



NATIONAL SOCCER HALL OF FAME

2025 Builder Semifinal Ballot

This list includes all builders who now appear on the semifinal ballot. Each Screeners will submit a list of 10 names selected from the list below to create the Final Builder Ballot of 10 candidates.

2025 Builder Semifinal Ballot

Mark Abbott	Jay Hoffman
Clive Charles	Clark Hunt
Gene Chyzowych	Sandra Hunt
Al Colone	Robert Kraft
William Cox	Tim Leiweke
Joe Cummings	Vince Mauro
Gino D'Ippolito	Thom Meredith
Mike Edwards	Lothar Osiander
Ed Foster-Simeon	Lincoln Phillips
Mark Geiger	Kari Seitz
Richard Groff	Pia Sundhage
Burton Haimes	Keith Tozer
Brian Hall	

2025 Builder Semifinal Ballot Biographies

Mark Abbott (born Aug. 20, 1964)

Eligibility: 10 years as a first-division league official

Abbott was president and deputy commissioner of Major League Soccer for 10 seasons, 2013 through 2022. Prior to becoming president, he was the league's vice president for business affairs. Abbott had been an MLS employee throughout the league's first 30 years, having been hired as the league's first employee in 1993, three years before the league began play. *Contributors category.*

Clive Charles (deceased)

Eligibility: Nomination Confirmed by Screening Committee, 2021

A college and Olympic coach. Charles was the men's coach at the University of Portland for 17 seasons, 1986 through 2002, and the women's coach at the University of Portland for 14 seasons, 1989 through 2002. He coached Portland to an NCAA Division I women's championship in 2002 and had a career record of 439 collegiate victories, 144 defeats and 44 ties. He was coach of the United States team that reached the semifinals of the men's soccer tournament at the 2000 Olympic Games. The players he developed at Portland included Hall of Famers Kasey Keller, Shannon MacMillan, Steve Cherundolo and Tiffany Milbrett. *Coaches category.*

Gene Chyzowych (deceased)

Eligibility: A U.S. national team coach and first-division league official

Chyzowych, who eventually became one of the most legendary of high school soccer coaches, served as president of the American Soccer League for several years in the early 1970s and coached the U.S. men's national team in 1973. *Coaches category.*

Al Colone (deceased)

Eligibility: 19 years as the leader of an affiliated organization

Colone originated the idea of a physical location for the National Soccer Hall of Fame and was the executive director of the Hall of Fame for 19 years, 1979 through 1997. Under his leadership, the Hall of Fame opened its storefront museum in downtown Oneonta, N.Y., and began plans for a larger museum, created the Wright Campus soccer fields where numerous youth tournaments were played and where inductions were held, and began collecting the materials that eventually became the Hall of Fame archives. *Contributors category.*

William Cox (deceased)

Eligibility: A professional league and first-division team official

Cox was founder and president of the International Soccer League, which brought leading European and South American teams to New York, for six summer seasons, from 1960 through 1965. He later was among the founders of the National Professional Soccer League, one of the forerunners of the original North American Soccer League, and was president of the NASL's San Diego Toros in 1968. *Contributors category.*

Joe Cummings (born 1949)

Eligibility: Four years as a first-division team official and six years as the leader of an affiliated organization

Cummings was president of the Boston Breakers in the Women's United Soccer Association for three seasons, 2001 through 2003, and in Women's Professional Soccer for one season, 2009. He was executive director of the National Soccer Coaches Association of America for six years, 2009 through 2015. *Contributors category.*

Gino D'Ippolito (deceased)

Eligibility: 13 years as an international or first-division referee

D'Ippolito was a FIFA international referee for 10 years, 1976 through 1985, including refereeing one game in World Cup qualifying. He was a North American Soccer League referee for 12 seasons, 1973 through 1984, including refereeing the NASL final in 1979. He also refereed for many years in the Major Indoor Soccer League. *Referees category.*

Mike Edwards (born 1953)

Eligibility: 11 years as a U.S. Soccer Federation official

Edwards was executive vice president of the USSF for 11 years, 2006 through 2016. He had previously been vice president of the U.S. Adult Soccer Association. *Contributors category.*

Ed Foster-Simeon (born 1961)

Eligibility: 17 years as leader of an affiliated organization

Foster-Simeon has been president of the U.S. Soccer Foundation for 17 years, 2008 through 2024. *Contributors category.*

