



FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO AMA HALL OF FAME: HOW IT HAPPENS

BY ROB DINGMAN

One of the many benefits of AMA membership is free admission to the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame, which is where the careers and lives of 486 inducted Motorcycle Hall of Famers are celebrated and remembered.

In addition, AMA *Life Members* get to vote on who gets inducted into the Motorcycle Hall of Fame, a legitimate honor itself.

As a quick refresher, the Museum and the Hall of Fame are operated under the auspices of the American Motorcycle Heritage Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit subsidiary of the AMA that can accept tax-deductible contributions to support the museum.

In addition to those donations, AMHF is primarily funded through the proceeds from AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days, held each year at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio, and through several motorcycle raffles throughout the year. Current raffle bikes include a 1975 BMW R90S, a 1997 KTM 200 EXC Jackpiner, and a 2024 Kawasaki Ninja ZX-4RR 40th Anniversary Edition. To purchase tickets, visit AmericanMotorcyclist.com.

There's always a great deal of confusion and misinformation regarding the Hall of Fame selection process, and with the election of the Hall of Fame Class of 2024 recently completed, it's a good time to explain the process that leads to induction.

The process starts with an application for nomination to the Hall of Fame, which can be submitted by anyone. That application is assigned to one of eight category committees that correspond to the categories under which an individual can be inducted. Those categories and corresponding committees include Ambassadors and Industry, Design and Engineering,



It was gold jackets galore at last year's AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame induction ceremony near AMA headquarters. Thanks to HOFer Broc Glover and Rob Buydos for making the jacket thing happen.

Leadership and Motorcycle Rights, Dirt Track, Motocross/Supercross, Off-Road, Road Racing, and Specialty Competition.

Each of the category committees are made up of a group of discipline-specific experts, many of whom are Hall of Famers themselves. Those committees consider all the applications received and may submit additional nominees themselves for consideration. Each committee submits its recommendations to the Nominating Committee, which is made up of the chairs of each of the category committees, for further consideration.

The Nominating Committee then makes its recommendations to the Executive Review Committee (ERC), which is made up of the chair of the AMA Board of Directors, the chair of the AMHF Committee of the AMA Board, the AMA president, and the AMA counsel.

The ERC determines the size of the induction class each year and essentially certifies the ballot, which is then voted upon by living members of the Hall of Fame, members of the Hall of Fame category committees, AMA Board members, and AMA Life Members.

The election is conducted on a secure electronic voting platform. Each eligible voter receives an email inviting them to vote with a unique login and password. This is why it is so important

for all eligible voters to have a current email on file with the AMA.

This process has yielded a spectacular class for 2024. The 2024 AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Induction Class includes eight-time AMA National Enduro Champion Mike Lafferty, the Godmother of Women's Motocross Debbie Matthews, seven-time AMA Superbike Champion Mat Mladin, original freedom fighter Rob Rasor, and U.S. MXGP winner, perennial AMA Supercross and Pro Motocross race winner, and winning U.S. Motocross of Nations team member Kevin Windham. Read more about our Class of 2024 in our Last Page section on page 74.

The induction ceremony is open to the public and will take place at the Violet Township Event Center near AMA headquarters and the AMA Hall of Fame Museum on Oct. 10 as part of AMA's Hall of Fame Days weekend. Hall of Fame Days will run Oct. 10–13, and will also include an AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Bike Night, an open house at the Museum, pit bike racing, an Adventure ride, skills seminars, elbow-rubbing with AMA Hall of Famers, and more.

Tickets for the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Class of 2024 Induction Ceremony are on sale now, and can be purchased at AmericanMotorcyclist.com.

Rob Dingman is the President and CEO of the AMA, and a Charter Life Member