

Oakland University
HOLLIE L. LEPLEY ATHLETIC HALL OF HONOR BY-LAWS
REVISED Fall 2019

Name

The name will be the Hollie L. Lepley Athletic Hall of Honor. (Hereafter Hall of Honor)

Purpose

The purpose of the Hall of Honor will recognize and honor those individuals (student-athletes, coaches, and athletics staff members) who have made significant contributions to the success of Oakland's athletics program through their participation or involvement in intercollegiate athletics at Oakland.

Selection Committee

The function of the Selection Committee will be to select an annual induction class from the list of eligible nominations. The Selection Committee will be limited to 15 members and will include at least the following: Senior Staff Administrator, Senior Woman Administrator, University Administrator (department head level or higher), Champions Club Advisory Board Member, an alumnus, and one member of the Hall of Honor. Selections are contingent upon final approval from Director of Athletics.

The committee will meet as deemed necessary by the Director of Athletics, with a quorum of committee members required for the committee to vote.

Qualifications for Membership in the Hall of Honor

Membership in the Hall of Honor is open to those individuals who have made significant contributions to the University's athletics programs, either through their participation in athletics as undergraduates or their subsequent association with athletics at OU and their achievements and accomplishments in athletics after leaving OU.

Student-Athletes will be eligible for nomination and selection 5 years after the end of their athletics participation, except in cases of posthumous induction.

General eligibility criteria, for induction into the Hall of Honor for Student-Athletes should include but not necessarily be limited to the following:

- National Player of the Year
- Individual Olympic medal winner
- First-team All-America
- Member of Olympic medal-winning team
- National champion
- National record-holder
- Second- or third-team All-America
- Conference Player of the Year
- First-team all-conference
- Second- or third-team all-conference
- Conference champion
- Conference record-holder
- Oakland University school record-holder
- First-team Academic All-America
- Second- or third-team Academic All-America
- Letter in four different varsity sports
- Letter in three different varsity sports
- Letter in two different varsity sports.
- Scholarship
- Demonstrated Citizenship
- Athletic, career, and service honors achieved after participation years

There shall be a **maximum** of two student-athlete inductees per sport per year into the Hall of Honor.

A staff member who did not participate in athletics at Oakland is not eligible for nomination until their separation from the department of athletics, except in cases of posthumous induction. Staff members must be considered separately from

student-athletes, and must be confirmed by unanimous vote. ***This is not a mandate to select a staff member every year.***

Eligibility criteria for induction into the Hall of Honor for coaches are the following:

- Overall coaching record
- Number of championships won
- Number of NCAA championship appearances
- Demonstrated citizenship
- Demonstrated commitment to academic success

Eligibility criteria for induction into the Hall of Honor for athletics staff are the following:

- Program development
- Programs that have enhanced the reputation of the university
- Support for the program and staff
- Demonstrated citizenship
- Demonstrated commitment to academic success

The Oakland Athletics Community Service Award will exist as an acknowledgement of individuals for significant contributions to the athletic program and to the community. Current university employees and athletic staff members are not eligible for the Community Service Award. A maximum of two selections shall be made in any given year.

Eligibility criteria for the George Wibby award are the following:

1. Employed by the university, but not as an athletics administrator or coach.
2. Made a significant contribution to the athletics program beyond what would normally be considered their university responsibilities.
3. Typifies the character of George Wibby by being friendly, courteous, and always ready to help.

A maximum of one selection for the George Wibby award shall be made in any given year.

The Team Award is given in recognition of varsity teams that in a given year, have excelled in athletic competition. A team may be nominated by any member of the university community. A period of 10 years must have elapsed from the year of competition to be recognized, and teams must be selected by unanimous vote of the selection committee. ***This is not a mandate to select a team every year.***

EXCEPTIONS TO ALL CRITERIA AND NUMBER OF INDUCTEES CAN BE MADE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR.

Nomination of Candidates for the Hall of Honor

Hall of Honor members (individuals only), current and former head coaches, Champions Club Advisory Board members, any member of the Selection Committee, and athletics staff members may nominate an individual for membership in the Hall of Honor.

The nominator(s) shall provide sufficient information, including a nomination form and supporting information, to document the nominee's qualifications to be considered for election to the Hall of Honor. All nominations shall be submitted to the Selection Committee.

The Athletic Communications office shall be responsible for verifying authenticity of all supporting documentation provided by the nominator and providing additional supplemental documentation as needed. All nominees will be carried for a period of three years. After three years the candidate will need to be re-nominated.

Selection of Members into the Hall of Honor

The number of new inductees each year should not exceed a total of five.

A **maximum** of one selection each year may be made for a non-coaching staff member or broadcaster, if such a person existed with extremely strong credentials. ***This is not a mandate to choose such a person every year.*** Full-time employees of the Oakland Athletic Department are not eligible for nomination for this category until after they have retired or are otherwise no longer employed by the Athletic Department.

Voting

Voting shall take place by secret ballot. All committee members should rank candidates, with 10 being assigned to the strongest candidates. The Director of Athletics reserves the right for final approval.

Special Recognition

Nominations for the Wibby, Community Service, and Team Awards may be submitted to the Hall of Honor Committee by any member of the university community. The committee at its sole discretion will determine the recipients of these awards and selections may only be made at an official committee meeting.

Wibby Award

Awarded annually to an Oakland University employee that has made outstanding contributions to the Athletic Department. The award is named in honor of George Wibby who spent 20+ years at Oakland University and with his wife Jewell they were two of the early contributors raising money to support the Athletics Department. His duties at the university ranged from being an instructor, swimming starter, and golf coach and he did them all with a strong devotion to Oakland. George also headed the Michigan Red Cross for a number of years and retired from the organization fulfilling 50 years of service.

Community Service Award

The Community Service Award recognizes members of the community who have aided in the advancement and overall mission of the athletic department, while serving as an advocate for the welfare of student-athletes. The award is bestowed upon individuals who exemplify a commitment to community service and a dedication to developing graduates and champions at Oakland University.

Hollie L. Lepley

Hollie L. Lepley served Oakland University from 1959 through 1979 and upon retirement, the Sports and Recreation Building was named in his honor. Lepley was the founding father of Oakland Athletics serving as the university's inaugural athletic director from 1959-1972. From 1972-1979, Lepley assumed the duties of a professor of education. In 1984, Lepley was inducted into the OU Hall of Honor and in 2002 the Hall of Honor was renamed the Hollie L. Lepley Hall of Honor.

Lepley was instrumental in the formation of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and he played a significant role in planning the Katke-Cousins Golf Course. He was a major contributor in the design of the original Lepley Sports Center and he developed many of the outdoor facilities. Lepley was a member of the President's Council on Youth Fitness, a golf clinician with the Lifetime Sports Foundation and was active with the Boys Club of America. His love of athletics and willingness to give generously of his time and talent for the betterment of others set the standard of excellence for Oakland Athletics.