

# Gaston County Sports Hall of Fame

## By-laws

### Mission Statement

The purpose of the Gaston County Sports Hall of Fame Committee is to foster and promote sports competition, tradition, and community pride, by recognizing area athletes, coaches, and others who have distinguished themselves in the field of athletics, either individually, or by virtue of their performance on or in connection with athletic teams representing their community, high school, college or university, or professional team or sport, or by meritorious individual or team effort on behalf of sports and athletics. The sole purpose of the organization/committee is to annually nominate, elect, honor, and award truly outstanding Gaston County athletes, coaches, and others who have made a significant contribution or impact to the sports field.

- A. **Organization:** The organization shall be known as the Gaston County Sports Hall of Fame. The organization/committee shall be made up of (13) individuals who have a collective knowledge of the rich sports history and heritage of Gaston County. The Gaston County Sports Hall of Fame is a non-political, non-sectarian, and non-prejudiced organization.
- B. **Membership:** The organization/committee will consist of (13) voting members and up to (2) two non-voting members. Three (3) of the voting members will serve as Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, and Secretary. The non-voting member(s) selected by the sponsoring organization may serve as the Treasurer and event coordinator(s). Organization/committee members will serve three (3) year terms starting on December 1 and ending November 30. Members may serve for any number of successive terms as long as they remain in good standing. Membership should be a cross section of the county population and should be representative of each township. New membership is accepted by way of nomination and majority vote by the sitting committee members. \*A committee member, to remain in good standing, is expected to be in attendance at all regular meetings, fulfill standing committee responsibilities, and be actively engaged in the pursuit of the organization's mission, goals, and objectives.
- C. **Meeting:** A majority of the membership present shall constitute a quorum for regular meetings and meetings where votes will occur in regard to changes to the adopted by-laws.
- D. **Officers:** Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, and Secretary are elected by majority vote of the sitting committee members and shall serve two (2) year terms starting on December 1 and ending on November 30. Officers may serve for any number of successive terms.
  1. Chairperson duties:
    - a. Maintain all committee business in compliance with organization procedures.
    - b. Prepare meeting schedules, agendas, and call special meetings.

- c. Make sub-committee assignments.
  - d. Initiate and handle all official communications between committee members and the general public.
  - e. Appoint the Treasurer/Event Coordinator.
  - f. Serve as ex-officio member on all standing committees.
  - g. Require such reports as deemed necessary.
  - h. Perform such other duties as shall be required of him/her by resolution of the committee.
2. Vice-chairperson duties:
    - a. Assist the Chairperson with his/her duties.
    - b. Conduct business meetings in the absence of the Chairperson.
  3. Secretary duties:
    - a. Keep record of organization minutes.
    - b. Keep record of organization correspondence.
  4. Treasurer / Event Planner duties:
    - a. Keep a record of organization finances.
    - b. Serve as custodian of organization funds kept on deposit by the organization and through the sponsoring agency.
    - c. Coordinate banquet, fundraising, and special events.
- E. Finances:** As the Gaston County Hall of Fame is a voluntary organization, it is understood that costs involved in meeting its goals and objectives shall be financed through contributions, banquet ticket sales, cooperate sponsors, grants, gifts, donations, and various fundraising activities as deemed necessary by the organization. It will be a non-profit organization.
- F. Eligibility Criteria for HOF Candidates:**
1. A nominee must be a native, or have been a resident, or have attended school, or have coached, or have worked in Gaston County, North Carolina.
  2. A nominee must have completed their athletic achievement or service at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of induction. The five (5) year period may be waived by majority vote of the committee under special circumstances.
  3. A nominee must be of good character and reputation.
  4. Nominees may be or have been athletes, coaches, administrators, officials, team doctors, media, or any similar position that have made significant contributions to athletics and their respective communities.
  5. No sitting Gaston County Sports Hall of Fame committee member shall be considered for induction.
- G. Nominating Procedures:**
1. Candidates are recommended by means of an official nomination form.
  2. Nomination forms are available upon request from any committee member and on line at various published web sites.
  3. All applications will receive an initial screening.

4. All applications will remain in the possession of the committee Chairperson. The committee will determine the closing dates for each year's selection process.

**H. Selection Procedures:**

1. All applications shall be forwarded to the Chairperson for presentation to the membership at a regular meeting.
2. Applications will be classified as to worthiness, "A", "B", "C", by a majority vote.
3. Upon acceptance as a valid application, said application shall remain in the permanent files for possible selection for future inductions.
4. Additional background information on all applications rated "A" shall may be gathered by the committee.
5. All "A" nominees will be placed on the final ballot where nominee will be voted on.

**I. Final Ballot Guideline:**

1. The number of inductees for each year's class shall be determined by the committee prior to the final ballot being presented.
2. Each nominee will be discussed by the committee.
3. Each committee member will then vote for \_\_\_\_\_ nominees giving the highest rated nominee \_\_\_\_\_ points, the second rated nominee \_\_\_\_\_ points, on down to one (1) point for the lowest rated nominee.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ nominees receiving the highest total of points shall be inducted.
5. Once inducted an inductee may not be removed from the Hall of Fame.
6. Inductees should be present at the Induction Ceremony.
7. Nominees not selected will have their applications put on file for possible selection at a later date.

**J. Special Awards:**

1. The HOF Committee may choose to select an individual, team, corporation, company, or organization to receive special recognition for outstanding contributions in the field of athletics.

**K. Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony:**

1. The Gaston Count Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony, banquet site, and date will be determined by the Hall of Fame Committee.