

**ATHLETICS ONTARIO HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE:
SELECTION CRITERIA**
(updated October 2017)

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1. OBJECTIVES

The Athletics Ontario (AO), Hall of Fame, founded in 2009, recognizes and honours the names and deeds of those whose athletic achievement(s) or contribution has brought fame, honour and recognition to Ontario, their community, to themselves and to the sport.

2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is part of the purpose of the AO Hall of Fame to collect, preserve, research, exhibit and promote those objectives which are determined to be significant to the history of our sport.

The Hall of Fame shall be guided by a *AO Hall of Fame Committee* reporting to the Board of Directors, whose primary function will be to carry out the objectives of the mandate.

This Statement of Purpose may only be altered with the consent by majority vote of the Board of Directors of AO.

3. ELIGIBILITY FOR INDUCTION

- (a) Election is restricted to athletes and builders of the sport of athletics having direct connection to the sport in Ontario. All athletes, builders and others must be nominated, in order to be considered for induction, using the AO Hall of Fame Nomination form (circulated via email/ website).

- (b) The number of inductees to be elected annually shall be determined by the AO Board and the Hall of Fame Committee, but shall not exceed seven (7) in any year, except in Years 1 and 2.
- (c) Athletes to be considered for admission to the Hall of Fame must have been or be outstanding in their athletic field of endeavour, or must have been considered to have achieved high recognition for their accomplishment or contribution to the sport; even if not reaching the absolute top level in any one event in competition against peer athletes over an extended period of time. This involves and includes athletes competing on a local regional, provincial, national and international level.
- (d) Normally, athletes nominated for induction must have been retired from active participation in the sport for a period of no less than three years, dating from the end of their last season of participation in the sport. An athlete may be nominated irrespective of the above criteria if they have reached the age of forty years.
Exceptions to these criteria must have the approval of the selection Committee and the AO Board of Directors.
- (e) Builder nominees shall be eligible for induction at any time, even though the nominee is still active in the role(s) for which they are being nominated. There shall be no waiting period in his category. In any given year, a minimum of 30% of inductees must come from the Builder category.
- (f) In considering nominations for deceased candidates the committee may have the option of waving the three-year waiting period.

4. DEFINITION OF AN ATHLETE

- (a) An athlete shall be deemed to be one who has demonstrated character, sportsmanship and integrity, as well as outstanding ability in their particular athletic event and brought honour to Ontario and AO. Nominated athletes must have been members in good standing with the Ontario branch of Athletics Canada or its predecessors.
- (b) Anyone born in Ontario and who has spent their formative years in the province and continues to reside here, even if they train away from the province for part of the year.
- (c) Anyone not born in Ontario or whose achievements in the sport occurred while a resident of Ontario or anyone in (b) who, after their provincial AO career, moves elsewhere into amateur, university or professional sport and is deemed worthy of consideration and inclusion.
- (d) An athlete to be considered for induction should have excelled in ONE particular event, or performed above average in a number of events even if not reaching the absolute top level in anyone, but excelling in competition against his or her peer athletes.

5. DEFINITION OF A BUILDER

All sections of No.4 (b), (c), (d) apply also the Builders category.

Builders are defined as officials, administrators, sports medicine personnel, media personnel coaches, and others whose work for sport over an extended period of time has been outstanding:

1. in the organization of competitions, events, and facility development;
2. in achieving a high degree of success in coaching;
3. in keeping a club/organization active;
4. in providing services to our sport of a consistently high level;
5. in developing and supporting programs related to our sport

6. OFFICIAL CREST

The official crest of the AO or AO Hall of Fame as approved by the AO Board of Directors shall be used on letterheads, scrolls, and any other mementos presented to inductees.

The AO Board shall register the crest and have the right to determine all uses of the official crest.

7. AWARDS

Each living inductee, and family of each deceased inductee, shall receive an award, with the inductee's name inscribed there on, where possible.

Commemoration by the Hall of Fame shall be in the form of a plaque, an honour roll, or both. Those elected/inducted to the AO Hall of Fame shall be recorded on official AO Hall of Fame records and shall be inscribed on a commemorative plaque and/or wall at a site to be determined by the AO Board of Directors and/or the AO web site.

8. PATH TO ELECTION

Nominations:

- (a) The Hall of Fame Committee shall extend a public invitation for written nominations at least thirty days in advance of a designated deadline. Anyone from the AO membership, including Committee members, may submit nominations.

Submissions, along with the supporting documentation shall be forwarded to the Hall of Fame Committee AO Provincial Office, prior to the deadline date. This information will be given to the Hall of Fame Committee Chair for further action.

Nominations shall be acknowledged by mail or email, but letters shall clearly be non-committal in nature. No nominee shall be rejected out of hand by the Hall of Fame Committee.

Nominations to the Selection Committee shall be considered for induction to the Hall by time periods (eras) as follows:

- Pre-1929
- 1930-1945
- 1946-1959
- 1960-1969
- 1970-1979
- 1980-1989
- 1990-1999
- 2000-2009
- 2001-2010

There shall be a maximum of seven (7) inductees per year (except for YEAR 1 and YEAR 2 which will have a maximum of fifteen (15) inductees per year). See Section 11 below.

- (b) The initial induction ceremony will allow the Hall of Fame Committee to recognize those from the earlier time periods and will serve to develop a base of Hall of Fame inductees, which recognizes those who have made a significant contribution to the sport.

9. ATHLETE SELECTION METHODOLOGY

All performances shall be considered but priority will be placed in the following order:

- i. Any Ontario eligible athlete who won an Olympic Medal (gold, silver, bronze).
- ii. Any Ontario eligible athlete who sets an IAAF World record or finished first, second or third in any World Championship sanctioned by the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF).

10. INDUCTION

The Induction Ceremony shall be at an annual AO Awards Gala or at such other suitable occasion as may be decided by the Board.

11. SCHEDULE FOR AWARDS

YEAR 1 (2009) – 10 open spots* and 5 from 1929 or earlier

YEAR 2 (2010) – 10 open spots* and 5 from 1930 - 45

YEAR 3 (2011) – 5 open spots* and 5 from 1946 - 59

YEAR 4 (2012) – 5 open spots* and 5 from 1960 - 69

YEAR 5 (2013) – 5 open spots* and 5 from 1970 - 79

YEAR 6 (2014) – 5 open spots* and 5 from 1980 - 89

YEAR 7 (2015) – 5 open spots* and 5 from 1990 - 99

YEAR 8 (2016) – 5 open spots* and 5 from 2000 – 09

YEAR 9 (2017) – TBD

YEAR 10 (2018) – TBD

* up to a maximum of 2 inductees in the open category may come from any one particular era.