

## Ladysmith Athletic Hall of Fame Frequently Asked Questions:

### 1. Hall of Fame Purpose and History

The school's purpose for the hall of fame is to value the achievements of its athletics, coaches, and community members. The Ladysmith Athletic Hall of Fame will provide a lasting memory to the outstanding achievements of these individuals. The public display of their achievements will serve to advance the tradition and excellence of Ladysmith athletics.

The concept of an Athletic Hall of Fame for Ladysmith schools was launched about two years ago. "We really felt that in the first two years we wanted to really focus on our older population and those alumni to recognize those folks and to start it off that way," Yudes said. Yudes hoped the project could re connect past participants of school athletics with what is going on today in the local schools. "We felt like this is a great way to really bring our alumni back into the fold and recognize those folks that put in a lot of time and energy and effort into athletics," he said. Ladysmith Elementary School

Principal Troy Gago, another organizer, called research on the project "a history lesson" of the school. "There's some really impressive things that have been done here historically that I didn't even realize until they started pulling up names and some of the background information on them and it has been like a history lesson," Gago said. Yudes called the new Ladysmith High School Athletic Hall of Fame a need. "We have a rich history in athletics, and it's something we want to start recognizing folks for," Yudes said.

### 2. Selection Criteria and Process

All inductees this first year were selected based on their achievements while attending or coaching at Ladysmith High School. The committee focused on the 1920-1969 eras for the first year. There will be many more LHS athletes and coaches honored in future years from all eras of Ladysmith athletics.

A rubric helped determine who to induct, focusing on letters, team awards, all conference, scholar athlete finalists, national awards and nominator information. "That's all going to play into it, and then there is a process where they need to gather two letters of recommendation," Yudes said. "It's more than just two or three people. A wide net has been cast to bring people into this."

As we get more organized, the community will be able to fill in the rubric for deserving male and female athletes, coaches, and an additional category of distinguished service. However, this first year the committee decided to research athletes and coaches from the 1920-1969 era. They then nominated a selected group, and from that group, the first ten inductees were selected.

The rubrics for the Hall of Fame will be made available online. To complete the selection process, after the nomination rubric has been filled in, two letters of nomination must be submitted as well. From there the committee will look at all the information and select the next year's inductees. We hope to accomplish this last task soon.

### **3. Why No Women Selected the First Year?**

The committee focused on the 1920-1969 eras for the first year. WIAA didn't recognize girls athletics until the 1970s - swimming 1970, gymnastics, tennis, track 1971, golf 1972, volleyball 1973, cross country 1975, basketball and softball 1976, and soccer in 1983. HON didn't recognize girls athletics until 1971.

LHS women athletes in every sport and coaches in women's sports will be recognized in the future.

### **4. Is This Going to be a One Time Thing or Annual Event?**

This is our first of many, many years to come. There will be many more LHS athletes and coaches honored in future years from all eras of Ladysmith athletics, men, women, coaches, and have a category designated for distinguished service.

We need community, alumni, and area sports enthusiasts input to help with this process to make it a tradition and as Athletic Director Kirk Yudes said, "We have a rich history in athletics," With this Hall of Fame it will be an avenue for those folks to be recognized and the community and students a chance to celebrate its history.