



United States Blind Golf Association
Established 1953

2025 USBGA Hall of Fame Policy

Released February 2025

I. Purpose:

To celebrate and honor the unwavering dedication of players, coaches, friends and volunteers in supporting blind and vision-impaired golf and the USBGA, while preserving and promoting the rich history of blind golf and our Association. The Hall of Fame selection process will occur every third year.

II. Eligibility:

To be considered for induction into the USBGA HOF, the following criteria applies to individuals and/or organizations.

- a. All USBGA Members (Players) must have at least 5 continuous years of active membership and exhibit dedication and service to the USBGA and Blind and Vision Impaired Golf.
- b. Coaches must have at least 5 continuous years of service as a coach to a USBGA Member and exhibit dedication, involvement and support to the USBGA and Blind and Vision Impaired Golf.
- c. Friends of the USBGA and Blind and Vision Impaired Golf must have at least 5 continuous years of service to the USBGA and exhibit dedication, involvement and support for Blind and Vision Impaired Golf.

III. Hall of Fame Inductee Categories:

Potential Nominees may be inducted into the Hall of Fame (HOF) in one of the following categories:

- a. Players (Blind and Vision Impaired)



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- b. Coaches
- c. Friends of the USBGA and Blind and Vision Impaired Golf

IV. Definitions:

- a. **Nominee:** A person or organization nominated by the HOF Committee, USBGA Active Members, Active Coaches, current Support Members and previous HOF Player and Coach Inductees.
- b. **Candidate:** A person or organization that has met the minimum eligibility criteria and is placed on the Voting Ballot for final consideration by the HOF Committee and previously inducted HOF Players and Coaches.
- c. **Inductee:** A person or organization that receives at least two-thirds affirmative votes from the returned Voting Ballots is awarded the honor of induction into the USBGA Hall of Fame.

V. Selection Criteria for Each HOF Category:

- a. A person nominated for the Player Category must have a record of outstanding tournament performance and service to the USBGA and Blind and Vision Impaired Golf.
- b. A person nominated for the Coach Category must have actively coached a USBGA Member and demonstrated involvement in promoting the USBGA and/or blind and vision impaired golf.
- c. Nominees for the Friends of the USBGA and Blind and Vision Impaired Golf Category encompass a diverse range of contributors. These include golf professionals and organizations dedicated to teaching the blind and vision impaired, individuals who collaborate with other Members to organize and execute USBGA tournaments and clinics and those, through their involvement, have significantly advanced the goals of the Association.



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VI. Selection Process:

- a. The Hall of Fame Selection Committee Chair is appointed by the Board at the first BOD meeting after the Nationals Annual General Meeting (AGM) one year prior to the next HOF selection process. The Previous HOF Committee Chair and Committee may be reconfirmed by the Board to serve on the next HOF selection process.
 - b. The HOF Chair may select a minimum of two or four individuals who are currently active USBGA Members, Coaches, Support Members or Committee Members who have been active in the operation of the USBGA for a minimum of 5 continuous years. The number of Committee Members must be an odd number to avoid tie votes should the matter arise.
 - c. The HOF Committee then requests nominations from USBGA active Members, active Coaches, paid Support Members and previous HOF Player and Coach Inductees during the HOF selection process year.
 - d. The HOF Committee reviews all nominations received against the eligibility criteria to determine if Nominees are eligible for consideration as a Candidate in any of the three HOF categories. Once the HOF Committee completes their review of submitted Nominees, they will generate a list of candidates (if there are eligible Nominees) on a Voting Ballot under the appropriate HOF category.
 - e. The HOF Committee, plus any previous HOF Player and Coach Inductees are eligible to vote on the Candidates. However, previous Players and Coach Inductees who have failed to respond to the HOF Committee or vote in the previous two HOF induction selection processes, are not eligible to vote.
- Candidate biographies and any documentation used by the HOF Committee to review potential HOF candidates will be sent to eligible HOF Player and Coach Inductees along with the HOF Voting Ballot. Voters may vote YES or NO for up to two Candidates in each category.



