

RANGER HALL OF FAME BYLAWS

ARTICLE I- NAME

Section 1. The official name of the Ranger Hall of Fame shall be the Ranger Hall of Fame or RHOF.

ARTICLE II - MISSION

Section 1. To honor and preserve the influences of the most extraordinary U.S. Rangers and civilians in American history who have given a life of selfless service and contributions to the Ranger community. To identify and highlight individuals as role models for current era Rangers and to educate the public on the culture of the U.S. Army Rangers.

ARTICLE III - CONCEPT

Section 1. PRECEPTS

The precepts of the Ranger Hall of Fame are impartiality, fairness, and scrutiny to ensure the most well deserved individuals are inducted. Inductees will be impartially selected by the Ranger associations and current RHOF members who have met the eligibility criteria to be RHOF board voting members. The Ranger Hall of Fame will be composed of only active-duty and veteran Ranger associations and current RHOF members recognized by the Ranger Hall of Fame and have been granted representation on the RHOF voting board.

Section 2. RHOF VOTING BOARD MEMBERS

The members of the RHOF voting board will be the current president of the following Ranger associations or a representative designated by the president of each Ranger association.

- 1) President, Ranger Hall of Fame (non-voting member)
- 2) Ranger Hall of Fame Coordinator (non-voting member)
- 3) Senior Available Officer, 75th Ranger Regiment
- 4) Senior Available Non-Commissioned Officer, 75th Ranger Regiment
- 5) Senior Available Officer, Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade
- 6) Senior Available Non-Commissioned Officer, Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade
- 7) President, The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. (75RRA)
- 8) President, The United States Army Ranger Association, Inc. (USARA)
- 9) President, World-Wide Army Rangers, Inc.
- 10) President, United States Mountain Ranger Association (USMRA)
- 11) Association President's Selected RHOF Member
- 12) Association President's Selected RHOF Member

Section 3. NOMINATION QUOTAS

The yearly RHOF nomination quotas are as follows:

- a. Each RHOF voting association can submit a maximum of two current RHOF member association names to be on the RHOF voting board when deemed necessary by the board president. Both individuals will serve a three-year tenure on the RHOF board as a voting member. There is no limit to how many times a RHOF member can serve on a board if he is re-elected by the board at the end of his three-year tenure. Voting procedures will be the same as conducted during the RHOF board.
- b. Each Ranger association and U.S. Army MACOM may submit a maximum of three nominations per year.
- c. Members of the Ranger Hall of Fame may submit one nomination per year. If the number of RHOF member submitted packets exceeds five, the president will convene an executive board and vote for the top five nominees to be submitted to the RHOF voting board.

Up to fifteen nominations per RHOF year can be selected for entrance into the Hall of Fame, including Emergency Induction, but not including Honorary Inductions or Medal of Honor recipients who meet the eligibility criteria. There is no minimum number of nominees inducted each year. Neither Honorary nominations nor Medal of Honor recipient nominations will count towards a nominating party's yearly quota.

ARTICLE IV - VETERAN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Section 1. TIME REQUIREMENTS

At the time of nomination, the person must meet one of the following criteria:

- a. Deceased
- b. Separated or retired from active military service for at least three years or retired from civilian service to an active-duty Army Ranger unit or Army Ranger training unit for at least one year. This one-year requirement is waived for Medal of Honor recipients.

Section 2. NOMINEE REQUIREMENTS

- a. The nominee must have served in a Ranger unit in combat or be a successful graduate of the U.S. Army Ranger School. A Ranger unit are those units recognized in Ranger lineage or history. This list includes both American and Allied Ranger units. All Nominees must have served in the United States Military. Achievement or service may be measured in terms of an individual who leaves the Armed Forces and serves the nation from a position in local, state, or national government or displays the outstanding character and leadership in the private or business sector.

- b. Medal of Honor recipients who have earned the Ranger Tab are automatically eligible for RHOF consideration on discharge from service.
- c. No person's name can come before the RHOF Executive Board or the RHOF Voting Board for a vote more than three (3) times. After the third time at either Board, the packet will be ineligible for further consideration. This provision begins with all packets appearing before the 2009 Ranger Hall of Fame Board selection.

ARTICLE V -HONORARY AND CIVILIAN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The distinction of membership in the RHOF can be conferred on individuals in the private sector who do not meet the normal eligibility criteria. Honorary induction is in recognition of extraordinary contributions to Ranger units, the Ranger Memorial Foundation, or the Ranger community in general.

Section 1. NOMINATION CRITERIA

Each association, RHOF member, or MACOM can nominate one honorary candidate each year for selection to the Ranger Hall of Fame. Only two honorary nominees can be inducted each year. An honorary nomination will not count against the three nominations each association is allocated each year.

