

# Dixie Boys Baseball Hall of Fame



Press Release: November 9, 2017  
Office of the Commissioner... Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc.  
J. Sandy Jones - [jjones29@sw.rr.com](mailto: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 2017.

## Class of 2017

- ★ **Ronnie Adams....** Madison Heights, Virginia – Ronnie volunteered and has assisted with the Madison Heights Youth Baseball Association for many years. The local association has earned the respect of all due to outstanding leadership. He was instrumental in the efforts that led to the local youth association hosting the 2001 and 2007 Dixie Youth World Series. Dixie Boys & Majors Baseball also greatly benefited from his involvement at the district, state and national level.
- ★ **Melvin Allen....** Ponchatoula, Louisiana – Melvin Allen provided dedicated service at the local, district, state and national level. Dr. Allen at the time of his 2016 retirement, was the Assistant State Director for Louisiana Dixie Boys Baseball. He had previously served with distinction as the Louisiana Dixie Boys State Director. He had a keen interest in the scholarship program and is a former National Scholarship Chairman. His efforts benefited participants on and off the ballfield.
- ★ **Malcolm Bartlett....** Pineville, Louisiana – Mr. Bartlett is recognized as a pioneer of the Dixie Boys Baseball program. His service started in 1963 and lasted until his untimely death in 1978 at the age of 55. Mr. Bartlett, the former director of the Pineville Recreation Department provided valuable service as Louisiana State Director and later as the Secretary-Treasurer of Dixie Boys Baseball. The 1979 Dixie Boys World Series held in Alexandria, LA was dedicated to Mr. Bartlett.
- ★ **Gayle Crowell....** Winter Haven, Florida – Gayle served as Florida Dixie Majors State Director for ten years. She was very active in leadership roles with the local youth baseball programs and has devoted countless years in support of youth baseball. In 2014, Gayle retired as state director; however, she continues to lend support with the program as a World Series broadcast sponsor. Her enthusiasm and personal commitment has greatly impacted Dixie Boys/Majors Baseball.
- ★ **Dave Davidson....** Sulphur Springs, Texas – “Dixie Dave” rightfully earned his title with a true passion and lasting support for the Dixie Boys/Majors organization. With a career spanning over twenty-five years, he held major roles in very successful Texas Dixie Boys & Majors programs. Dave’s involvement included outstanding service as a local league youth coach, league president, district director, assistant state director, state director and national board member.

J. Sandy Jones, Commissioner/CEO stated, “Dixie Boys Baseball is pleased to announce our Hall of Fame: Class of 2017. The five newly inducted members have all made significant contributions. Each inductee has provided their time and talents allowing young people to have the opportunity to play baseball. It is a real privilege to be able to recognize and honor the 2017 class. We thank them for their dedicated service to youth baseball.”

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 made significant contributions that have positively shaped the overall organization. A perpetual plaque recognizing their achievements is found in the National Office.

J. Sandy Jones, Commissioner/CEO stated, "Dixie Boys Baseball is blessed to have outstanding volunteer 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.