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f. Only those Candidates with a two thirds YES vote of the Voting Ballots received, may be elected to the Hall of Fame. In the case of a tie vote, the HOF Committee's voting results will be used to break the tie.

g. The HOF Committee Chair shall submit up to six HOF potential Inductee names to the Board at least 90 days prior to the National Championship. The USBGA Board must either confirm or deny, by a majority vote, the submitted HOF proposed Inductees at the next monthly Board meeting. The Board must accept or reject the list of proposed Inductees in its entirety unless there is just cause to consider a violation of the HOF criteria for any Candidate.

h. The HOF Chair and Committee will determine the timing, method of distribution and tally of the HOF Voting Ballots.

VII. Induction Class Schedule:

The inaugural HOF Induction Ceremony, Class of 2007, was held in conjunction with the USBGA National Championships. Yearly HOF Induction Classes were held in 2008 and 2009 after which the HOF Induction ceremonies were scheduled for every third year, beginning in 2012 at the National Championship Awards dinner.

Once Players, Coaches, and Friends of the USBGA are awarded this prestigious recognition and formally inducted into the USBGA Hall of Fame, they become USBGA HOF Inductees and their names and biographies are posted on the USBGA website.

- a. Class of 2007 honored Inductees covering the years prior to 1968.
- b. Class of 2008 honored Inductees covering the years from 1969 thru 1987.
- c. Class of 2009 honored Inductees covering the years from 1988 thru 2008.
- d. Following the 2009 Induction Class, the rules were revised to permit no more than two Inductees in each of the three HOF categories every three years, allowing for a maximum of six potential Inductees starting in 2012.
- e. If a Nominee or Candidate is not selected for induction, they may be re-nominated at any future HOF selection process. There is no limit to the number of



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times a Player, Coach or Friend can be nominated, however their names are not automatically placed on the next nominee selection list unless they are re-nominated for consideration.

Note: Since no HOF Induction ceremonies were held in 2024, we will conduct the HOF selection process in 2025 and will then continue with the 3 year cycle.

VIII. Hall of Fame Curator:

The HOF Chair and Committee may nominate an individual who actively supports the USBGA, submitting their name to the Board for approval to serve as HOF Curator.

- a. The Curator will maintain current records of contacts, photos, biographies, the HOF Binder, HOF Trophy and plaques and any miscellaneous information on all Inductees and Committee activities.
- b. The Curator will oversee the maintenance and placement of a Hall of Fame section on the USBGA website.
- c. The Curator will serve for at least 6 years, removed only by a unanimous vote of the USBGA Board for conduct detrimental to the Association. Otherwise, the Curator may continue to serve until they wish to resign.

IX. USBGA Website Recognition:

The USBGA will maintain a dedicated section on their website to celebrate and highlight the achievements of Hall of Fame Inductees, honoring their contributions and inspiring future generations.

- a. Photos of the Inductees, their biographies and contributions to the USBGA and blind and vision impaired golf will be placed in their respective categories: Player, Coach or Friend.



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Note: It is recommended that the USBGA honor their induction into the Hall of Fame with dinner and a hotel room when attending the induction ceremony.

- b. The Curator will assist the Website Administrator in the collection, creation and editing of website entries.
- c. A permanent Legacy Trophy with the inscription of all HOF Inductees names and a HOF Binder holding Inductees biographies has been on display at every National Championship Awards dinner since 2007. Inductees are presented with a HOF plaque at the Induction ceremony.
- d. Beginning with the 2028 Hall of Fame Selection and Induction process, the Legacy Trophy and HOF Binder will be moved to a permanent display at the Guiding Eyes for the Blind facility in New York. As in the past, there will continue to be a HOF Selection process every three years with a HOF Induction ceremony at that year's National Championship Awards dinner with a presentation to the Inductees of a plaque commemorating their Induction into the USBGA Hall of Fame.

At the National Championship Awards dinner, there will be a virtual display of the Legacy Trophy and the biographies of all the HOF Inductees including the current class.

Additional options may present themselves in future years for a physical display or recognition.

X. Awards:

In the year that the Hall of Fame Induction ceremony takes place during the National Championship Awards dinner, in addition to each HOF Inductee receiving a plaque commemorating their achievement, their name and or organization, HOF category and year of induction will be inscribed on a nameplate and installed on the HOF Legacy Trophy.



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XI. Operations and Support:

The USBGA is responsible for all funding associated with the Hall of Fame.

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