At the time of nomination, the person must meet one of the following.

- a. Deceased
- b. Separated or retired from active military service or civilian service to an active-duty Army Ranger unit or Army Ranger training unit for a minimum of (3) three years. Civilian service to the previous organizations is defined as an employee or contractor for one of the above organizations, or employee or sub-contractor for a United States government contract holding company, that while an employee, performs duties in a direct official or direct work-related capacity for an Army Ranger unit or Army Ranger training unit.
- c. Honorary induction is in recognition of extraordinary contributions to Ranger units, the Ranger Memorial Foundation, or the Ranger community. Exemplary performance in duty while working in an official civilian capacity is not enough to qualify for induction. The nominee should have illustrated the highest levels of dedication and service to the Ranger community in a position that contributed significantly, measurably, and undeniably beyond the service normally rendered in any official capacity to (for) Rangers.
- d. No honorary nomination may appear before the board more than three times, beginning with RHOF voting board in 2010.
- e. Honorary members will receive the same recognition as normal RHOF members.

ARTICLE VI--NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS TIMELINE

The timeline for submission of nominations will be formalized as follows (timeline based on ceremony date; C = Ceremony day):

- a. C-240: Digital packets containing a letter from the current RHOF president, the RHOF bylaws, and the nomination packet with instructions will be sent via email to the president of each (the) voting Ranger associations. The digital packet will also be sent to Army Knowledge Online (AKO) and Infantry Branch at HRC for dissemination to Major Commands and Army Combatant Commanders
- b. C-180: All digital nomination packets must be received no later than 180 days prior to the RHOF Ceremony. Nominations will be screened for all requirements IAW the RHOF bylaws. Those nominations lacking required information will be returned via email to the nominating individual for correction and must be returned to the RHOF Coordinator no later than C-130.
- c. C-130: The RHOF Coordinator will send a digital copy of all the nomination packets to the RHOF Voting Board members for their review prior to the convening of the Voting Board. The Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade will send a copy of the cost analysis to each of the Voting Board Association members.
- d. C-100: The RHOF Executive Board will convene at a location to be determined, review nominations, and select inductees IAW the RHOF bylaws. Any RHOF voting board member unable to attend must ensure the RHOF Coordinator received the absentee ballot NLT the date specified for the convening of the RHOF voting board. If a board member from the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade or the 75th Ranger Regiment is unable to attend the Honorary Colonel, Honorary Command Sergeant Major, or a designated representative can attend and vote in their place.
- e. C-90: The RHOF Coordinator will notify each inductee, and nominating association, or nominating RHOF member as required, of the voting board results.
- f. C-60: If required, the nominating party will provide the name of the person designated to receive the RHOF medallion at the induction ceremony to the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade if the inductee is unable to attend or is deceased. RHOF ceremony information packets will then be sent to each inductee by the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade. A courtesy copy will be sent to each nominating party.
- g. Prior to the RHOF ceremony, the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade will conduct an information briefing and rehearsal of the induction ceremony for inductees.

The nomination and selection process timeline may be shortened or expanded by the RHOF Board President, based on the needs of any specific year, but the time from the distribution of the RHOF nomination packet to the time of that year's Voting Board will never be less than four months.

ARTICLE VII - VOTING BOARD PROCEDURES

Voting procedures for RHOF member voting board members, executive board proceedings, and the voting board will be conducted in the same manner.

- a. Each voting member of the committee will record a numerical score on a scale of 0 to 5 on his ballot for each nominee (0 being the lowest score and 5 the highest). Once voting is complete, the RHOF Coordinator will generate an order of merit list beginning with the nominee who received the highest total score and ending with the nominee who achieved the lowest total score. Any voting board member that gives a candidate a "0" will have to justify orally their reason prior to the voting being complete.
- b. Regardless of a nominee's rank on the order of merit list, the minimum total score required for induction is 30 points. The minimum score of 30 points is based on the mathematical average score derived from the total possible score that could be received from ten committee members. For example: if all ten members scored the candidate a "3" then his score would equal 30 points. Therefore, any combination of votes totaling a score of 30 would be equivalent to the absolute average.
- c. Medal of Honor recipients are inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame with a majority yes or no vote by the board.
- d. On conclusion of the voting board, the recorder will prepare a memorandum for record detailing the proceedings and the list of inductees and forward to the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade
- e. The Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade will keep a digital copy of each RHOF inductee's nomination packet for historical purposes.
- f. All voting ballots will be maintained for one year by the RHOF Coordinator once the RHOF induction ceremony is completed.
- g. All questions concerning the results of the RHOF voting board will be referred to the RHOF Board President in writing by an associations' president or nominating RHOF member/MACOM if not affiliated with an association.
- h. **No board member is authorized to disclose board proceedings.**

ARTICLE VIII - INDUCTION CEREMONY

The Ranger Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held during the summer months at Fort Benning, Georgia.

