

2018 Ultimate Hall of Fame Look Back Process

Preamble – The Ultimate Hall of Fame (HoF) nomination, selection, and induction process was initiated in 2004. In recent years, suggestions were made to establish a method to review past Player candidates whose window of evaluation had passed. These players fall into two categories: (1) those who previously made the slate of finalists but fell short of induction, and (2) those who may have been overlooked for a variety of reasons, including unanticipated and identified shortcomings in the selection/nomination procedure itself.

With the 50th anniversary celebration of Ultimate occurring in conjunction with the National Championship Tournament in October 2018, it was determined that such a review would be conducted as part of the 2018 Ultimate HoF selection process. The overall HoF selection process continues to be a work in progress, with incremental improvements applied over time, as noted in the 2016 to 2018 Process Improvement Initiatives document shared with the ultimate community. Establishing a “look process” was identified as a desired addition to the process.

The current HoF procedures have served relatively well to maintain a high bar dedicated to identifying, honoring, and inducting elite caliber members of the ultimate community into the Hall. Hence, any reconsideration of past candidates, or other previously overlooked players, should not be done at the expense of lowering the bar. This process is intended to provide assurance to the Ultimate community, and any such candidate who gains induction through this channel, that they are no less deserving.

The following summarizes this review, referred to as the **2018 Look Back Selection Procedure**. It sought to incorporate the best of all proposed ideas, while balancing fairness, feasibility, and quality of review. It should be noted that this is not a “one and done” procedure, and that reconsideration of past candidates or other previously overlooked players is expected to occur periodically, in future years, and there will be incremental improvements to the process. The 2018 procedure included:

1. The initial identification, evaluation, and voting on Look Back player-candidates by three distinct sub-groups composed of geographically representative HoF members, identified as era-appropriate peers, and segmented by gender. The 3 peer sub-groups produced a total of **five** final candidates:
 - a. Men players 1968-1978 - **one** final candidate.
 - b. Women players from 1979-1988 – **two** final candidates.
 - c. Men players from 1979-1988 - **two** final candidates.
2. The 5 final Look Back candidates were included in the final vote by the HoF voting members via the gender-based FINAL BALLOTS.
 - a. To qualify for induction, a Player, Look Back, or Contributor candidate must receive at least 66.6% of the Yes/No vote on the Final Ballot.

All Hall of Famer player-candidates (including the Look Back candidates) were evaluated with the following criteria. All candidates should rank very highly in most, if not all categories.

Dominance - Dominated the game on offense and/or defense despite being matched up against the other team’s best players. As a result, was widely known, acknowledged, and feared as the best (or one of the best) on a nationally competitive team.

Athleticism - Was physically superior to other players. Ran faster, jumped higher, threw better, blocked more often, caught just about everything.

Leadership - Demonstrated exemplary team leadership on and off the field. When you think of his/her team's success, their leadership was an obvious and major factor.

Longevity - Performed at a high level against elite competition in the Club Division **for over a decade**; was not player who shined brightly for only 2-3 years of elite play.

Spirit of the Game Under Pressure - Exhibited exemplary sportsmanship and fair play in the biggest games. Made the right call, maintained composure, earned the respect of opponents.

Stature - Earned respect and admiration across the Ultimate community over the years; her/his induction would enhance, strengthen, and honor the Hall of Fame as an institution.

Team Performance – Led team and excelled in big games at major championships (highest priority placed on Nationals and Worlds).