

MARIST HALL OF FAME CRITERIA AND MISSION

The Marist Hall of Fame was created with an eye to the future through the view of the past. Athletic success at Marist High School has felt the full spectrum of attention, from national prominence to relative anonymity. The purpose of the Marist Hall of Fame is to shout from the rooftops of the Cody Center ALL successes of Marist Athletics. The most obvious and palpable manner to accomplish this goal for past, present, and future Marist athletes is the Hall of Fame.

Although the Marist Hall of Fame is quite a few years old and has a rather impressive membership, the focus of the Hall of Fame Committee is to give the honor stature and the selection process structure. Between two and four inductees will be enshrined at the Hall of Fame Banquet, held every year in early March. The Hall of Fame is for only those special student athletes who meet the specific criterion set below. The committee believes that by following these standards, induction into the Marist Hall of Fame will become the greatest honor bestowed upon a Marist athlete.

I. ELGIBILITY

To be eligible for the Marist Hall of Fame, former student athletes must meet certain requirements before they can be considered. Even Walter Payton needed to wait five years before he was elevated to Canton. For our purposes, the criteria is simple:

A. Time

Any Marist athlete is eligible for consideration after 7 years since their graduation. This strict standard does not mean after the end of their final season, but 7 years after their class has left Marist.

B. Level of Participation

Only athletes who compete on the varsity level will be considered. Athletic success at underclass levels of competition (freshman and sophomore) will be used in considering nominee's entire athletic career, but only if the success continued into the varsity level. Generally, we will only consider athletes who played all four years in their sport, unless special circumstances dictate (i.e., injury preventing an athlete from competing senior year).

C. Specific Sport Consideration

Each athlete will be nominated and considered in a single sport. Although Marist has been blessed with many multi-sport athletes, induction will be on a specific sport basis. That does mean that a single athlete can be nominated and possibly inducted in more than one sport. Further, it is not the intention of the selection committee to ignore a nominee's achievements in other endeavors, but to give that all due consideration, along with many other factors.

D. Team Nominations

The Marist Hall of Fame will not only honor the very best student athletes in Marist history, but also those teams that have brought honor, glory, and fame to Marist. Those teams that have distinguished themselves on the fields of play can be nominated and considered for induction along with individual athletes. However, the selection criteria will be the same for teams as it is for individuals. Athletic success will be judged by the accomplishments of the team, including championships and records. To determine whether a team satisfies the criteria as a Marist representative and connection to the community, the selection committee will look to how the individual members of a nominated team satisfy these areas. No team can be inducted unless its members can substantially satisfy the final two requirements.

E. Additional Inductees

The Marist Hall of Fame will not be reserved for only past athletes. All athletic departments must rely on many dedicated non-athletes to ensure its success. Marist is no different. The committee will induct such non-athletes on a special case basis when the occasion arises. Examples of these types of inductees will be past coaches, athletic directors or friends of the Marist Athletic Department.

II. SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria can best be described as a three-hurdle race with induction being the finish line. There are different levels of importance placed on each one of these areas to be considered. But, all hurdles, regardless of size or importance, must be cleared in order for a nominee to be considered.

A. Athletic Success

Only the most accomplished Marist athlete will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Clearly, this is the most important area and highest hurdle to clear.

1. Marist Career

Regardless of post graduation accomplishments, a distinguished Marist athletic career is of primary importance. Awards, records, and statistics are clear indicators in this area.

2. Subsequent Athletic Achievement

Post graduation success in an athlete's field will also be given attention. Naturally, any Marist athlete who continues his success at a higher level of competition will certainly be given special consideration.

B. Marist Representative

The Marist Hall of Fame does have a character requirement. Each member should have represented Marist High School in a positive light at all times as an athlete and a student. Areas to consider would be whether the candidate

was a leader to his teammates and worked to elevate his level of play and that of his teammates; did the candidate display the characteristics of sportsmanship that we feel distinguishes Marist; did the candidate demonstrate the work ethic worthy of consideration to such an honor.

C. Connection to the Community

All inductees should demonstrate continued success in life after athletics. The best of our student-athletes will take with them the lessons of hard work, discipline and teamwork and use them to foster their achievements after their playing careers have finished. A strong sense of community is also important where the nominees can demonstrate their involvement wherever their travels have taken them. The committee does not expect or require that any nominee specifically demonstrate his involvement in the community through Marist Alumni involvement. It is expected that all nominees will be a member in good standing with the Marist Alumni.

III. NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

The nominations for each new class of Marist Hall of Fame inductees will come in the fall of the preceding year. For example, for the Marist Hall of Fame Class of 2003, the nominations will be submitted in the fall of 2002, just after the school year begins. This will give the committee ample time to examine all candidates before selection.

A. Source of the Nomination

Nominations are accepted from the Marist coaching staff (past and present), Marist Hall of Fame members, Marist alumni, and other members of the Marist community that provide a complete and detailed nomination card. The coaches are the best source of information regarding any nominee, and they should be fully utilized. Finalists from the previous year that were not selected can be automatically considered in the following year, at the committee's discretion.

B. Structure of Nomination

Any coach or Marist associate can nominate any player he believes meets the eligibility and criterion as set above. Nominators are expected to respond in writing to the committee with not only the candidate's names but also the specific facts and or statistics that they believe distinguish the candidate. It is important that the coach or Marist associate specifically list any reason the candidate is to be considered and not rely on the committee members to do so. Simply listing the name of a nominee will not be enough.

C. Selection of Hall of Fame Inductees

Once the nominations have been submitted to the selection committee, the committee itself will undertake the responsibility of selecting the induction

class. The following guidelines are to be used as a guide (and not a mandate) in the final selection process.

1. Selection of finalists

Once the candidates are examined by the selection committee, a non-weighted vote will occur. This will be done by choosing the five most qualified candidates, and will not be done on per sport basis. Therefore, the prospect of having 5 wrestlers as finalists is possible, while having no finalists in other sports. The selection committee will tabulate the total votes, and select between 7-10 finalists based on the total number of votes received.

2. Selection of Inductee Class

Once the finalists are chosen, the committee will then make its selection as to the 2 to 4 inductees for a given year. The selection committee will then cast a weighted vote, assigning a value of 1-5 (5 for the most deserving nominee). All committee members are encouraged to cast five votes, but are not required to do so. The committee will closely examine the candidate's qualities and background against the criterion set above. If the committee feels the need to take additional time to choose the inductees, the committee can do so. This close scrutiny of the candidate's qualities is the reasoning behind requiring detailed information from the nominating coaches.

3. Notifying Induction Class

Once the Marist Hall of Fame Induction Class has been selected, both the new inductee and the nomination coach or associate will be notified. Details regarding induction at the Marist Hall of Fame Banquet will be quickly disseminated in order for inductees to make the appropriate arrangements.

D. Committee Makeup

Ideally the Hall of Fame Selection Committee will be a wide cross section of alumni and faculty. As the years progress, it is important that all eras of Marist High School are duly represented. The selection committee will be regenerated from year to year and chosen based on request and selection of the Development Office.

1. Alumni representatives

The committee should always have at least representative from each decade of eligible graduates. This portion of the committee will grow as more classes become eligible. If one member from a specific decade leaves the committee, a replacement from within that decade, and not necessarily that class, will fill the vacancy. The alumni representatives shall be chosen by the Development Office.

2. Coaching Representatives

Since the coaching staff is such a vital link to the history of Marist athletics, it is of crucial importance that members of the Marist coaching staff are part of the committee. There shall be at least two Marist coaches, past and present, on the selection committee at all times. Participation in the selection committee will not prohibit a committee member from nominating a prospective inductee. Like the alumni representative, the coaching representative will also be selected by the Development Office.

3. Hall of Fame Member

The Hall of Fame membership is one of the best judges of what it takes to become one of the best student athletes in Marist history. As such, the selection committee will also include one member of the Hall of Fame.

4. Marist Alumni Association Board Member

A member of the Marist Alumni Association Board will also serve as a full member of the Hall of Fame selection committee. In addition to their requirements as a selection committee member, this individual will also serve as a liaison between the Hall of Fame and the Marist Alumni Association Board.

5. Ad Hoc Member

The Development Office has the option to appoint a member who may be neither a coach nor an alumnus. Long time faculty members, present administration, athletic directors, or friends of Marist athletics will be eligible to be on the selection committee.

6. Internal Development Office Member

One member of the Development professional staff will always serve as a member of the selection committee. This is crucial to ensure any candidate under consideration is indeed a member in good standing of the Marist alumni.