2018 ULTIMATE HALL OF FAME SELECTION PROCESS

1. **Overview:** The inductees are selected by the Ultimate Hall of Fame Committee, which is appointed by the USA Ultimate Board. Selection involves a four-stage process. The first stage involves “peer voting,” where potential candidates are reviewed and ranked by a group of knowledgeable players, organizers, coaches, team captains, or contributors from their own playing era. The second stage involves winnowing the field down to a slate of candidates through a review of the peer voting results and of written applications solicited by the respective Peer Pool Coordinators and the Vetting Subcommittee. The third stage includes announcing the slate of final candidates to the ultimate community on the USA Ultimate website with a request for comment. The final stage involves sharing the candidate applications and Call to Community comments with the full voting committee, comprised of the Vetting Subcommittee and the Player and Contributor members of the Ultimate Hall of Fame. For 2016 through 2018, the full voting committee will hold 2 rounds of voting and elect up to ten Player category inductees per year. An inductee must receive an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds supermajority of the voters to be selected.

2. **Composition of Selection Committee:** The Ultimate Hall of Fame Committee is comprised of the Vetting Subcommittee and Inaugural, Player, and Contributor members of the Hall of Fame. Hall of Fame inductees will retain the right to vote in the selection process for up to fifteen (15) years after induction. The Vetting Subcommittee is comprised of the Ultimate Hall of Fame Committee Chair, three at-large Hall of Fame Committee members, and one member of the USA Ultimate board.

   - **The Ultimate Hall of Fame Committee Chair** is selected by the Board for a five-year term ending with the 2018 Induction Ceremony/Alumni Reunion.

   - **The at-large Ultimate Hall of Fame Committee members** are to be selected by the Board for a three-year term, with one position expiring each year. There must be at least one male and one female among the three at-large Hall of Fame Committee members.

   - **The USA Ultimate Board member** should be appointed annually by the Board as part of the normal committee assignment process.

For 2018, the members of the Vetting Subcommittee are Suzanne Fields as Vetting Subcommittee Chair (term expires 2018), Robert "Nob" Rauch as Contributor Peer chair (2018), David Barkan as Open Peer chair (carry over for 2018), Gloria LustPhillips as Women’s Division chair (carry over for 2018), and board designee Henry Thorne. Additional at-large committee members were added in 2016 and HoF member, Keay Nakae, will continue to serve in that capacity, in addition to supporting the Open Peer Pool and contributing to the overall process. An additional ad hoc committee member may be added, as needed.

3. **Eligibility Criteria:** There are no geographic restrictions. However, it is expected for a variety of reasons that most inductees (especially in the earlier years) will have the bulk of their career in North America.
a. Player Category Eligibility Criteria & Composition of the Peer Pools

- Former players with a distinguished record of competitive achievement at the highest national and/or international levels, with additional consideration given to integrity, sportsmanship, and character.

- Player candidates must meet the Age requirement. As of the 2018 HoF process, the requirement to be retired from their primary division of play is eliminated. To be eligible for both the Peer Pool and HoF nomination, the respective division’s player candidates must only meet the age-based eligibility guidelines (Masters age plus 10 years) and can be currently-active players in their primary division of competition.

- Peer Pool members include elite caliber competitors and non-Hall of Fame eligible peer pool members who served as regional/sectional coordinators, tournament directors, team captains, and/or coaches fitting eligibility requirements.

- To be eligible for the Peer Pool, players and peer pool members must be the minimum age based on the age limit for the USAU/UPA Masters Division.* In order to ensure that players from the early years of Ultimate get fair consideration, the age limit is Masters age plus 10 years (43 years old for males and 40 for females). For purposes of the age calculation, the candidate must reach the required minimum age by December 31 for the year under consideration. To support ongoing updates to the composition of the respective Peer Pools, consideration will be given to adding individuals who may be within 2 to 3 years of age-eligibility to ensure succession for future years. Deceased candidates are eligible in the year that they would have reached the eligibility age.

* In some cases, Peer Pool members will be added ahead of the Masters age plus 10 years.

- For the 2016 through 2018 campaigns, in addition to the age requirement, eligibility guidelines based on “peak playing period” were put in place for HoF candidates and Peer Pool members. The 2018 eligibility guidelines are shown below; these guidelines do not rule out consideration of the obvious candidate(s) in their first year of eligibility:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Induct:</th>
<th>Peak Playing Period:</th>
<th>DOB: Open/Women</th>
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b. Contributor Category Eligibility Criteria

- Individuals who have made exceptional contributions that have furthered the growth, reputation, and character of the sport, in categories such as development, administration, media, and coaching.

- Contributor candidates do not need to be retired from their activities related to the sport or meet a minimum age criterion.

c. Special Merit Category Eligibility Criteria

- Special Merit category will accommodate all other potential candidates not included in the first two categories, whether teams, equipment, groups, individuals, or whatever, that defined
the nature of the sport or its competitive spirit, or contributed to make Ultimate special, in the context of their day.