ARTICLE IX - RHOF OPERATING EXPENSES

The total cost of the yearly RHOF expenses will be shared evenly by the RHOF voting associations. The Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade will present a RHOF budget with all expenses to the board NLT C-130.

ARTICLE X - BYLAW CHANGES

A 2/3 majority vote by the RHOF voting board is required to approve any substantive changes to the bylaws. Proposed (Proposing) changes to the bylaws will be made in writing and endorsed by an association president to the RHOF board president.

ARTICLE XI--NOMINATION FORMAT

Section 1. NOMINATION PACKET

A digital nomination packet will be distributed with a letter from the board president and a memorandum of instruction. The complete packet will be required to be returned to the RHOF Coordinator in accordance with the published timeline. The RHOF Coordinator's email address will be included in that year's RHOF Memorandum of Instruction. All packets must be submitted by the nominating association president, Ranger Hall of Fame member, or the MACOM's General Officer or it will be ineligible for consideration.

The digital packet will be pre-formatted and include detailed instructions on providing the following information:

TAB A: A letter of nomination endorsing the nominee's consideration for induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame. The letter of nomination must be written by the nominating association president, Ranger Hall of Fame member, or the MACOM's General Officer.

TAB B: Ranger Assignments to include military duty positions.

TAB C: A biography of the nominee to include military service, civilian service (if applicable) and achievements which embody the Ranger spirit and keeping in the tradition of the Ranger Hall of Fame.

TAB D: Nominee's contact information or closest relative, if deceased. The nominating association president, RHOF member, or MACOM's contact information.

TAB E: A proposed citation of the nominee for display in the RHOF. Citations can be edited without the consent of the nominator for content and grammar errors.

TAB F: One 8x 10 high-resolution digital photograph of the nominee suitable for display.

TAB G: A copy of the candidate's (if military) DD214, DD215, and/or **AHRC Form 1569 (U.S. Army Human Resources Command Transcript of Military Records)** (if service member died while on active duty), Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. The report of separation form issued in most recent years is DD214 and DD215 if applicable, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. Before January 1, 1950, several similar forms were used by the military services (the military services used several similar forms) , including the WD AGO 53, WD AGO 55, WD AGO 53-55, NAVPERS 553, NAVMC 78PD, and the NAVCG 553. This military document is required so awards can be verified. The DD214/DD215 are the preferred documents. On a case by case basis, the board will consider using an ORB/ERB, or orders of specific assignments or awards. See the following web address on one method to obtain the candidate's DD214. <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

Additionally, nominating Ranger Associations or RHOF Members are required to verify awards of nominees of the Silver Star or higher. Verification can be made by requesting and reviewing copies of award orders/citations of the Silver Star and higher by using the new DOD awards database (see <http://valor.defense.gov/>) or the Military Times database which is 99% complete (see <http://www.militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/>).

ARTICLE XII-RHOF VOTING BOARD

Section 1. RHOF VOTING BOARD QUALIFICATION

The RHOF Voting Board determines the best-qualified nominees to be inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. Every member of the RHOF voting board must have served in combat. Combat as defined by RHOF is as follows:

- 1) A conflict in which the participant has served in an area designated by the President of the United States or Congress as subject to special war or conflict entitlements or decorations.
- 2) An area designated as a war zone by the President of the United States or Congress, for members of the United States Armed Services conducting operations in that area.
- 3) An area of hostility outside the United States and its territories, where credible documentation shows the Ranger was serving under the direction of the President of the United States and while serving in that area, credible evidence shows the Ranger conducted direct hostile action against, or was the subject of direct or immediate and imminent hostile action by a designated enemy combatant according to the Rules of Engagement for the operation.

