

National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum

Nomination and Selection Procedures

Award Category	Criteria	Nomination Process	Selection Process	Announcement
Distinguished Member	A Distinguished Member is a wrestler who has achieved extraordinary success in a national and/or international competition, a coach who has demonstrated great leadership in the profession and has compiled an outstanding record, a contributor whose long-term activities have substantially enhanced the development of the sport, or any combination of the above qualifications.	Nominations are to be submitted to the NWHOF by Sept. 1. Distinguished Member Screening Committee pares the list to at least 12 nominees for the final ballot. Final ballot and nominees are sent to Distinguished Member Selection Committee for voting. The Distinguished Member Veterans Committee screens all nominees age 60 years and older.	The Distinguished Member Selection Committee and Veterans Committee vote on each nominee in rank order and submit their ballot to the NWHOF. All ballots are sent at one time to the Honorary Chair to be verified by a certified accounting firm and submitted to the NWHOF with a confirmed selection of inductees.	November
Outstanding American	The Hall of Outstanding Americans demonstrates wrestling's pride in those who have used the disciplines of the sport to launch notable careers in other walks of life, such as science and technology, business and industry, government and the military, and the arts and humanities.	Nominations can be submitted to the NWHOF by anyone. A list of nominees is submitted to the Outstanding American Selection Committee by Sept. 15.	The Outstanding American selection committee prioritizes and submits the list in rank order to the NWHOF Executive Director at which time candidates are contacted in rank order until a nominee has confirmed his/her acceptance of this award.	November
Order of Merit	The Order of Merit is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of wrestling, other than success as an athlete or coach.	Distinguished Members submit nominations by Sept. 15.	The Order of Merit Selection Committee screens no more than three candidates. Each living Distinguished Member may cast one vote. All ballots are sent to the NWHOF for tabulation and the winner is selected for the award.	November
Medal of Courage	The Medal of Courage is presented annually to a wrestler or former wrestler who has overcome what appear to be insurmountable challenges, which may be physical, mental, or other handicaps that make his other achievements all the more uplifting.	Nominations are to be submitted to the NWHOF by Sept. 15 for all Medal of Courage nominees at which time they are screened by the Executive Committee and submitted to the Board of Governors.	The ballot for Medal of Courage candidates is submitted to the Board of Governors at its December meeting. Tabulation of the ballots is completed at this time and a finalist is selected for this award.	November
Lifetime Achievement for Officials	The Lifetime Achievement for Officials is to recognize outstanding service as a wrestling official, pairing official, or judge.	Nominations are to be submitted to the NWHOF by Sept. 1 for an Outstanding Official at which time they are submitted to the Officials Selection Committee.	The Officials Selection Committee determines the top two or three candidates to be placed on the ballot. The ballots are sent to the NWHOF for tabulation with the majority vote being selected.	November
Lifetime Service to Wrestling	The Lifetime Service to Wrestling is given in recognition of years of dedication to the development of leadership and citizenship in young people through the sport of wrestling.	Nominations are to be submitted to the NWHOF. The nominations are sent to each of the State Chapters for consideration.	The State Chapters review all nominations and submit their selections to the State Chapter Director and are then approved by the Executive Director.	All Year
Dave Schultz High School Excellence	The Dave Schultz High School Excellence is presented to a high school senior. The award is based equally on outstanding wrestling success, scholastic achievement, and citizenship or community service. Winners are chosen at the state, regional, and national levels.	Nominations are to be submitted by Feb. 15. The DSHSE Selection Committee compiles a list of finalists from each state once the state high school, regional and national tournaments have been completed in the spring.	The DSHSE Selection Committee submits a list of finalists for the state, regional, and national winners to the NWHOF in April.	April/May