- Because of the nature of the category, no more than one Special Merit inductee would be permitted each year, with no requirement for a Special Merit inductee in every year.

d. Other Categories: Other categories will be explored in future years.

4. Selection Process: Selection is a multi-phase process, consisting of candidate procurement, peer review, selection of finalists, an open call to the ultimate community, and final voting. At each stage of the process, interested parties will be given a set of guidelines useful in establishing whether a candidate is worthy of the Hall of Fame.

- **Candidate procurement.** The primary method to produce the initial list of candidates is an iterative peer review process. Nomination forms, Peer Pool Short-Forms, and completed Player Candidate Questionnaires or Contributor applications are also to be solicited from the general USA Ultimate membership and alumni population, specifically through an announcement on the USA Ultimate website. The Vetting Subcommittee may also add names. Finally, candidates carried over from previous elections (see below) are to be added to the list. The candidates themselves or sponsors for the candidates are to produce the Player Candidate Questionnaire and supporting reference letters. Nominations and Completed Player Candidate Questionnaires for 2018 are due by Monday, May 7th, and reference letters are due by Monday, May 14th.

- **Candidate retention.** A nomination is valid for five years, after which a new nomination is required. A Player Candidate Questionnaire is also valid for five years and it may be refreshed each year. Contributor Applications are also valid for five years and may be refreshed each year.

- **Peer review.** The slate of candidates will be peer-reviewed. The process is described in more detail in the Peer Review Process document. For 2018, the Peer Review Process is to be completed by Friday, May 25th.

- **Selection of finalists.** By Sunday, June 3rd, the Ultimate Hall of Fame Vetting Subcommittee is responsible for reducing the slate of candidates to a maximum of 20 individuals, in the Player (Open, Women) category. For each of these candidates, the Vetting Subcommittee (with input as needed from others) will produce a biography or competitive playing history to be considered during the final voting.

- **Call to the Community.** The Slate is announced to the Ultimate Community on the USA Ultimate website, social media platforms, and in the USA Ultimate e-news or equivalent. The community will be asked to provide any review or comment on individual candidates that they would like to have considered. The “call to community” comments submitted to the USA Ultimate website will be provided to the Hall of Fame voters. Responses from the community will be due by Wednesday, June 20th.

- **Final voting.** Each member of the Hall of Fame Committee (Vetting Subcommittee plus voting Inaugural, Player, and Contributor members of the Hall) may cast votes in 2 rounds of voting.
For the 2018 process, we will initiate **gender-based voting** such that those competitors with the “best knowledge” of those whom they played with and against will be selecting their division’s inductees. In this first year of implementing this change, we will provide the option to Hall of Fame voters to designate in which player categories they will cast their ballots.

Voting in the first and second round by HoF members elected in the “Player” Category will be separated along gender lines. Men will only vote for Open Player candidates and women will only vote for Women Player candidates. Both men and women will vote for Contributors and Special Merit candidates, if any.

HoF members elected in the “Contributor” category will have the option to vote in either Open or Women player categories, both player categories, or neither player category. Any such Contributor members who choose to vote in the opposite gender player category will self select themselves as qualified to do so, based on their individual experience and knowledge of player candidates in that category, i.e., history of coaching that player category. Such HoF members must declare their intention as to which category(ies) they will vote in before the voting takes place.

In the first round, HoF Voting Members in the Women’s voting pool and the Open/Men’s voting pool will select their top 5 choices, respectively, from the slate of 10 Open candidates and 10 Women candidates. Participating HoF voters must cast all 5 votes in the first round to be eligible to participate in the second/final round of voting. The top Open and Women vote-getters in each respective gender voting pool receiving the top 50% of votes will automatically advance onto the second round ballot. In the second round, all final voters will be permitted to cast a Yes or No vote for each candidate. Contributor or Special Merit candidates will be voted on by all HoF voters (Open/men, Women, Contributors, and Inaugural HoF voters) using the same Yes or No vote. A ballot may be returned with zero Yes votes. The successful candidates must achieve a two-thirds supermajority to advance to induction. Voting is to be **completed no later than Sunday, July 22nd.** Vote totals will not be announced. The number of proposed candidates and number to be elected may be changed as deemed appropriate.

- After the selection of the new class of inductees each year, the Committee will prepare a write-up for each inductee, in collaboration with the inductee. A press release will be published no later than **Monday, July 30th,** will be posted to the USA Ultimate web site, and published in the USA Ultimate magazine, and announced via social media platforms. A plaque will be made up and sent to each inductee, and they will thereafter be a part of the Committee going forward. Every five years, a formal induction ceremony with a dinner and program will be held for the five years of inductees during the weekend and in the vicinity of the USA Ultimate Club National Championship. **The next induction ceremony will be held with Ultimate’s 50th anniversary in 2018.**