

# HALL OF FAME CLASSIC INDUCTEE CEREMONY PROGRAM





# UNITED STATES TABLE SOCCER HALL OF FAME

## **HISTORY**

*by Kathy Brainard*

The United States Table Soccer Hall of Fame was founded in 1986 by Johnny Lott, a two-time World Champion, long-time promoter and now Hall of Fame member himself (2000 inductee). At the 1986 Reunion Tournament organized by Lott in Los Angeles, twelve charter members were inducted, based on their tremendous influence on the growth and development of the sport of table soccer in the U.S. during the 1960s and 1970s. (See following list of members.)

The Table Soccer Hall of Fame then lay dormant for ten years. In 1996, the Tornado table soccer company re-introduced the Hall of Fame ceremony as part of its national tour, changing the name of the annual Tour Kick-Off tournament to the Hall of Fame Classic. An induction committee was formed, comprised of veteran players and promoters, including several of the charter Hall of Fame members. It was chaired by player and “fooscaster” Jim Stevens (2006 inductee), who established the criteria and presided over the annual nomination and voting process by the committee members. From 1996 to 2010, 21 more deserving individuals have been inducted.

In 2010, Kelye Stites, the new owner of Valley-Dynamo (the company that manufactures the Tornado foosball table), turned the management of Tornado tour events including the Hall Of Fame induction process, over to Mary Moore of Independent Foosball Promotions Under Mary’s leadership, a new induction process, including more specific criteria, has been put into place for the 2011 Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

## THE INDUCTION PROCESS

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of the U.S. Table Soccer Hall of Fame is to recognize the contributions of those who have had a *significant positive impact* on the evolution, development and perpetuation of table soccer in the United States by inducting them into the Hall of Fame.

The following criteria are to be used as guidelines for eligibility. In addition to these minimum requirements, an inductee's record should reflect *an ethical and professional lifestyle while involved as a player on the U.S. national table soccer tour.*

### CRITERIA

Induction into the United States Table Soccer Hall of Fame should be the crowning achievement in an individual's table soccer career. It should be reserved for recognizing only the very "best of the best."

**Chronological order should be followed in the induction process.**

### CATEGORIES

There are four categories for induction in the U.S. Table Soccer Hall of Fame:

- 1) Player
- 2) Player/Promoter
- 3) Promoter
- 4) Honorary

### 1. PLAYER

Players become eligible for induction 15 years after earning pro status, or after winning their first championship title at a major tournament on the U.S. national tour

#### Criteria:

To be inducted, a player must meet **at least two of the following four criteria.**

Win at least one U.S. World Championship title in an open category of play. (Open categories include the following events: Open Doubles, Open Singles, Women's Doubles, Women's Singles, and Mixed Doubles.) Win multiple regional and national titles over a five-year time period; Maintain the highest level of ranking (Pro, Master, Pro-Master, depending on the decade) for at least five years; Make a significant contribution to the development of playing techniques at the professional level. This could include the invention or development of a new shot, a new pass, a new defense, or any technique that has greatly contributed to the professional style of play in the United States.

### 2. PLAYER/PROMOTER

Many top regional and national players also become influential promoters of the sport of table soccer, bringing the unique perspective of a player to the promotional and marketing aspect of the sport. Being inducted as a Player/Promoter recognizes the inductee's contributions in both areas. Player/Promoters become eligible for induction 15 years after their first major impact on the sport as a regional or national promoter.

**Criteria (must meet both):** Achieve regional or national pro status at some time during the career as a player; Make a significant contribution to the promotional development of the sport of table soccer at the regional or national level for at least five years. This could include any of the following: the production of promotional media (newsletters, books, videos); promotional work as a staff member of a players' association or other promotional business; the running of major leagues, tournaments, or tours; development, promotions or sales at the manufacturing level of the sport.

**3. PROMOTER**

Promoters become eligible for induction 15 years after their first major impact on the sport as a regional or national promoter.

