

Sports

Basketball Hall of Fame 2025 candidates announced

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the list of eligible candidates for the Class of 2025, featuring several high-profile first-time nominees.

Candidates for the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2025 include Carmelo Anthony, Sue Bird, Maya Moore, Dwight Howard, Doc Rivers, Billy Donovan, Sylvia Fowles, Chamique Holdsclaw, Mark Few, Lisa Bluder, Marc Gasol, and Micky Arison.

“The nominees on the official ballot for the Class of 2025 represent a broad cross-section of our game,” said John L. Doleva, Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame President and CEO. “From Olympic Gold Medals to NBA and WNBA titles to collegiate championships, these nominees epitomize the career of a Hall of Famer.”

The first look at the list of eligible nominees was provided by “NBA Today” on ESPN, hosted by Malika Andrews, with Brian Windhorst, Chiney Ogumike, and Tim MacMahon. A complete list of eligible candidates can be found below.

Finalists chosen from the applicable Category Screening Committees for the Class of 2025 will be announced on Friday, Feb. 14, in San Francisco as part of NBA All-Star Weekend.

The entire Class of 2025 will be unveiled during a nationally televised broadcast at the NCAA Final Four in San Antonio on Saturday, April 5.

The announcement time and broadcast network for both the Finalist and the Class Announcement will be announced in the near future.

The Hall also unveiled an update to its eligibility requirements, reducing the waiting period for Player candidates from three full seasons out of the game to two seasons. The change was unanimously approved by the Hall of Fame’s Board of Governors.

“Previously, our Guidelines for Nomination and Election required an individual to be retired from the game for three full seasons, which effectively equated to a four-year wait due to our internal process,” said Jerry Colangelo, Chairman of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. “To better recognize the distinguished careers of potential first-ballot nominees in a more timely manner, the Board has appropriately shortened the waiting period. We are excited about this change and believe that

honoring individuals while their contributions are still fresh in people’s minds is both meaningful and impactful.”

Enshrinement Weekend will begin at the Mohegan Sun on Friday, Sept. 5, with the Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala, followed by the Enshrinement Ceremony the next day at Springfield’s historic Symphony Hall.

VIP Packages for the Hall of Fame Enshrinement Weekend will go on sale on Friday, Feb. 14. All single-event tickets to the Ceremony, Tip-Off Celebration, and Awards Gala, as well as other ancillary events, will go on sale on Saturday, April 5, at 12 noon. All packages and tickets will be available for purchase at hoophall.com.

The complete listing of events and pricing will be released on Monday, Feb. 3.

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the old police station to the new one. “It is going to be a complicated process to not only move operations from the existing building, but also to move all the evidence,” Johnson said.

The police will have to ensure that all evidence stored in the old police station is carefully transported to the new one without breaking any protocol or rules of possession.

Johnson and the police department are working to plan out a schedule so this transfer will go smoothly without disrupting the operations of the police.

On top of that project, Johnson is also working on improving the day to day administrative processes in the town. He hopes to streamline different processes to allow the town to move more efficiently.

In the lines of improving the processes of the town, Johnson is also looking into improving or eliminating different positions.

As people retire or new people come into positions, Johnson is working to examine the position they are leaving or moving into so he can see how it functions and how he can work to improve it.

“We reimagine or potentially eliminate positions as they become vacant to try to get more of what we need,” Johnson said.

Additionally, he is looking at the infrastructure of the town. This is important to him and the residents of the town, so he wants to ensure it is done correctly.

Already the town employees and Johnson have been taking steps so they can better plan out the infrastructure plans in the coming year.

“We just signed a contract with a new company that is going to give us more detailed pavement analysis reports so we can update our pavement management program,” Johnson said.

According to Johnson, Agawam grew a lot in the 1950s through the 1980s and thus that is when a lot of the infrastructure was put in place.

Now, much of that is growing old and the town is working hard to replace it and keep everything up to date.

Working on the infrastructure also includes the progress on water and sewer.

“We are trying to come up with a realistic way to be able to meet those demands,” Johnson said.

As Johnson goes into this new year he is hopeful that Agawam will see many much needed improvements and that he and his office will continue to look for further opportunities to keep moving the town forward.

More plow operators needed

AGAWAM – The Town of Agawam, Chief Procurement Officer in consultation with the Department of Public Works Department hereby requests written applications and bids from qualified contractors and/or individuals that wish to be considered for hire for snow plowing services.

Bids can still be made to the Town of Agawam to serve as a contract plow operator for the winter season, which has already begun.

The Town will make one or more awards for contracts sufficient to cover the Town’s requirements. The Town of Agawam also reserves the right: (1) to reject any or all bids, or any part thereof; (2) to waive any informality in the bids; and (3) to accept the bid that is in the best interest of the Town (4) to negotiate a price on Item 1, and (5) to add additional vendors after the deadline if necessary. Consideration will first be given to the contractor/individual who has successfully and responsibly provided snow removal services to the Town in the past, and whose primary place of

residence or business is in the Town of Agawam.

Item 1: The contract will be awarded to the responsible, responsive and qualified bidder who offers the low price for each location meeting minimum equipment specification cited in Section II, with consideration given to the contractor/individual who has successfully and responsibly provided snow removal service to the Town in the past and whose primary place of residence or business is in the Town of Agawam

Item 2: The contract shall be awarded within the categories specified in Section II, with consideration given to the contractor/individual who has successfully and responsibly provided snow removal service to the Town in the past and whose primary place of residence or business is in the Town of Agawam.

The snow and ice season shall commence on November 15, 2024 and expire on April 30, 2025. All successful contractors/individuals are expected to have their equipment ready at the beginning of each season.

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prepare for the festival itself. Duchon feels that this festival provides students many opportunities. It builds both their personal and musical skills in a new way.

“It builds a lot of self-confidence to be able to sing or play their instrument in front of someone solo,” Duchon said. “Should they make it to the festival then they have the opportunity to perform with world renown musicians who will be directing their specific ensembles.”

When at districts each group (band, orchestra, jazz band or choir) is asked to play or sing four to six pieces for the final performance, which Duchon feels also builds skills.

“It covers a variety of cultures and languages,” Duchon said. “It really gives them a far more advanced music education...

they’re gaining a tremendous amount of music knowledge and this is stuff that can help them as they move on in life.”

The districts themselves will take place on Mar. 8 and 15 at Minnechaug Regional High School. The students will have their final performance in the afternoon of the 15.

During these days, before the performance, all the kids across Western Massachusetts who were accepted into the Junior Districts will be coming together for the first time to practice their pieces so they can be prepared to perform.

“The kids will rehearse from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m the first week and then from 8:30 a.m. until about 2 p.m. the second week, followed immediately by all of the performing ensembles giving a concert to families and directors,” Duchon said.

Duchon looks forward to hearing all of the kids’ hard work come together for this performance.

Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING

The Agawam City Council Administrative Committee will conduct a Public Hearing on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 at 6:30PM**, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA, on a Verizon petition for permission to lay and maintain underground conduits,

with the wires and cables to be placed therein, under the surface of North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA, with permission to lay and maintain underground conduits, manholes, cables, and wires in the above way for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as it may desire for distributing purposes. Public Hearings will also be con-

ducted on Eversource petitions to install poles on Barn Road, Agawam and also on Barry Street, Feeding Hills. These petitions are available by contacting the City Council Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA or by emailing bbard@agawam.ma.us.

Robert E. Rossi, Chair Administrative Committee 01/02, 01/09/2025



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Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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