coaches, educators, or leaders for the Deaf community. FSD alumni who have done successfully in their professional or community services inside or outside of FSDB would also be eligible for HOF.

**Criteria for Athletes/Coaches/Sports\*:**

**\* Also applied to athletic support staff members who are employed by FSDB and/or student statisticians and student managers.**

**Athletes:**

1. An athlete must have been enrolled as a registered student at FSDB for at least two academic years of playing the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSA) sanctioned interscholastic varsity sports at a high school level.
2. An athlete must exhibit his/her athletic skills in a sport that brought fame and glory to FSDB.
3. At least ten (10) years must have elapsed since the athlete's graduation or leaving FSDB prior to selection to the Hall of Fame.
4. An athlete must have exhibited outstanding athletic skills and positive character.
5. All athletes must have never been convicted of a felony crime under the laws of Florida and/or the United States of America.
6. A Most Valuable Player (MVP) athlete in any following category (see below) shall automatically be considered for induction into the FSDAA Hall of Fame.
  - A. National mythical Deaf varsity sport championship team in the United States
  - B. Championship in the Deaf Tournaments as follows:
    - A. Basketball in Mason-Dixon Tournaments and Laurent Clerc Classic
    - B. Volleyball in Mason-Dixon Tournament
    - C. Track and Field in Mason-Dixon Conference and Berg-Seeger Track & Field Classic
    - D. Willigan Wrestling Tournament
    - E. Mason-Dixon Football Conference

As a bonus, those already-qualified FSD athletes who also compete in the Deaflympics/Olympics/International Sports should still have the opportunity to be considered for induction into HOF only if they have since won a Gold/Silver/Bronze medal in any event. A Most Valuable Player (MVP) athlete selected during an annual FSDB sports awards program or All-

American athlete selected by various national Deaf publications/organizations also shall be considered for induction into the FSDAA Hall of Fame. Eligibility rules still apply.

7. An athlete participating in the FHSAA sanctioned interscholastic competition at the varsity level and winning first or second or third place individually in any FHSAA sanctioned state meet shall be considered for induction into the FSDAA Hall of Fame.

An athlete (soccer, varsity basketball\*, etc.) accumulating the highest individual points in a varsity sport during his/her career shall be considered for induction into the HOF. As a bonus, those already-qualified FSD athletes who also compete in the Deaflympics/Olympics/International Sports should still have the opportunity to be considered for induction into the HOF only if they have since won a Gold/Silver/Bronze medal in any event. Eligibility rules still apply.

\* Prior to 1983, the circumference of the standard basketball for the Girls varsity basketball team was twenty-nine and half (29.5) inches, similar to that for the Boys team. The weight was twenty-two (22) ounces. Beginning in the 1983 Girls Basketball season, the circumference is twenty-eight and half (28.5) inches and the weight is twenty (20) ounces.

#### **Coaches:**

1. Those eligible must have been a head coach at FSDB for at least three (3) full seasons. Coaches who are no longer in their position must have left the position in good standing. At least five (5) years must elapse since the coaches have left FSDB prior to selection to the Alumni Hall of Fame.

2. Must have coached and produced at least once during his/her coaching career:(see below)

A. National mythical Deaf varsity sport championship team in the United States

B. Championship in the Deaf Tournaments as follows:

A. Basketball in Mason-Dixon Tournaments and Laurent Clerc Classic

B. Volleyball in Mason-Dixon Tournament

C. Track and Field in Mason-Dixon Tournament and Berg-Seeger Track & Field Classic

D. Willigan Wrestling Tournament

E. Mason-Dixon Football Conference

F. Cheerleading Competition during the Mason-Dixon Basketball Tournament and Laurent Clerc Basketball Classic and other classics if applicable

3. Must have produced a winning season in any following FHSAA sanctioned varsity sport (see below) at least three (3) times during his/her career at FSDB:

- A. Basketball
- B. Cross Country
- C. Flag Football
- D. Football
- E. Soccer
- F. Girls Softball
- G. Swimming
- H. Tennis
- I. Track and Field
- J. Volleyball
- K. Wrestling

4. Must have contributed in manner of success befitting a leader or proponent of the team and sport.

5. Consideration will be given to a lifelong performance, rather than just performance at FSDB.

**Arts:**

1. Those eligible include FSD Alumni who have become accomplished or renowned artists, designers, architects, actors/actresses, sculptors, photographers, and printers, or those recognized in other arts-related fields. They have also voluntarily contributed time to the Deaf community. Eligibility is ten (10) years after graduating from or leaving FSDB.

