



2024/25 HALL OF FAME CHARTER

**Recognising On-Field Excellence for Players, Managers/Coaches,
and Umpires**

Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

Updated 1/9/2024

Valid Through June 2025

BASEBALL WA LIMITED

Baseball WA Hall of Fame Charter (BWA HoF)

The purpose of the BWA HoF is to enrich our heritage by recognising on-field personnel, including players, managers, coaches and umpires, who have excelled via outstanding and impactful performances during their on-field careers. Baseball has a long and rich history and has significantly contributed to the fabric of the State of Western Australia. Enshrining “our best” preserves and promotes our heritage to the sporting landscape and community of Western Australia.

Governance

1. The Baseball WA Heritage Committee (BWA HC) is the body responsible for managing all aspects of the BWA HoF under the authority and approval of the BWA Board.
2. The BWA HC has responsibility for the creation and maintenance of the BWA HoF Charter, supporting policies, guidelines and procedural documentation, with additional responsibility for the preservation of BWA HoF history and memorability, the BWA HoF nomination, voting and induction processes, and developing and maintaining award recognition protocols for inductees.
3. The BWA CEO will be responsible for managing and implementing all agreed actions as directed by the BWA HC relevant to BWA HoF administration, with the support of the BWA HC as required.
4. BWA recognises the national significance and place of the Baseball Australia HoF, and places importance on positioning WA’s HoF as a complementary State-based program underpinning the National HoF scheme.
5. In Western Australia, induction into the BWA HoF is the highest honour achievable for “on field” excellence. A few other sports have created a ‘Legends’ category. The Board of BWA have confirmed and codified that there will be no state based category of recognition higher than the BWA HoF (e.g. “Legends” category, jersey retirement, etc.). As per Governance point 4 above, BWA recognises that the next level of recognition after the BWA HoF is the Baseball Australia Hall of Fame.
6. This Charter, policies, procedures and schedules will be reviewed and updated as required by the BWA HC annually.

Nomination Guidelines

Criteria for Nomination

Entities considering nominating a player, coach or umpire to the BWA HoF, should ensure their respective candidate meets the following criteria:

- 1. Induction into the BWA HoF is based upon on-field excellence, as opposed to long and loyal service to the game. Excellence and impact will be evidenced by regular and outstanding representation at State and National levels, individual awards, and/or outstanding success and achievement on the international stage or professional baseball. The bar for selection is intentionally set very high. The BWA HoF is only for the best and most dominant participants regardless of their era.**
2. In recognition of the importance of statistics to the history of baseball, statistical evidence of outstanding performance, applicable to playing, coaching or umpiring, must be provided as supporting evidence for BWA HoF nomination.
3. In the absence of available statistical evidence, nominations should be supported through written testimonials and/or oral histories (documented) from multiple sources.
4. Nominees must have participated in a competition, league or team as a registered player, coach or umpire of a BWA Club, State Team or Perth Heat for a minimum period of 3 years (seasons).

5. On-field personnel will only be considered for nomination if they have been retired from their on-field roles for 3 years. On-field personnel are considered “retired” if they have not played, coached, or umpired at State League (or above levels) for 3 or more years.
6. Candidates must meet acceptable standards of integrity, character and sportsmanship, and must not have brought the sport of baseball into disrepute. Specific behaviours such as, but not limited to, being convicted of a felony, gambling on the game of baseball while being an active participant, or found guilty of taking performance enhancing drugs, will result in disqualification.
7. The BWA HC reserves the right to crosscheck information provided in support of nominees as part of the validation process.

Nomination by Era

The history of baseball is categorised into distinctive eras; this work was completed in 2005 by the Baseball Australia Heritage Committee. These same eras are used by the BWA HoF in alignment with the National HoF. Chronologically, these eras include:

- Pre-1900
- 1900 – 1918 (rapid expansion of the game and regular interstate competition)
- 1919 – 1946 (the start of the Claxton Shield and beginning of American influence)
- 1947 – 1967 (Claxton Shield and post war American influence)

Nominees from the above eras will be assessed solely by the BWA HC. Nominees who participated in the post 1967 eras defined below, will be assessed by the BWA HC and, if approved, will be included on the ballot to be distributed to the *BWA HoF Voting Panel*.