Section 2. RHOF VOTING BOARD COMPOSITION

The RHOF Voting Board consists of the following individuals:

- a. **President.** The president of the Board will be a current RHOF member elected by a majority vote by the voting board. The president will serve a term of no more than (3) three years, but there is no limit to the number of terms he may serve. A standing president may be removed and replaced prior to the completion of his (3) three-year term by a majority vote of the voting board. He will serve as a non-voting member unless there is a tie anywhere during the nomination process. The president will not fill a dual role as an association representative. On being replaced as president of the RHOF Board the outgoing individual perform the duties as directed by the president in the event he cannot perform his duties due to extenuating circumstances.
- b. **Association Member.** A representative from a voting association, the senior available officer and non-commissioned of the 75th Ranger Regiment and Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade and current RHOF members as required. Association voting members are the president of their association or a designated representative. An association's RHOF representative must have served in combat in a Ranger unit. The board president can request credible documentation by any voting board member to ensure he is qualified to perform the required duties. The voting member's association for whom an (whom an) individual represents must be able to provide credible documentation at the request of the board president that he is qualified to perform the required duties. If the voting member's association attempts to deceive the board, that association is subject to a loss of RHOF voting rights by a 2/3 majority vote by the board. For an Association to remain a voting member of the Ranger Hall of Fame Executive Board, they must have an elected President and must have paid the Ranger Hall of Fame dues for the upcoming Ranger Hall of Fame Ceremony.
- c. **RHOF Voting Board Member.** When required, generally after a three-year term, the board president will announce that a voting board member selection process will convene to add or retain voting members on the board. The board president will determine how many new voting board members will be added when needed. Each voting Association is eligible to submit one current RHOF member per requirement for consideration by the board to become a voting board member. The RHOF voting board member will serve a term of three years, but there is no limit to the number of terms he may serve. A standing RHOF voting board member may be removed and replaced prior to the completion of his three- year term by a majority vote of the voting board. Each RHOF voting board member nominee will undergo the same voting selection process as a RHOF packet. Those RHOF voting board members will hold the same rights and responsibilities as an association president voting board member. The selected RHOF member must be able to provide credible documentation at the request of the board president that he is qualified to perform the required duties.

- d. The Senior available officer and non-commissioned officer of the 75th Ranger Regiment and Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade or a designated representative as required due to deployment or other matter preventing their attendance.

Section 3. RHOF BOARD DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities:

- a. President: Preside over the RHOF voting board. The president is only a voting member in the event of a tie.
- b. Voting Members: Responsible for review of all nomination packets prior to the board and come prepared to make recommendations in accordance with the board procedures.
- c. RHOF Coordinator: A non-voting member of the board who sends announcements and information references as required. Distribution of RHOF nomination packets.
 - 1) Serve as the focal point for all questions or problems concerning the nomination and selection process.
 - 2) Send an acknowledgment of receipt of nomination packets.
 - 3) Prepares a record of proceedings for historical files that includes an order of merit list and who will be inducted into RHOF that year.
 - 4) Prepare a historical record of the number of times a nominee has appeared before the RHOF voting board. This list will begin at the 2009 RHOF board

Section 4. RHOF EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR RHOF MEMBER SUBMITTED NOMINATIONS

An executive board will be formed to determine the five mostly highly qualified nominees of RHOF member submitted nomination packets if it exceeds five nominations for that year. The board president will determine who will comprise the executive board, if required.

- 1) Executive board must consist of individuals that are RHOF members. The executive board must be composed of individuals who have not submitted a RHOF member nomination.
- 2) The executive board may submit their votes by convening in person, via email, teleconference, or postal mail on the voting ballot provided by the RHOF Coordinator.
- 3) Each executive board member will rank order the RHOF member submitted packets in order of qualification with 1 being the highest. The scores from the board members will be added and the top five nominees will be selected to move onto the RHOF voting board.

- 4) The results of the RHOF executive board are submitted to the board president for review prior to the convening of the RHOF voting board.

Section 5. ASSOCIATION PETITIONING REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME A RHOF VOTING MEMBER

Associations that meet the criteria below and desire to be included as a RHOF voting association may petition, in writing, to the RHOF president. To be included as a RHOF voting association.

RHOF Voting Association criteria:

- 1) Must have an elected president.
- 2) Must have a formalized RHOF packet nomination or committee.
- 3) The requesting association will present their current bylaws and all other requested documentation to the RHOF board for review.
- 4) A 2/3 majority vote by the RHOF board will be required for requesting an association to be added as a RHOF voting association.
- 5) Associations added as a RHOF voting association will be immediately granted all rights, privileges, and obligations of existing voting members.

Section 6. CENSURE FOR ASSOCIATION MISCONDUCT

Any association in violation of the provisions of these bylaws by an act of omission or commission is subject to loss of voting representation.

