

Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame

Bylaws

ADOPTED BY BASEBALL UNITED FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 25, 2022

I. Purpose

The Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame is a project of the Irish American Baseball Society with a mission to preserve the accomplishments of people with a connection to Ireland and/or the global Irish community who have distinguished themselves in the game of baseball while exhibiting integrity, sportsmanship, and character on and off the field. The Hall of Fame also endeavors to inspire excellence and camaraderie by highlighting the current and historical connections between the game of baseball and the global Irish community.

II. Steering Committee

The Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame Steering Committee (the Committee) shall be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Hall of Fame, including the nomination and selection of new inductees and award recipients, fundraising and budgets, and other matters as they arise.

The Committee shall report directly to the Board of Directors of the Baseball United Foundation. The Baseball United Foundation will review and approve decisions of the Committee at its discretion.

A. Committee Composition

1. The Committee shall be made up of six permanent members and three At-Large members.
 - a) Permanent Members
 - (1) Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame Founder, Shaun Clancy
 - (2) John Fitzgerald
 - (3) David Schofield
 - (4) Mike McCarthy
 - (5) Joe Maguire
 - (6) Tom Whaley

b) At-Large members (3-year terms)

- (1) Three members of the Irish American Baseball Society at the HOF Gold or Lifetime Membership levels, to be chosen by the Baseball United Executive Director and approved by the Baseball United Board of Directors.

B. Removal Replacement of Committee Members

1. If a Committee member is unable or unwilling to continue serving on the Committee, they can be removed by a two-thirds vote of the other Committee members.
2. New Committee Members will be nominated and approved by a majority vote of (51%) of current Committee members. New Committee members will be Permanent or At-Large based on the role of the Committee member they replaced.

C. Committee Officers

1. The Committee shall have four officers:
 - a) Chair
 - b) Vice-Chair
 - c) Secretary
 - d) Treasurer
2. Committee Officer candidates will be voted on by the Committee by a majority vote (51%) of current Committee members.

D. Committee Responsibilities

1. Soliciting Nominations
2. Reviewing and Announcing Nominations
3. Overseeing the Vote on Nominees
4. Contacting Inductees
5. Organizing the Yearly Induction Ceremony

III. Nominations and Inductions

A. Eligibility

1. A person is eligible for nomination if they were or are involved in the game of baseball, at any level and in any role, including:
 - a) Player
 - b) Coach or Manager
 - c) Scout
 - d) Umpire

- e) Administrator or Executive
 - f) Media (Sportswriter, Broadcaster, Photographer, etc.)
2. A person will be eligible for nomination beginning one year after retirement from the game of baseball or after being in the game of baseball for at least 15 years in the role they are being nominated for (Player, Coach, Scout, etc.)

B. Criteria

1. A nominee should have distinguished themselves in the game of baseball while exhibiting integrity, sportsmanship, and character, on and off the field. Nominees should also have a connection to the global Irish community.

C. Nominations

1. Nominations will be open during the month of September, each year.
2. Nominations can be made on the Irish American Baseball Society website by the following people:
 - a) Committee Members
 - b) Prior inductees of the Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame
 - c) Members of the Irish American Baseball Society at the “Green” and “Hall of Fame Gold” membership levels.
3. Each person who is qualified to make a nomination may make only one nomination each year.
4. Nominations should be supported by accurate and specific information, including justification for induction.
5. Self-nominations or unsigned/anonymous nominations will not be accepted.

D. Review and Selection of Nominees

1. The Committee will review all nominations and consider only such nominations that meet the criteria stated in these bylaws.
2. The Committee will vote to select a slate of 7 nominees, based on the following criteria:
 - a) The number of nominations for a given nominee.
 - b) The strength of supporting arguments submitted with nominations.
 - c) How well the nominee fits the criteria for induction: “connection to Ireland and/or the global Irish community who have distinguished themselves in the game of baseball while exhibiting integrity, sportsmanship, and character on and off the field.”
3. If there aren't enough nominees to make a slate of 7, the Committee will select nominees until there are 7 nominees.
4. The list of nominees will be announced to members in October.

IV. Ballots and Voting

A. Eligible Voters

1. Votes may be cast by the following people:
 - a) The Committee
 - b) Prior inductees of the Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame
 - c) Lifetime Members and “Hall of Fame Gold” Members of the Irish American Baseball Society

B. Valid Ballot Requirements

1. Each voter must vote for 3 nominees. Failure to vote for 3 nominees will result in a disqualified ballot.

C. Selection of Inductees

1. The nominees with the 3 highest vote totals will be inducted into the HOF.
 - a) In the event of a tie, both nominees will be inducted.
2. The slate of selected inductees will be approved by the Committee.
3. Nominees who receive 51% of the vote but who are not selected for induction will be automatically nominated for the following year.

D. Announcement of Inductees

1. Inductees will be announced in November.

E. Other Notes

1. Inductions will not be given in absentia. If an inductee cannot attend the ceremony, they will be inducted at a ballpark or special ceremony during the year.
2. Posthumous awards will be presented to a family member.
3. Past, present, and future inductees shall become lifetime members of the Irish American Baseball Society.

V. Awards

A. Award Names

1. The following awards shall be given to deserving candidates who exhibit excellence, a connection to the global Irish community, and meet the criteria for each award:
 - a) The Shannon Forde Excellence in Media Award
 - (1) Public Relations, Media, and related disciplines.
 - b) The Sean Casey Community Spirit Award
 - (1) Giving back to the community, volunteerism, and related endeavors.
 - c) The Joe McEwing Heart and Hustle Award

- (1) Exhibiting hard work and determination in the performance of their job.
- d) The Duke Castiglione and Pete Caldera “I Didn’t Know They Were Irish” Award
 - (1) Recognizing baseball professionals who exhibit pride in their Irish roots.
- e) Vin Scully Lifetime Achievement Award
 - (1) Recognizing people who display excellence in their field during a lifetime in the game of baseball.
- f) The Simon Butterworth Award
 - (1) Recognizing outstanding displays of volunteerism in helping advance youth baseball in Ireland.

B. Award Nominations and Voting

1. Award Nominations can be made on the Irish American Baseball Society website by the following people:
 - a) Committee Members
 - b) Prior inductees of the Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame
 - c) Members of the Irish American Baseball Society at the “Green,” “Hall of Fame Gold” and Lifetime Membership Levels.
2. Award winners will be selected by the Committee, except:
 - a) * The Butterworth Award winner will be selected by the Baseball United Foundation Board of Directors.

C. Award Announcement and Presentation

1. Award winners will be announced annually at each HOF induction ceremony
2. Awards will be presented on a rolling basis throughout the year at different locations, ideally at ballparks with participation of teams.

VI. Timeline

<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>March</u>
Nominations	Review Nominations & Prepare Ballot	Voting	Review Vote Results	Announce Inductees	Induction Ceremony

VII. Display

- A. Inductees and award winners will be showcased on the Irish American Baseball Society website.
- B. A permanent display and location for the Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame will be determined at a later date.

VIII. Character Clause

- A. Inductees and award recipients should display integrity, sportsmanship, and character on and off the field. The Committee may rescind any award or induction for violation of the Character Clause, upon a two-thirds vote of the Committee and approval of the Baseball United Foundation Board of Directors.

IX. Changes/Revisions

- A. The Committee reserves the right to amend these Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Baseball United Foundation Board of Directors.

Aidan Curtin
Board President
Baseball United Foundation

Date