

NWHOF Nomination & 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.	December
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.	December
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.	December
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.	December
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.	December
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

NWHOFDGM Nomination & Selection Procedures

George Tragos/Lou Thesz Professional Wrestling Hall of Fame				
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George Tragos/ Lou Thesz Professional Wrestling Hall of Fame	Induction into the George Tragos/Lou Thesz Professional Wrestling Hall of Fame includes substantial impact on professional wrestling, general respect within the profession, and a strong amateur wrestling background.	Nominations for the George Tragos/Lou Thesz Professional Wrestling Hall of Fame are to be submitted by July 1. Nominations will be reviewed by the selection committee for inclusion into the Hall of Fame. The selection process takes place at the conclusion of the hall of fame inductions.	The George Tragos/Lou Thesz selection committee is composed of all living hall of fame members and Frank Gotch Award winners, as well as wrestling historians Bill Murdock, George Schire, Jason Sanderson, and Mike Mooneyham.	October
Frank Gotch Award	The Frank Gotch Award is given to a professional wrestler who brings positive recognition to the sport through work outside of the ring.	Nominations for the Frank Gotch Award are to be submitted by July 1. Nominations will be reviewed by the selection committee for inclusion into the Hall of Fame. The selection process takes place at the conclusion of the hall of fame inductions.	The Frank Gotch Award is voted on by all living members of the hall of fame and past Frank Gotch Award winners, as well as wrestling historians Bill Murdock, George Schire, and Jason Sanderson.	November
Jim Melby Award	The Jim Melby Award recognizes excellence in professional wrestling journalism.	Nominations for this award may be submitted by anyone.	A special panel from the Eblen Charitable Foundation and the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Dan Gable Museum select this award.	November
Lou Thesz Award	The Lou Thesz Award is given to an individual in wrestling who has taken the skills of the sport into the realm of public service.	Nominations for this award may be submitted by anyone.	A special panel from the Eblen Charitable Foundation and the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Dan Gable Museum select this award.	November
George Tragos Award	An exceptionally competitive wrestler who has adapted his wrestling skills and competitive nature to excel in Mixed Martial Arts.	Nominations for this award may be submitted by anyone.	A special committee of amateur and professional wrestlers will select this award.	November

Alan and Gloria Rice Greco-Roman Hall of Champions				
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Greco-Roman Hall of Champions	An individual who has excelled in the field of Greco-Roman wrestling.	Nominations can be submitted to the Dan Gable Museum.	The Hall of Champions Selection Committee will screen all nominations. All ballots are sent to the Dan Gable Museum for tabulation.	June
Greco-Roman Legacy Award	Given to an individual, group or family who has made great strides for Greco-Roman wrestling.	Nominations can be submitted to the Dan Gable Museum.	Candidates are screened, evaluated and voted on by the Selection Committee.	June