Mark Geiger (born Aug. 25, 1974)

Eligibility: 17 years as an international or first-division referee or as leader of an affiliated organization

Geiger was a FIFA international referee for 11 years, 2008 through 2018, including refereeing six games at the 2014 and 2018 World Cups, two games at the Olympic Games, 11 games in World Cup qualifying, one game at the Copa America, two games at the Confederations Cup, five games at the CONCACAF Gold Cup, four games at the Under-20 World Cup (including the 2011 final), one game at the Club World Cup and 17 games in the CONCACAF Champions League. He was a Major League Soccer referee for 15 seasons, 2004 through 2018, including refereeing the 2014 MLS championship game and the 2008 U.S. Open Cup final. He has been general manager of the Professional Referee Organization, which supplies

referees for Major League Soccer and the National Women's Soccer League, for two seasons, 2023 and 2024. In both 2014 and 2018, he refereed games in the knockout rounds of the World Cup, becoming the first American to do so. He was named CONCACAF men's referee of the year in 2014. *Referees category.*

Richard Groff (born 1946)

Eligibility: 19 years as a U.S. Soccer Federation official and leader of an affiliated organization
Groff was a member of the board of directors of the USSF for a total of 16 years in three different stretches beginning in 2001. He was treasurer of the USSF from 1991 to 1994 and president of the U.S. Adult Soccer Association from 2010 to 2014. He won the USSF's Werner Fricker Builder Award in 2014. *Contributors category.*

Burton Haines (born May 22, 1943)

Eligibility: 21 years as leader of an affiliated organization
Haines, one of the most prominent administrators of youth soccer in America, served as either president or chairman of the American Youth Soccer Organization from 1989 to 2009. He also has been a member of the boards of directors of the U.S. Soccer Federation and the National Soccer Hall of Fame. He won the USSF's Werner Fricker Builder Award in 2024. *Contributors category.*

Brian Hall (born June 5, 1961)

Eligibility: 15 years as an international or first-division referee
Hall was a FIFA international referee for 15 years, 1992 through 2006, including refereeing two games at the 2002 World Cup, six games in World Cup qualifying, one game at the Confederations Cup, one game at the Under-17 World Cup, four games at the CONCACAF Gold Cup, and three games in the CONCACAF Champions Cup. He was a Major League Soccer referee for 11 seasons, 1996 through 2006, including refereeing the MLS championship games in 1997 and 2003, and the U.S. Open Cup final in 2002. *Referees category.*

Jay Hoffman (born Jan. 15, 1951)

Eligibility: 15 years as a U.S. Extended National Team coach, youth national team coach or first-division coach
Hoffman was coach of the United States 7-a-side Paralympic team for 14 years, 2002 through 2014, coach of the United States team at the Under-20 World Cup in 1997, and coach of the Boston Breakers of the Women's United Soccer Association for two years, 2001 and 2002. *Coaches category.*

Clark Hunt (born Feb. 19, 1965)

Eligibility: 17 seasons as a first-division team owner
Hunt has been investor/operator of FC Dallas of Major League Soccer for 18 seasons, 2007 through 2024. He was investor/operator of the Columbus Crew of Major League Soccer for six seasons, 2007 through 2012. Under his ownership, the Crew won the MLS championship in 2008 and Dallas won the U.S. Open Cup in 2016. *Contributors category.*

Sandra Hunt (born June 14, 1959)

Eligibility: Six years as an international or first-division referee
Hunt, one of the world's first prominent female referees and the leading American female referee in the 1990s, was a FIFA international referee for six years, 1999 (when FIFA began naming female referees) through 2004, including refereeing two games at the 1999 Women's World Cup. She was a Major League Soccer referee for three seasons, 1998 through 2000, and Women's United Soccer League referee for three seasons, 2001 through 2003, including refereeing the WUSA championship game in 2001. *Referees category.*

Robert Kraft (born June 5, 1941)

Eligibility: 29 years as a first-division team owner

Kraft has been investor/operator of the New England Revolution of Major League Soccer for 29 seasons, 1996 through 2024. Under his ownership, New England won the U.S. Open Cup in 2007, and hosted the MLS championship game in 1996, 1999 and 2002. *Contributors category.*