**Criteria:**

To be inducted, an individual or group of individuals must make a significant contribution to the promotional development of the sport of table soccer at the regional or national level for at least five years. This could include any of the following:

- the running of major leagues, tournaments, or tours;
- the production of promotional media (newsletters, books, videos);
- promotional work as a staff member of a players' association or other promotional business;
- research, development, promotions or sales at the manufacturing level of the sport.

**4. HONORARY**

Some players or promoters who are not U.S. citizens have had a significant impact on the evolution, development and perpetuation of table soccer in the United States. They may become Honorary Inductees of the U.S. Table Soccer Hall of Fame by meeting the above criteria for Player, Promoter or Player/Promoter.

**PROCESS**

**NOMINATIONS**

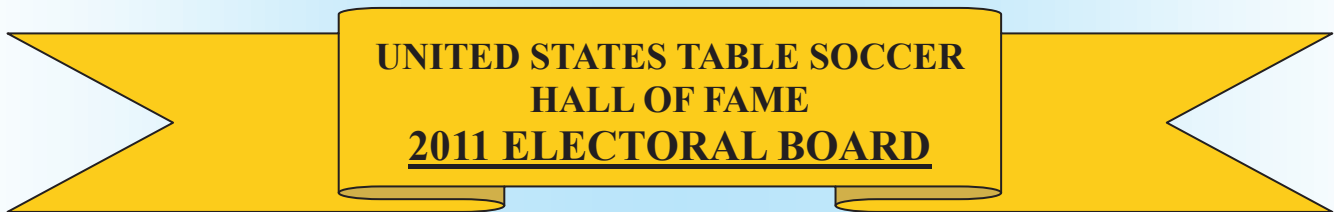
Individuals may be nominated in two ways: Any U.S. citizen may go to the U.S. Table Soccer Hall of Fame website and submit the name of any player or promoter who meets the criteria. Any individual may only nominate one person per year. *(beginning in 2012)*

The **Electoral Board**, consisting of current members of the Hall of Fame, may also submit nominations.

**ELECTION** The Electoral Board will vote on the nominees to determine the Annual Inductees.

**NOTIFICATION AND AWARDS**

The Annual Inductees will be notified of their induction several weeks prior to the Hall of Fame Ceremony to give them reasonable planning time to attend the ceremony. Each Inductee will receive two nights hotel accommodations, Three hundred travel expenses, HOF Plaque, and HOF Jacket.



- |   |                 |    |               |    |                |
|---|-----------------|----|---------------|----|----------------|
| 1 | Mike Bowers     | 6  | Cindy Head    | 11 | Link Pendley   |
| 2 | Dave Courington | 7  | Todd Loffredo | 12 | Steve Simon    |
| 3 | Doug Furry      | 8  | Johnny Lott   | 13 | Billy Sumption |
| 4 | Karin Gililland | 9  | Terry Moore   | 14 | Tina Wyatt     |
| 5 | Dave Gummeson   | 10 | Steve Murray  |    |                |

UNITED STATES TABLE SOCCER HALL OF FAME  
**2011 INDUCTEE**

**CATEGORY: PLAYER**  
**MIKE BELZ**



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**  
**1974-1981**



- 2 World finals, 1 World title**
- Tournament Soccer Master status**
- Multiple top 3 wins on Tournament Soccer tour**
- 1979 TS \$50,000 Reno, 1<sup>st</sup> OD**
- 1977 TS \$50,000 Super Singles, 1<sup>st</sup> OD**
- 1976 TS \$125,000 World Championships, 1<sup>st</sup> OD**
- 1976 TS \$25,000 Columbus, 1<sup>st</sup> MD**
- 1976 TS \$25,000 St. Louis, 1<sup>st</sup> OD**
- 1976 TS \$10,000 Rock Island, 1<sup>st</sup> OD**
- 1976 TS \$25,000 Salt Lake, 1<sup>st</sup> MD**
- 1976 TS \$25,000 Florida, 1<sup>st</sup> MD**