- 1968 – 1988 (Claxton Shield, Olympic Games and Asian influence)
- 1989 – 1999 (ABL and Olympic Games)
- 2000 – 2009 (IBLA, Claxton Shield and Olympic Games)
- 2010 – present (Modern era, World Baseball Classic, new ABL from 2010)

Nominating entities should use these eras where possible to assess their history and balance the pool of potential nominees.

Rules and Procedures

The following entities are eligible to nominate candidates:

1. The current State League Clubs can nominate up to 3 candidates for the post 1967 era and 1 candidate for the pre 1968 era.
2. The Umpires Association can nominate up to 1 umpire.
3. The Perth Heat can nominate up to 3 candidates.
4. The BWA HC can nominate up to 4 candidates.

Each entity should carefully consider the *Criteria for Nomination* prior to preparing and making a submission.

1. Nominations must be submitted to the CEO in writing, on the *Official HoF Nomination Template* which is available on either the BWA website or on the link below
 - a. https://baseballwa.formstack.com/forms/bwa_hall_of_fame_nomination
2. Nominations must be submitted in accordance with required timelines and deadlines established by the BWA HC and published on the BWA website updated annually.
3. For each on-field category (player, coach or umpire) there is title-specific and separate *Official BWA HoF Nomination Template*, each of which is posted on the BWA website.

4. For nominations to be considered, the President/Chairperson of the eligible, nominating entity must be the signatory on the *Official BWA HoF Nomination Template* in order to authorise the respective nomination.
5. Nominations will be called from nominating entities each year at a time determined by the BWA HC and broadcast by the CEO. At this same time, entities will be advised how many nominations they are permitted to submit.
6. A nominee can remain on the ballot for a maximum of 4 years subject to the following:
7. A candidate must receive a minimum of 25% yes votes to remain on the ballot unless the HC makes an exception due to extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances can be things such as, but not limited to, new information, incorrect information, or perceived injustice.

Vetting and Validating

1. Once the deadline for submitting BWA HoF nominations has expired, the CEO will pass all submissions on to the BWA HC.
2. The BWA HC shall review all submissions following due process as outlined below:
 - a. Vet each submission to ensure they are accurately and properly completed and follow the required *Nomination Protocols*.
 - b. Assess the accuracy and detail of the information provided about each nominee, ensuring that the submission suitably conveys and validates a case that supports the nominee's eligibility for BWA HoF consideration.
 - c. If the BWA HC determines that more information or clarification about the accuracy of detail provided is required, the BWA HC can request that the CEO asks the nominating body to revise and resubmit their submission for further analysis, within an allocated timeframe for this process.
 - d. The BWA HC reserves the right to interview referees identified in nominee submissions.
 - e. If at any stage of the *Vetting and Validating* process, it is determined that the nominee does not meet eligibility for BWA HoF nomination, the BWA HC will request the CEO to inform the nominating entity of this determination, and that the nomination is rejected. The CEO will also provide information about future opportunities for nomination of the rejected nominee.
 - f. Nominees who have successfully passed the *Vetting and Validating* process will be recommended by the BWA HC as candidates to be included in a ballot for polling by the *BWA HoF Voting Panel*.
 - g. The CEO will ensure all Nominees recommended by the BWA HC are in good standing with BWA, as determined by the BWA Board, before they are included in the official BWA HoF ballot.

BWA HoF Voting Panel

The voting principles and panel, as defined below, are subject to change by authority of the BWA Board circumstantially from time to time.