**Community Service:**

1. Eligible FSD Alumni must have performed valuable roles at the local, state or national level for the Deaf Community, non-profit Association or organizations, or fraternal/sorority societies. Individuals must have made a lasting impact on the Education of the Deaf and the Interpreting programs.

2. Individuals eligible must have displayed excellence in their professional or non-educational careers that have greatly benefited the Deaf community or the general public. Eligibility is ten (10) years after graduating from or leaving FSDB.

3. Individuals must have had a positive influence on education for at least ten (10) years.

Eligibility is ten (10) years after graduating or leaving FSDB.

4. A candidate is eligible to be selected if she or he has performed community service\* for at least ten (10) years as a leader in the Deaf community.

\*For example: Florida Association of the Deaf (FAD), National Association of the Deaf (NAD), FSDAA, local/state/federal government level

**Education:**

1. Those eligible include FSD alumni recognized by their peers or performing valued teaching excellence, for inspiring Deaf and Hard of hearing students or succeeding in administering education for at least ten (10) years and have contributed to teaching fields.
2. Eligibility is five (5) years after retirement or leaving FSDB.
3. Any candidate must have been recognized by their peers or former FSD students for excellence in teaching, for inspiring Deaf and Hard of hearing students, or for successfully administering educational programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
4. An eligible individual has had a positive influence on education for at least ten (10) years and has voluntarily contributed his/her time and service to the Deaf community. Eligibility is five (5) years after retirement or leaving FSDB.
5. A candidate for Faculty/Staff is qualified to be selected if he or she has been employed at FSDB for at least ten (10) years. If in doubt, check with the FSDB Human Resources Department for verification.
6. Alumni are eligible ten (10) years after graduation from FSDB.

**Nomination and Selection Procedures:**

1. The nominator's name should be known to the FSDAA Hall of Fame committee only.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the nominator to supply supporting information & materials, including the current address of the nominee.
3. The required summary of the nominee's qualification should not exceed 250 words.
4. Failure to submit complete information may result in rejection of the nomination for consideration.
5. Athletes who are nominated shall be deaf or hard of hearing.
6. A call for nominations will be issued periodically (typically every year or two years) in April, and shall appear in FSDB print and on the FSDAA website online, publications, including St. Augustine Record and electronic publications circulated within the FSDB community. Nominations will be accepted until May 1 of the same year.

**Recognition & Announcement:**

1. Induction ceremonies will be held during a general FSDAA sanctioned/official event as determined by the FSDAA Board.
2. Each inductee shall receive a plaque/framed certificate stating his/her contribution to FSDB. There will be a permanent plaque that will be displayed in the Hall of Fame area. The inductee's name, sport(s), and years of participation will be prominently displayed on the large plaque in a designated area upon approval from both FSDAA Board and FSDB Board of Trustees.
3. In the event that an inductee is unable to travel to the induction ceremony or has since deceased, a family representative or appropriate friend will be invited to accept the plaque on behalf of the inductee. Such a representative or friend should be given a complimentary meal only for new inductees during the HOF ceremony.
4. All new FSD inductees are given complimentary meals during the HOF ceremonies. Formerly recognized inductees may be given a discount for meals contingent upon the availability of the funds within the HOF budget and/or FSDAA budget.
5. Travel costs for inductees and their family members are the responsibility of the inductee and his or her family.

