Dixie Boys Baseball Hall of Fame



Press Release: November 16, 2016 Office of the Commissioner... Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc. J. Sandy Jones - jjones29@sw.rr.com

The Board of Directors of Dixie Boys Baseball created a Hall of Fame to honor those that have served the organization in an exemplary manner. Dixie Boys Baseball is pleased to announce the latest Hall of Fame inductees representing the Class of 2016.

Class of 2016

★ Charles Alexander....Florence, Alabama – Charles has spent fifty years as a supporter of youth baseball. He started his career in 1966 as a coach & within two years became one of the founding members of the Underwood, Alabama franchise. He served Dixie Majors Baseball in many ways. For his untiring efforts, Alabama Dixie Majors Baseball co-named their two state sportsmanship awards in his honor. His outstanding character has provided a shining example for all.

➤ Donnie Davis....Dillwyn, Virginia – Donnie made many lasting contributions to Dixie Baseball. He coached teams for numerous years and has held the positions of District Director for Virginia Dixie Majors Baseball and Dixie Majors State Director. For thirteen years (1993-2005), he served the organization as a National Board Member. His strong commitment allowed young people to excel both on and off the baseball field. He was a real inspiration to all that served with him.

George F. Harris....LaGrange, Georgia – George was posthumously named to the Hall of Fame. For twenty-one years, he served as a National Board Member and the Assistant State Director for the Georgia Dixie Boys organization. The program flourished during his tenure. With a parks & recreation professional career spanning 50 years, he developed relationships. He dedicated his life to ensuring that youth had opportunities to participate in recreational activities.

★ Billy Herrin....Guntersville, Alabama – Billy has been actively involved with youth baseball for forty-seven years. He has ably served on the state and national level with Dixie Boys Baseball. His long term commitment started as a coach for 16 years. In 1974, he became a member of the Guntersville Parks & Recreation Board of Directors and in 1980 was named the Board Chairman. He has served the City of Guntersville and Dixie Boys Baseball in an excellent manner.

★ Steve Sherrill....Dothan, Alabama — Steve has provided many years of dedicated service to Dixie Boys Baseball at the local, state and national level. Alabama Dixie Boys District Six is noted for having the largest district in the history of the organization. In 2009, he landed the job as the Ozark Leisure Services Director. With his strong leadership skills, the rebirth of historic Eagle Stadium occurred. His passion for baseball has resulted in the hosting of countless major events.

J. Sandy Jones, Commissioner/CEO stated, "Dixie Boys Baseball is pleased to formally announce our Hall of Fame: Class of 2016. The five members of the Class of 2016 have all made outstanding contributions to the organization. It is a real privilege to be able to honor each individual. All have dedicated their time and talents and as such allowed young people to have the opportunity to play youth baseball. It was fitting that their peers were able to attend an induction ceremony. We sincerely thank each Hall of Fame member."

The Board in 2011 approved an individual deserving of immediate recognition as a Hall of Fame Member. As such the Class of 2011 included only one member: W.E. "Bubba" Brasher. Mr. Brasher, Founder of Dixie Boys Baseball was recognized at a special ceremony held on November 10, 2011 in Alexandria, Louisiana. Dixie Boys Baseball was incorporated in 1957 by members of the Alexandria Youth Baseball program. It was the desire of Mr. Brasher and twenty- one other incorporators to create a baseball program for youth age 13 and above.

The Hall of Fame Task Force in concurrence with the Dixie Boys Baseball Board of Directors also named the Class of 2012. This class was comprised of those that had achieved the status of "Life Members" within the Dixie Boys Baseball Inc. organization. Fourteen (14) individuals were included as Class of 2012 Hall of Fame inductees. The inclusion of each 2012 member to the Hall of Fame was based on their many outstanding contributions and dedicated volunteer service to the organization. A perpetual plaque recognizing their achievements was created.

The ten members of the Class of 2013 were all program pioneers and made a large imprint on the organization. Members of the Class of 2013 (immediate family in the case of those deceased) were recognized throughout the 2013 calendar year for their lasting impact on the organization. Each member made significant sacrifices and all faithfully served during the period that the program reached record numbers.

The eight members of the Class of 2014 were all easily recognizable as each had either ascended to positions of national leadership, prominence within their state program, or unequaled success as a coach on the field. Their dedicated service was vital for the Dixie Boys Baseball organization. All eight members were appropriately recognized during 2014 tournament play. Each member has made a lasting mark on the organization and were rightfully honored for their contributions.

The six members of the Class of 2015 were noted for their outstanding personal contributions to the program. Likely, no other Hall of Fame Class had as many combined years of dedicated service as this particular class. The inductees of the 2015 Class represented the "grassroots approach" to local leagues. Each member played a key role in insuring that youth at the local level had the opportunity to participate in the Dixie Boys/Majors Baseball program.

J. Sandy Jones, Commissioner/CEO stated, "I want to commend the Board of Directors for their support of the Hall of Fame. Dixie Boys Baseball is extremely blessed to have outstanding leadership found in our local leagues, eleven state organizations, umpire's program, and within the Executive Board. Most of the real unsung heroes of this program never receive the recognition that they deserve. With a solid foundation dating back to 1957, we have truly benefited from the many noteworthy contributions made on behalf of the program. We are indebted to those that have given so much in service to our youth."

More information related to the Hall of Fame will be made available during the 2017 season.