

VIRGINIA SPORTS HALL OF FAME



Media Release

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Virginia Sports Hall of Fame To Host 2024 Induction in Henrico County

51st Induction Weekend events to be held, April 19 & 20, 2024, at Sports & Events Center

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA – For the first time in the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame’s 52 year history, the Hall’s Induction Weekend activities will be held outside the 757-area code. The Hall, in conjunction with Henrico County, will host its 2024 Induction Weekend events at Henrico County’s new Sports & Events Center on April 19 & 20, 2024.

The 2024 Induction events will include a *Sponsor Welcome Reception* on Friday, April 19, *Breakfast with Champions* the morning of Saturday, April 20, and the **2024 Hall of Fame Reception & Induction Ceremony** later that evening. Both Saturday events will be held at the Sports & Events Center.

“We are extremely excited to share this premier event with a new audience”, says Hall of Fame Board of Directors Chairman, Marty Miller. “As the Official Sports Hall of Fame in the Commonwealth, we must create visibility and provide engagement opportunities in other areas of the state. The capital region was a natural next step and we’re thankful for the partnerships that have formed.”

The idea of hosting the Induction in Central Virginia was pushed forward by Henrico Sports & Entertainment Authority (HSEA) Executive Director, Dennis Bickmeier, and longtime CAA Commissioner and 2019 Virginia Sports Hall of Fame inductee, Tom Yeager.

“We are thrilled to announce another signature event for the new sports center,” said Dennis Bickmeier, Executive Director of the Henrico Sports & Entertainment Authority. “To be part of the Hall’s strategy for a greater presence in the state is a fantastic opportunity, and we look forward to making the 2024 Induction Weekend one that both the inductees and sports fans won’t forget.”

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In addition to the Induction Weekend events, the Hall of Fame and HSEA previously announced a physical exhibit presence in the Sports & Events Center highlighting the Hall's inductees with ties to Central Virginia. The exhibit will be unveiled next Spring prior to the 2024 Induction Weekend. This outreach into Central Virginia is part of a broader strategy put forth by the Hall of Fame and its Board of Directors.

"We aim to be innovative in our approach and create a platform that is unique to the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame," says Hall of Fame Executive Director, Will Driscoll. "The exhibit at the Sports & Events Center and the 2024 Induction are both major steps in that process. We hope adding these to the exhibits and event presence we currently have in Virginia Beach will lead to even more growth in other areas of the state."

The Hall of Fame's Screening and Honors Court Committees will meet in the Fall to review open nominations and select the new class of inductees, with a formal announcement targeted for late November. The deadline to submit a nomination for consideration is Friday, September 1. Nominations can be submitted online through the Hall's website, or mailed to Hall's administrative office.

General information regarding the 2024 Induction Weekend can be found at the Hall of Fame's website, www.vasportshof.com. Sponsorship and ticket information will be released this fall. Any questions regarding the Induction Weekend events can be directed to Will Driscoll, driscollw@VaSportsHOF.com

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About the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame:

Since 1972, the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame has been proud to honor Virginia's contributions to the world of sports. As the Commonwealth's official hall of fame, our mission is to honor athletic excellence, and serve as a nonprofit resource highlighting philanthropy through sports, while inspiring sports fans through programming and engaging entertainment.

About the Henrico Sports & Entertainment Authority

The Henrico Sports & Entertainment Authority is responsible for the county's sports tourism program which brings in over \$65M in economic impact annually as well as the management of Henrico's public/private investments. This includes the new 185,000-square-foot Henrico Sports & Events Center and the future 17,000-seat arena at the GreenCity site. Other public/private facilities that fall under the Authority are Belmont Golf Course and the Frank J. Thornton YMCA Aquatic Center.