**FSDAA Hall of Fame Selection Committee:**

1. FSDAA Hall of Fame committee shall consist of five (5) to seven (7) members. One of them should be assigned as a Hall of Fame recorder, among whose duties is to collect and verify records. Another should be assigned as Secretary during the HOF committee meetings.
2. The committee should include one at-large faculty/staff member from the Deaf Department.
3. Selection committee membership may be expanded to, but may not exceed, seven individuals. One or two members may be appointed at the discretion of the FSDAA Board.
4. Each member of the selection committee has one full vote.
5. A minimum of one and a maximum of seven nominees may be inducted during any nominating cycle after the first year. The maximum of ten (10) nominees may be inducted only for the first time due to the new committee being established.
6. A two-third (2/3) vote of those selection committee members present and voting is required for induction. Only the members with a minimum of 50 percent attendance at nomination meetings are eligible to vote throughout the voting process.
7. Nominations may be 'carried over' from one nomination cycle to the next, at the discretion of the selection committee.

8. An athletic Hall of Fame member can be considered for induction more than once, depending on their status. For example, someone who had been inducted as an athlete can be considered for induction in a different capacity as a coach, educator, benefactor, or supporter of the athletic program.

9. In the event that a member of the HOF committee is nominated and considered for induction into HOF, he or she must recuse himself/herself from the committee in order to be eligible for consideration. However, the inductees are allowed to return to the committee after the induction ceremony.

10. Members of the Selection Committee shall serve up to two (2) terms of three (3) years per term.

### **Selection Procedure**

1. The selection meeting will take place in the month of April each year.
2. Following discussion, each committee member will be asked to choose twenty (20) nominees from the list of the nominees. The top twenty nominees chosen will be retained on the list for further consideration.
3. Each committee member will then be asked to choose ten (10) nominees from the list of the twenty nominees. The top ten nominees chosen will be retained on the list for further consideration.
4. Each committee member will then be asked to choose up to seven (7) nominees including two (2) alternatives from the list of then nominees. Sixty percent of the voting committee's approval is required for induction.
5. Should ties occur, they will be broken with a simple majority vote. When more than two candidates qualify with minimum percentages in the Pioneer Era, a simple majority vote will be taken to eliminate the individual(s) with the lowest percentage and/or the fewest votes. When more than five (5) candidates qualify with two or more having a minimum percentage of votes in the Contemporary Era, a simple majority will be taken to break the tie between the individuals with the lowest percentage of votes. The individual(s) with the fewest number of votes in the vote-off will be eliminated.
6. There are two different classes of inductees as follows: Contemporary Era and Pioneer Era.

Classes of inductees - A maximum of five (5) nominees shall be inducted each induction year for the second year and thereafter.\*

- a. Contemporary Era (1960 and after)--no more than three may be selected each year.
- b. Pioneer Era (1885 to 1959)--no more than two may be selected each year.

\* A maximum of ten (10) shall be inducted into the HOF for the first year, regardless of how many for each class.

**Criteria: SELECTION OF NOMINEES NOT FROM CATEGORIES SPECIFIED ABOVE:**

1. A candidate from the Department of the Deaf must have, by his/her non-athletic achievements, brought fame and glory to FSDB. Such a candidate may be eligible for election by the Hall of Fame Chair under rare circumstances.
2. All candidates must have enrolled at FSDB for at least two academic years at the high school level, regardless of whether they have graduated from FSDB or they have since left FSDB prior to graduation.
3. All nominations must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Alumni HOF committee prior to election preceding their induction into the FSDAA Hall of Fame.
4. A list of names of the nominees whose notable achievements qualify them for FSDAA Hall of Fame membership will be submitted to the HOF Committee Chairperson for election only in the event there is an insufficient number of FSD athletes/coaches elected to the Hall of Fame.
5. The FSDAA Hall of Fame Committee will vote on the number of nominees and each voter will be allowed to select one (1) nominee per ballot. A nominee, in order to be elected, must receive the vote of two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority of the members of the Hall of Fame present voting in the election.

Revised: June 23, 2020