

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD GENERAL CRITERIA**

Nominees must exemplify the highest standards of professional ethics, sportsmanship, moral character, and carry the endorsement of their local high school.

Categories under the Distinguished Service Awards are:

Administrator, Board of Education, Coach, Contributor, Director, and Official.

A form is provided via the NDHSAA website for expediency in understanding the primary areas in which an individual is to be considered, based on his/her achievements in promoting interscholastic activities. The grouping is for screening purposes only and to assist those making the nominations in understanding the type of information required.

To further explain, school administrators would be considered on the merits of their high school administrative achievements and contributions to interscholastic activities. Board of education nominees would be considered on the merits of their contributions to interscholastic activities, especially on a state level. Coaches would be considered on the merits of their high school coaching achievements only. A contributor would be an individual who has made a contribution to interscholastic activities in some other capacity other than those previously mentioned (may include such areas as sports medicine, sports media, or reporting other school activities). Directors would be considered for their contributions to the interscholastic activities in their school and on a state wide basis. The officials would be considered on the basis of their service as a high school official, adjudicator, judge, etc.

All candidates will be judged on their significant and/or long term contributions to interscholastic activities. While many have served their local programs over a long and distinguished career, longevity without meaningful state impact does not constitute appropriate credentials for Distinguished Service Award consideration. **Their accomplishments must have been worthy of state recognition for them to be considered.**

An appointed selections committee will review the nominations at the April Board of Directors meeting with a final list submitted to the entire Board of Directors at the June Annual Meeting.

Nominees approved as recipients of the Distinguished Award will receive recognition at an appropriate NDHSAA sponsored event during the 2006-2007 school year. Other nominees will be categorized into "inactive" and "holding" status. "Inactive" nominees will require additional information and supportive materials before receiving future consideration for the Distinguished Service Award. Those candidates in the "hold" category may merit future consideration based on the evaluation of the Selection Committee and the final evaluation of the Board of Directors.

All nominations must be submitted on official Distinguished Service Award Nomination Forms from the NDHSAA website.