

**CHARTER**  
**THE VMI SPORTS HALL OF FAME**  
1 May 2015

Preamble and Historical Foundation: The VMI Sports Hall of Fame was established on 28 July 1972 by charter and to be perpetuated at the Virginia Military Institute. The Charter Members were inducted at ceremonies held in conjunction with the VMI-Furman University football game held in Lexington on 4 November 1972. The Hall of Fame serves to honor those who, by outstanding achievement in athletics or service to VMI athletics, have made lasting contributions to the cause of Sports at the Institute. This Charter replaces the 1972 version.

Membership in the Hall of Fame: Members of the VMI Sports Hall of Fame will be selected by the Honors Committee from nominations submitted by alumni, staff, and other friends of the Institute. The Superintendent has final approval authority of all selectees. Induction of members will normally be held at a dinner Friday evening before a Saturday home football game. That game will be designated as the “Hall of Fame Game.” Inductions will occur every three years, or at the call of the Superintendent.

Honors Committee: The Committee will be comprised of members as designated below. Members will serve until such time as they resign or are replaced by the appropriate designating authority, or in some cases, when they leave the position they hold. The Committee may, in its discretion, elect a Chairperson. If no Chair is elected, the Associate Athletic Director for Communications and Sports Information (Sports Information Director) will serve in that capacity in any meeting of the Committee. Membership in the Committee will consist of the following:

- a. Four Alumni-at-Large selected by the Superintendent. Selection criteria will normally be alumni with an extensive association with VMI athletics.
- b. Faculty Athletic Representative
- c. VMI Alumni Association Representative
- d. Associate Athletic Director for Communications and Sports Information
- e. VMI Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
- f. Committee Secretary selected by the Superintendent
- g. Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, ex officio (non-voting)

Induction Class Limitations: No more than six former athletes, representing those sports officially recognized by the Institute during their periods of competition, may be inducted at a time. Selection of more than six inductees will require unanimous approval of the Honors Committee and the Superintendent. An allowance will be made for an additional nominee in a “Veteran” category, which is defined as someone over 60 years of age at the time of the Honors Committee meeting. No more than one “Veteran” may be inducted at each meeting. On rare occasions, the Committee can recommend induction of a new member prior to the next scheduled ceremony, if the Committee believes that special and unique circumstances warrant such action.

Eligibility and Multi-Sport Athletes: An athlete may be named for achievements in more than one sport, but may be inducted only once. To be eligible for selection, the candidate's most recent participation in a VMI sport must have occurred ten or more years prior to the date of the induction ceremony. "Most recent participation" is defined as the date of the last athletic contest in which the nominee appeared as a member of the team. Members of the Honors Committee shall be ineligible for selection while serving on the Committee.

Selection Criteria: In addition to the criteria listed above, the Committee will consider basic qualifications, such as (but not limited to) All-America, All-Conference, All-State honors; team captaincy; how the individual compared with other athletes of that era; published information from the *Bomb*, the *VMI Cadet*, the *Alumni Review*, and daily newspapers; the character of the individual; and testimonials from sports writers, coaches, athletic directors, teammates and opposing coaches and players and accomplishments in athletics after their years at VMI. Only individual athletes may be inducted; teams or groups of athletes cannot be nominated or inducted.

Special Citations: The Honors Committee may, at its discretion, authorize Special Citations to alumni and non-alumni in recognition of outstanding personal service to sports during or after their years at VMI. Such awards will be appropriately recognized along with the Hall of Fame display at the Institute. The Honors Committee will determine the type of award to be presented to Special Citation honorees.

Quorum and Voting: A quorum at an Honors Committee meeting will be 5 members present. Members may participate by telephone conference call or other electronic means and be counted as present for purposes of a quorum as long as they can participate fully in all discussions of nominees. Of those present and voting, at least 75% must cast a ballot for a particular nominee in order for that nominee to be elected. If a nominee receives less than 75% of the ballots cast, that nominee's candidacy will be considered at the next meeting of the Committee three years later. Any nominee not selected after three meetings of the Committee will be eliminated from the slate of candidates unless a Committee member requests the name remain on the list.

Inductee Entitlements: Inductees will receive an appropriate certificate upon induction, and will have their picture and athletic record displayed at the Institute. Inductees, and their spouses, shall be invited as guests to each succeeding banquet throughout their lifetime.

Nominations: The *Alumni Review* and other Alumni Association publications, websites, and other means will normally be used to solicit nominations. The Honors Committee will consider such nominations at its meeting to be held in the spring preceding an induction year. There will be an established date for the meeting selected by the Chairman or Faculty Athletics Representative which will be publicized on the VMI website. All nominations must be received at least two weeks prior to the Committee meeting in order to be considered at that meeting.

Committee Deliberations and Announcements: All discussions and results of voting at any meetings of the Honors Committee will be on a confidential basis. All announcements concerning selections, or any other transactions at the meetings, will be made by the Superintendent or designee.

Removal from the Hall of Fame: Induction and membership in the Hall of Fame is a privilege and, as detailed in this Charter, is based upon specified athletic and personal criteria. The Committee retains the right to revoke the membership of a member based upon any acts or omissions either committed after induction, or were not known to the Committee at the time of selection, that do not meet these criteria.

Responsible Officials: All necessary details concerning the annual induction banquet, the hosting of new and former inductees, and the conduct of any other events in conjunction with Hall of Fame Day, shall be the responsibility of the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics or representative appointed by the Superintendent. Such details shall include publicity, dealings with caterer, coordination of escorts and transportation, ticket sales, refreshments, table setups, programs, certificates and other awards, labor and a financial accounting.

Amendments to the Charter: This charter may be amended by a 75% majority of the Honors Committee at any time, or by direction of the Superintendent. Approval of the Charter rests with the Superintendent of VMI.