Tim Leiweke (born April 21, 1957)

Eligibility: 14 years as a first-division team official

Leiweke was president of Anschutz Entertainment Group, owner of the Los Angeles Galaxy of Major League Soccer, for 13 seasons, 2001 through 2013, and president of Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment, owner of Toronto FC of MLS, in the 2014 season. Under his leadership, the Galaxy won MLS championships in 2002, 2005, 2011 and 2013, won the U.S. Open Cup in 2001 and 2005, opened a soccer-specific stadium in 2003, and hosted the MLS championship game in 2003, 2004, 2008, 2011 and 2012. During the time that he was president of AEG, three other AEG-owned teams also won MLS titles. *Contributors category.*

Vince Mauro (deceased)

Eligibility: 10 years as an international or first-division referee, and seven years as a U.S. Soccer Federation official

Mauro was a FIFA international referee for seven years, 1985 through 1991, including refereeing one game at the 1990 World Cup, one game at the 1988 Olympic Games and one game at the Under-20 World Cup. He was a North American Soccer League referee for three seasons, 1982 through 1984. He was the U.S. Soccer Federation's Director of Officials for seven years, 1991 through 1998. *Referees category.*

Thom Meredith (born Nov. 7, 1951)

Eligibility: Several decades as a first-division team and league official and a U.S. Soccer Federation official

Meredith, who was publicity director for several North American Soccer League teams, became the U.S. Soccer Federation's director of communications in the 1980s. He was the USSF director of events for most of the 1990s and a vice president of the Women's United Soccer Association throughout its existence. *Contributors category.*

Lothar Osiander (born Nov. 8, 1939)

Eligibility: Eight years as a national team, Olympic team and first-division coach

Osiander was coach of the U.S. men's national team for three years, 1986 through 1988. He coached the United States men's teams in two Olympic Games, 1988 and 1992. In Major League Soccer, he was coach of the Los Angeles Galaxy for two seasons, 1996 and 1997, and the San Jose Earthquakes for two seasons, 1999 and 2000. *Coaches category.*

Lincoln Phillips (born July 4, 1941)

Eligibility: Nomination Confirmed by Screening Committee, 2021

Phillips was the men's coach at Howard University for 11 seasons, 1970 through 1980, and at Virginia Commonwealth University for four seasons, 1990 through 1993. He coached Howard to the NCAA Division I men's championship in 1974, one of eight seasons that his Howard team reached the NCAA tournament, and had 150 career collegiate victories. He coached the Washington Darts of the North American Soccer League in the 1970 NASL season, after having coached the Darts to the American Soccer League championship in 1969. *Coaches category.*

Kari Seitz (born Nov. 2, 1970).

Eligibility: 10 years as an international or first-division referee

Seitz was a FIFA international referee for 15 years, 1999 through 2013, including refereeing nine games at the Women's World Cup in 1999, 2003, 2007 and 2011, six at the Olympic Games in 2004, 2008 and 2012, two at the Women's Under-20 World Cup in 2002, and two in Women's World Cup qualifying in 2010. She was a Major League Soccer referee in 1999, a Women's United Soccer Association referee from 2001 through 2003, a Women's Professional Soccer referee from 2009 through 2011 and a National Women's Soccer League referee in 2013, including refereeing the WPS final in 2009 and 2011, and the NWSL final in 2013. In 2016 she became Senior Manager of the women's referee program at FIFA.

Pia Sundhage (born February 13, 1960)

Sundhage, coach of the U.S. women's national team from 2008 to 2012, led the team to significant success, including reaching the 2011 Women's World Cup final and winning two Olympic gold medals. Under her guidance, the U.S. women triumphed at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, defeating Brazil 1-0, and secured another gold at the 2012 London Olympics by beating Japan 2-1. Sundhage's tenure was marked by a record of 91 wins, 6 losses, and 10 ties. She was named FIFA Women's World Coach of the Year in 2012, leaving a lasting impact on U.S. women's soccer. *Coaches category.*

Keith Tozer (born April 4, 1957)

Eligibility: 15 years as a U.S. Extended National Team coach

Tozer was coach of the U.S. national futsal team for 15 years, 1996, 1998 through 2000, 2002 through 2004, 2007 and 2008 and 2011 through 2016. He was a leading coach in professional indoor leagues for 30 years. *Coaches category.*