In principle, individuals invited to sit on the BWA HoF Voting Panel will be provided with a written agreement describing their roles and responsibilities in respect to confidentiality, voting requirements and other instructions. They will also be given a copy of this Charter which they will be required to read. Invitees will become voting panel members once they sign off and submit the agreement to abide by these terms and conditions.

1. The BWA HoF Voting Panel will be recruited under the advisement of the BWA HC, maintained by the CEO and must have a minimum of 40 members at any one time.
2. For a poll to be valid, at least 90% of the panel must cast a vote.
3. Panel members who do not cast a vote, may be removed from the Voting Panel at the discretion of the Chairperson of the BWA HC.
4. The BWA HOF Voting Panel consists of:
 - a. 2 appointed representatives from each registered BWA Club competing at the State League level. These reps can be Club officials, past players and/or supporters/members.
 - b. 3 appointed representatives from the current Perth Heat coaching, playing and administration staff.
 - c. 2 appointed representatives from the BWA Umpires Association
 - d. All living BWA HoF Members
 - e. Up to ten individuals invited to join the BWA HoF Voting Panel to add diversity, profile and independence to the composition of the panel: invitees could include BWA Life Members, journalists, identities from other sports, and/or members of the baseball community.
5. A candidate must receive a “yes” vote from a minimum of 75% of the poll’s voting strength (total votes cast) to be inducted into the BWA HoF.
6. Voting methodology is mixed; a vote can be cast online, by post, or other digital methods acceptable to the CEO.

BWA HOF Nominations Template

Baseball WA Hall of Fame Nomination Form

https://baseballwa.formstack.com/forms/bwa_hall_of_fame_nomination

Veteran's Committee

The BWA HoF Veteran's Committee (VC) is modelled after the USA Baseball Hall of Fame "Era Committee". The HC acknowledges that it is possible for a particular Player, Manager, or Umpire to be unsuccessful or overlooked via the Nominating and Voting Panel process. However, the HC also recognises that, in some instances, a particular candidate might be worthy of re-consideration. The BWA Heritage Committee will undergo a process of in-depth analysis of any real, or perceived, injustices or inconsistencies. If appropriate, the HC will then recommend that the VC reassess an individual's candidacy via the following guidelines.

Guidelines

Players/Managers/Coaches/Umpires who are no longer eligible for the Hall of Fame ballot can be elected through the Veteran Committee (VC) system. The Veteran's Committee will then assess the candidates as to their suitability for induction.

1. The Veteran's Committee will be made up of 8 voting members. The HC is responsible for recruiting the VC Members. The following are eligible candidates for the VC:
 - a. BWA HoF Inductees,
 - b. The CEO of BWA,
 - c. Perth Heat Manager,
 - d. Past and current Senior State League Coaches,
 - e. Past State League, National, & International players,
 - f. BWA Board Members,
 - g. Members of the "Baseball Community" with a keen interest in the history of the game and an elite knowledge of the sport.
2. There must be minimum of 3 members form the BWA HoF
3. The BWA CEO must be the Chair. He/She is a voting member.
4. 2 Committee members must resign each year and must be replaced by new members of a similar category.
5. No member may serve for more than 3 years in total (excluding the CEO).
6. The VC will meet no later than 6 weeks prior to the BWA Awards and HoF Induction Event. This is to ensure that any successful VC candidate is announced and inducted at the same time as Inductees selected via the Voting Panel.
7. Candidates will be submitted via the HC and its HoF subcommittee. The VC has the right to "suggest" candidates. However, it is the responsibility of the HC to finalise the nominations that are ultimately considered by the VC.
8. The VC will ensure all available resources and information is sourced to assess the candidates.
9. The VC will vote via secret ballot conducted by the Chair.
10. A candidate will require a 75% "Yes" vote to be inducted (i.e. 6 votes)

It is the responsibility of the Chair and 2 VC Members to review and update these guidelines and submit all recommendations/amendments/updates to the Heritage Committee prior to 30 June, 2025.