



## **Racquetball Association of Ireland Hall of Fame Selection Policy**

### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame is to honour those who have distinguished themselves as being;

- i. an exceptional athlete or member of an exceptional team; or
- ii. a person who has made a significant contribution as a contributor/builder of sport.

### **2. Establishment of Selection Policy**

The policy is developed and implemented by the Racquetball Ireland Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has the power to amend the policy and the Executive Committee interpretation of the policy will be final.

### **3. Categories of Members**

There shall be two categories in which someone can be elected into the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame.

#### **a) Athlete**

- i. Individual – a competitor in a singles event(s) or an outstanding individual from a team event.

#### **b) Contributor**

- i. A Contributor is an individual whose efforts as leaders, administrators, officials, coaches, business leaders, media or in other roles make an outstanding contribution to the sport.

### **4. Eligibility**

#### **a) Athlete**

- i. Any individual (amateur or professional) who has achieved outstanding and extraordinary success in Ireland or as an Irish athlete competing abroad,

demonstrates exemplary attitudes and/or personal characteristics and makes a defining contribution to the sport of racquetball and/or Irish society.

ii. Athletes shall not be considered for induction until three years after retirement from major championship competition or following a particularly outstanding athletic achievement that warrants special recognition.

**b) Contributor**

i. Any individual who has made an outstanding and extraordinary contribution to amateur or professional sport in Ireland other than a competitor, demonstrates exemplary values and/or personal characteristics and makes a defining contribution to sport and/or Irish society.

ii. Those who are professional promoters, sponsors or fundraisers are not eligible for consideration.

iii. A Contributor may be either active or inactive at the time of their consideration.

iv. A contributor cannot be considered if they are currently serving on the Racquetball Association of Ireland executive committee.

c) Any Athlete or Contributor who has been nominated but not elected, shall remain eligible for consideration for the next three consecutive years. After a period of three years of being nominated but not elected to the Hall of Fame that Athlete's or Contributor's name will be removed from consideration until nominated again.

e) Nominations can be made posthumously for either category.

**5. Nomination of Candidates**

a) Nominations can be made by any Irish individual or Irish organization (sports or otherwise).

b) Nominations can be made by members of the Executive Committee, however each member cannot submit more than two new nominations for each election proceeding.

c) Nominations shall be submitted to the General Secretary of Racquetball Ireland using the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame Nomination Form and should include all the information pertinent to the record and merit of the nominee.

d) The deadline for nominations for any calendar year is midnight February 28th.

**6. Selection & Approval Process**

- a) Members of the Executive Committee will receive a copy of all nominations at least 30 days prior to the selection meeting.
- b) Final selection of the recommended candidates will be determined by a vote of the Executive Committee, with each member holding one vote. A voting quorum will be a majority of the Executive Committee.
- c) A maximum of two (2) Athletes and one (1) Contributor will be elected each year. An annual selection is desirable but not mandatory.
- d) In recognition that the Hall of Fame is being implemented several years after the inception of the sport and the number of worthy candidates, there will be additional Hall of Fame Members accepted in the first year of the Hall of Fame program where the Selection Committee will select a maximum of six (6) nominees from either the Athlete and Contributor categories or a combination of both for induction as Honoured Members;
- e) The General Secretary or designate will notify each new inductee and the nominators of all inductees. The names of the Inductees will be publicly released after the notification of all the Inductees.

## **7. Confidentiality**

Members of the Executive Committee shall not disclose the results prior to Racquetball Ireland's public announcement or the particulars related to the voting and approval process related to any nominees.

## **8. Removal of a Member from the Hall of Fame**

- a) The decision to remove a Member from the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame shall be done upon the recommendation by the Executive Committee. The recommendation shall be based on evidence and guided by the principles of fairness and shall only be made after the Committee has ascertained the relevant facts relating to the case under consideration.
- b) The Executive Committee will consider the removal of a Hall of Fame Member if:
  - i. The Member has been convicted of a criminal offense; or
  - ii. The conduct of the Member:
    - 1. Constitutes a significant departure from generally recognized standards of public behaviour which is seen to undermine the credibility, integrity or relevance of the Hall of Fame or detracts from the original ground upon which the induction was based or;
    - 2. Has been subject to official sanction such as a fine or a reprimand by

an adjudicating body, professional association or other organization.

- c) The removal of a Hall of Fame Member is the sole sanction for a Member inducted to the Hall of Fame.
- d) The removal procedure is as follows:
- i. A request to consider the removal of a Hall of Fame Member may be made by any person in writing to the President of Racquetball Ireland.
  - ii. If the Executive Committee, in consultation with the President of the Racquetball Ireland, determines that the grounds for removal are considered to be insufficient the General Secretary will send a reply to the person who made the request.
  - iii. If the Executive Committee, in consultation with the President of the Racquetball Ireland, determines that there may be reasonable grounds for removal of the Hall of Fame Member, the request will be subject to the remainder of the removal process.
  - iv. The President of Racquetball Ireland will send a written notice by mail advising the Member that the removal is under consideration on the basis of the allegations of fact set out in the notice. The notice will advise the Member that, within the time prescribed in the notice, they may
    1. Resign from the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame;
    2. Make representation respecting the matter under consideration of any allegation of fact set out in the notice;The notice will also indicate that the removal process will continue, even if the Member omits to reply within the prescribed time.
  - vi. If the Member chooses to resign from the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame, the Member shall notify the President of Racquetball Ireland in writing within the time prescribed in the notice. After the acceptance of the Member's resignation by the Executive Committee, the Member's name will be struck from any list held by the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame and the Member must return any forms of recognition presented at the time of induction.
  - vii. If the Member elects to make representation respecting the matter under consideration or any allegation of fact set out in the notice the Member or their representative may, within the time prescribed in the notice or as otherwise authorized by the Executive Committee, make representation in writing.
  - viii. If, within the time prescribed in the notice or as authorized by the Executive Committee, the Member fails to reply to the notice, the Executive Committee will

review the case in accordance with the following process.

- ix. If the Member has made representation, all relevant documentation will be sent to the Executive Committee for its consideration. After due consideration, the Executive Committee will submit a report that contains its findings and recommendations with respect to whether or not to remove the Member's membership.
- x. The Board of Directors will pass a resolution, in accordance with the recommendation of this report,
  - 1. To either advise the Member that they will remain a Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame Member in good standing; or
  - 2. To remove the Member's appointment to the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame.
- xi. Notice of the removal of the person's appointment to the Racquetball Ireland Hall of Fame will be published as appropriate.

#### **9. Recognition**

- a) New inductees will be recognized in each year at the Irish National Championships.
- b) All inductees will be invited to attend;
- c) Inductees will receive a commemorative award;
- d) A biography for each Hall of Fame inductee will be developed that recognizes their accomplishments and will be published on the Racquetball Ireland website and if possible posted in a permanent location.
- e) A press release will be circulated announcing the inductees at the time of selection and also at the time of induction.

#### **10. Supporting Documents**

- a) Hall of Fame Nomination Form