- 1) Censured associations must send a written appeal, signed by their president, to the Executive Board President, within thirty days of their censure if they wish to contest.
- 2) Associations have the right to plead their defense before the RHOF board and have the right to examine all evidence of misconduct as collected by the board.
- 3) Punitive measures against associations may be emplaced by a 2/3s majority vote of the remainder of the Executive Board. The length of time for loss of voting privileges will be at the board's discretion. This is the only punitive measure that can be taken against an association by the RHOF board.
- 4) Infractions subject to these provisions are limited to misconduct by member association RHOF nomination boards or representatives. Misconduct is defined as, but not limited to:
 - a. RHOF voting representatives failing to meet voting representative requirements

- b. Associations added to the RHOF Executive Board as voting members after 2009, whose composition or structure fails to meet the criteria for entrance as a voting member of the RHOF
- c. RHOF voting representatives or member association officers who disclose voting results before the agreed on date, or knowingly submitting false or misleading information in an association endorsed nomination packet.

ARTICLE XIII--APPEALS AND OBJECTIONS

Section 1. Any appeal or objection to the RHOF board results will be directed to the board president, in writing NLT C+15. The appeal or objection letter must include official documentation supporting the claim.

Section 2. The appeal or objection memorandum letter must be endorsed by a RHOF voting Ranger Association president or his designated representative.

Section 3. Once the board president has been notified of an appeal, the RHOF Coordinator will notify the Ranger Association or individual RHOF member who submitted the nominee's packet that is under consideration for appeal or objection. From the time of notification, the Ranger Association or individual RHOF member who submitted the packet will have 15 days to submit all official documentation refuting the appeal or objection to the RHOF Coordinator.

Section 4. A 2/3 majority vote by the RHOF voting board will determine the outcome of the appeal or objection. Each voting member will be presented with all evidence from both parties. No late submissions of evidence will be accepted. If there exists outstanding circumstances preventing the information from being submitted within the 15 day deadline, notify the RHOF president immediately to be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Section 5. The 2/3 majority vote is final for all appeals and objections. A nominee who was removed due to an appeal does not preclude that individual from being nominated again during a later year.

Section 6. Appeals or objections by associations who have been subject to censure in the past are still valid so as long that the appeal and censure do not occur during the same year.

ARTICLE XIV--EMERGENCY INDUCTION PROCEDURES

Emergency procedures to honor a future Ranger Hall of Fame nominee prior to his passing. Eligibility Criteria: The nominee must be critically ill. The board president will confirm his health status and eligibility for RHOF membership. This nomination will be counted against the nominating association, RHOF member, or MACOM's quota.

Section 1. The procedures outlined below will be followed:

- a. Notify a current voting board member and provide a complete nomination packet
- b. An emergency RHOF voting board will convene. All voting members will be contacted and a minimum of five individuals is required to move proceedings forward.
- c. The nominee must receive a unanimous "YES" vote from all contacted members to be inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame.

ARTICLE XV--HALL OF FAME

Section 1. The Ranger Hall of Fame will be located at the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade, Headquarters, Fort Benning, Georgia until such time that a more suitable Ranger Hall of Fame facility is identified and made available.

Section 2. The board process will be administered by an organization as designated by the Ranger Hall of Fame Board and the induction ceremony and dinner will be administered by an organization as designated by the Ranger Hall of Fame Board. (Remove any reference to 75th RR and ARTB.)

Section 3. Following the RHOF induction ceremony, the inductee's photo and citation will be permanently placed in the Ranger Hall of Fame in alphabetic order by induction year.

Section 4. To honor the RHOF inductees, a medallion and lapel pin is presented to each individual to the closest living relative during induction ceremony.

Section 5. Each inductee's name is engraved on the wall at the Ranger Memorial.

ARTICLE XVI--REMOVAL OF RANGER HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

Section 1. The Ranger Hall of Fame board can remove a member of the Ranger Hall of Fame because of conduct that dishonors the RHOF.

Section 2. The board will convene a meeting to vote on the removal of a Ranger Hall of Fame Member. A 2/3 majority vote by the RHOF board is required to remove a member from the Ranger Hall of Fame.

ARTICLE XVII--INDUCTEE INFORMATION AND CITATION CHANGES

Section 1. Ranger Associations and Individual Packet Sponsors are responsible for the contents of their packets. Any Inductee or family member will be referred to their packet sponsor to start an official request for change to their Packet information. Other than grammatical errors, any submission for changes to name, rank or information in the citation of a packet that has already been voted on must adhere to the following protocol:

- a. All information will be gathered and consolidated by the Ranger Association or Individual Packet Sponsor who originally submitted the packet. The Association or Packet Sponsor will then submit the request for change and all related documentation to the RHOF Coordinator.
- b. The RHOF Coordinator will distribute the request for change and all related documentation to the Voting Board for vote.
- c. The Voting Board has 15 days to review documentation and confer with each other. Voting is due back to the RHOF Coordinator NLT 15 days from the date received.
- d. A 2/3 majority vote is needed to implement the requested changes.