

# Valparaiso University Athletics Hall of Fame

## Purpose

The Valparaiso University Athletics Hall of Fame is established to pay tribute to and recognize former athletes, coaches, administrators, teams and support personnel who have made exceptional contributions to the athletic programs at Valparaiso University or have distinguished themselves in their athletics-related career. Additionally, outstanding teams, whose records of achievement have brought honor to Valparaiso University and its programs, will be so honored by induction to the Hall of Fame.

## Selection Committee

The Valparaiso University Athletics Hall of Fame Selection Committee consists of 11 voting members as follows:

1. Valparaiso University Director of Athletics, or his/her designee\*
2. Valparaiso University President, or his/her designee\*
3. Senior Woman Administrator\*
4. Athletics Media Relations representative\*
5. Valparaiso University Career & Alumni Network representative
- 6-9. Four Valpo Athletics Hall of Fame members
- 10-11. Two former Valparaiso University student-athletes

\* - designates those individuals who will compose the Hall of Fame Board of Directors and will maintain a permanent position on the Selection Committee. The Board of Directors will appoint the remaining positions of the Selection Committee. Those individuals appointed to the Selection Committee will serve a three-year term. If an individual is unable to finish his/her term for any reason, the Board of Directors will appropriately select an individual to fill the vacancy.

An Athletics Development representative will serve as Executive Director of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee in a non-voting role, and will also be a member of the Hall of Fame Board of Directors. One of the Hall of Fame members will serve as chairperson of the Selection Committee, on a rotational basis. The Athletics Media Relations representative will serve as secretary of the Selection Committee.

## Eligibility

*Athletes:* Any individual who distinguishes himself/herself in intercollegiate athletic competition while in attendance as a student at Valparaiso University.

*Coaches:* Any individual whose accomplishments led to an outstanding record for the team(s) he/she coached while at Valparaiso University.

*Teams:* Any athletic team which had an outstanding win/loss record, conference championship, national championship or has otherwise brought recognition and honor to Valparaiso University by its significant achievement. Coaches are considered a part of the team and thus are to be inducted with team members.

*Support Personnel:* Any person or persons who have made a valued and sustained contribution to the success of a specific athletic program or the overall athletic department at Valparaiso University.

NOTE: Eligibility also includes those who fall in any of the above categories who have gained recognition by distinguishing themselves in their athletics-related career following their time at Valparaiso University.

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## Waiting Period

Any athlete may be nominated 10 full academic years after leaving Valparaiso University. Teams may be nominated after a 10-year waiting period. A former employee may be nominated immediately upon their departure from the University, while current employees of Valparaiso University are not eligible for nomination in their current role.

## Selection Procedures

*Nomination:* Nominations may be made in writing by any interested parties prior to specified deadlines. Nominees will be solicited through notices in Valparaiso University publications and in local media outlets, promotion on ValpoAthletics.com and on athletics social media accounts, and through email to Valpo Athletics alumni.

Nominations should be directed to the Selection Committee's Athletics Media Relations representative. Nominations will not be disclosed publicly. The Athletics Media Relations representative will prepare biographical information on nominees for the Selection Committee's consideration.

Nominees remain in the pool of active nominees for five consecutive years following their nomination. Any person or team who has been considered for induction for five consecutive years, but not selected, will have their name suspended from consideration indefinitely. The Selection Committee will have the right to evaluate the list of suspended nominees each year and return any individuals or teams, as necessary, to the list of active nominees.

*Selection:* The Selection Committee will meet a minimum of three times: once prior to voting on the initial ballot, once prior to voting on the final ballot and once to finalize the annual class. A quorum of at least six of the 11 voting members of the Selection Committee will be present at each meeting.

The Selection Committee will be provided with a list of all active nominees, the year of their nomination and any available biographical information. The Selection Committee will determine the procedures to be utilized in evaluating nominees and selecting members for induction.

Two votes will be held: an initial ballot and a final ballot. Votes will take place following meetings discussing eligible nominees on the respective ballot and will be submitted to the committee secretary via Google Forms submissions.

On the initial ballot, each committee member votes for 10 inductees from the pool of active nominees. The 10 nominees receiving votes are to be ranked from 1-10, with no. 1 being the voter's top candidate. All nominees receiving votes will be ranked by the total points received in the weighted voting tabulation (a no. 1 ranking = 10 points, no. 2 = 9 points, no. 3 = 8 points, etc.).

Those nominees whose point totals rank among the top-10 (plus ties) following the initial ballot move on to the final ballot. Each committee member votes for five inductees on the final ballot in rank order, with no. 1 being the voter's top candidate. The results of the final ballot, along with the availability of any previous selections who have been carried over, will be used to guide the finalization of the annual class.

Deceased nominees will be maintained separately from the active nominee pool and will be considered separately. In addition to the vote on the initial ballot, each committee member will have the option to vote for up to one deceased nominee. If a deceased nominee receives a majority of at least six votes, they will be included in the annual class — if no deceased nominee receives a majority of votes, the top vote recipient will be considered by the committee for inclusion in the class. It is not mandatory to have a deceased inductee in each class.

The Director of Athletics will be responsible for contacting the inductees to advise them of their selection. For a deceased inductee, their survivor or representative will be contacted by the Director of Athletics and will be eligible to accept the award on the deceased's behalf.

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If a person who is selected is unable to attend the induction ceremony, they will have the option of either being inducted virtually or of postponing their induction until they are able to attend the ceremony. Selections will be allowed to postpone their induction for a maximum of three years.

*Number of inductees:* A charter class of not more than 15 inductees may be inducted in the first year. Each annual class will not exceed a total of four inductees, plus, at the option of the Selection Committee, one additional deceased inductee. It is not mandatory that the maximum number be inducted each year. The Selection Committee reserves the right to add additional inductees at its discretion.

*Selection and induction schedule:* The Hall of Fame Board of Directors is empowered to establish nomination and selection schedules. The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony takes place annually as part of Homecoming Weekend at Valparaiso University. The Board of Directors also will set type of awards, presentation procedures and the permanent display of honorees.

## **Changes to Hall of Fame Bylaws**

Changes to the Valparaiso University Hall of Fame bylaws and/or procedures will be made by majority consent of the Hall of Fame Board of Directors.