

Dixie Boys Baseball Hall of Fame



Press Release: November 19, 2018
Office of the Commissioner... Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc.
J. Sandy Jones - jjones29@sw.rr.com

Dixie Boys Baseball is pleased to announce the latest inductees representing the Hall of Fame: Class of 2018. The Board of Directors of Dixie Boys Baseball created the Hall of Fame to honor those that have served the organization in an extraordinary manner.

Class of 2018

- ★ Jimmy Blaine.... Kosciusko, Mississippi – Jimmy Blaine served as the Mississippi Dixie Majors State Director from 2008 until his late 2017 retirement. Prior to this role, he served as a District Director, local league official and as a baseball coach within the Dixie organization. He also supported the annual Dixie Future Stars Wood Bat Tournament through securing teams from Mississippi to participate in the event. He approached each role with a very positive attitude.
- ★ Ken Nelson.... Forest, Virginia – Ken has provided dedicated service as the Virginia Dixie Boys State Director for over 23 years. Prior to this role, he served as an umpire, district director and a local league official. The national organization has greatly benefited from his involvement as a long-standing member of both the national scholarship committee and official rules committee. As the current state director, Ken remains actively involved with all aspects of the Dixie program.
- ★ Rocky Thomas.... Moncks Corner, South Carolina – Rocky was posthumously named to the Hall of Fame. He was elected as the South Carolina Dixie Majors State Director in 1985 and served in this important role until 2005. The State of South Carolina Majors program during his tenure included a record number of leagues & teams. He was very loyal and supportive of Dixie Baseball. Rocky had a great interest in the successful Dixie National teams that represented the program.

J. Sandy Jones, Commissioner/CEO stated, “We are delighted to name our Hall of Fame: Class of 2018. The three members of this class have all made significant contributions. Each inductee provided their time and talents allowing young people to have the opportunity to play baseball. It is a privilege for Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc. to be able to recognize and honor the 2018 class.”

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.

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.

Five very deserving individuals were named to the Class of 2016. The cornerstone of this class was many years of outstanding service provided by four inductees as national board members. The fifth inductee created an unmatched resume as a World Series local host chairman. Each member of the Class of 2016 included a minimum of twenty-five years of volunteer service with youth baseball. The significant contributions have positively shaped the overall organization.

The Class of 2017 included: Ronnie Adams, Melvin Allen, Malcolm Bartlett, Gayle Crowell and Dave Davidson. Mr. Bartlett, a program pioneer was posthumously named to the Hall of Fame. Adams, Allen, Crowell and Davidson all served vital roles representing their state organizations. Each of the 2017 inductees was selected for their long-term impact on Dixie Boys & Dixie Majors Baseball. A perpetual plaque recognizing their achievements is found in the National Office.

J. Sandy Jones, Commissioner/CEO stated, “Dixie Boys Baseball is extremely blessed to have outstanding volunteer leadership found in our local leagues, eleven state organizations, umpire’s program, and within the Executive Board. Many of the real torch bearers of this program never received the recognition that they deserve. With a rock-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 2019 season.