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**2011 INDUCTEE**

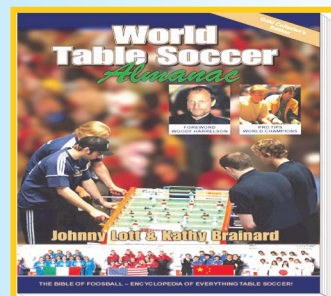
CATEGORY:  
PLAYER/PROMOTER  
**KATHY BRAINARD**



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**  
**1974-current**



Multi-decade, multi-table pro player, national promoter, author, historian  
Tournament Soccer Master status  
Multiple top 3 wins on Tournament Soccer, Dynamo, Tornado tours  
2009 ITSF World Champ., France, Team USA, Senior Doubles, 5<sup>th</sup>  
2008 Tornado \$100,000 World Champ., Senior Doubles, 1<sup>st</sup>  
2007 ITSF World Champ., Italy, Team USA, Senior Doubles, 3<sup>rd</sup>  
2007 Co-author, World Table Soccer Almanac  
2004 ITSF World Champ., Italy, ITSF Exec. Committee V.P.  
2002 Founder & President, USTSF  
2000 NATSA NW Open, 1<sup>st</sup> WS, 2<sup>nd</sup> WD  
1996 Striker \$40,000 Grand Slam, 1<sup>st</sup> WD  
1986 Dynamo \$15,000 Belgium Intercont. Cup, Team USA, 2<sup>nd</sup> WD, 2<sup>nd</sup> WS  
1985-86 Founder & Executive Director, USTSA  
1985 USTSA National Tour Director & Editor, "Table Talk"  
1985 Female Sportsmanship Award  
1985 Dynamo \$20,000 Nationals, 1<sup>st</sup> WD  
1984 Female Sportsmanship Award  
1984 Dynamo National Tournament Director  
1984 Editor, "Table Talk"  
1984 Dynamo \$12,000 Nationals, 1<sup>st</sup> WD  
1978-81 Tournament Soccer Tournament Staff  
1980-81 Editor, "Foos Noos"  
1980 Co-author, The Complete Book of Foosball  
1979 TS \$10,000 Seattle, 1<sup>st</sup> PMD



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**2011 INDUCTEE**

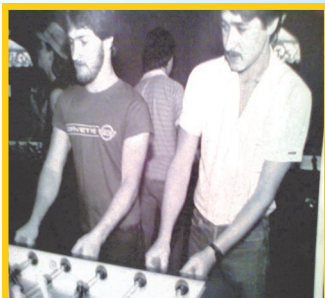
**CATEGORY: PLAYER**  
**JOHN SMITH**



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**  
**1982-current**



- 8 World finals, 5 World titles**
- Tornado Pro-Master**
- Multiple top 3 wins on Tornado tours**
- 1996 Tornado \$12,000 Texas State: 1<sup>st</sup> OS**
- 1991 Tornado \$75,000 World Champ. 1<sup>st</sup> OD, 1<sup>st</sup> OS**
- 1991 Tornado Kickoff: 1<sup>st</sup> OS**
- 1987 Tornado \$12,000 World Champ. II, 1<sup>st</sup> OD, 1<sup>st</sup> OS**
- 1986 USTSA \$30,000 World Series: 1<sup>st</sup> TOD, 3<sup>rd</sup> OS**
- 1986 USTSA Player of the Year**
- 1986 USTSA Male Forward of the Year**
- 1986 USTSA Co-Male Sportsmanship of the Year**
- 1985 Tornado \$20,000 World Champ. 1<sup>st</sup> OD**
- 1985 Tornado U.S. Open, 1<sup>st</sup>**



# Hall Of Fame Classic Las Vegas, Nevada March 13, 2011

## USA TABLE SOCCER HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

1986	Mike Bowers
1986	Karin Gililand
1986	Lori Schranz
1986	Gary Pfeil
1986	Joe Snider
1986	Marcio Bonilla
1986	Billy Sumption
1986	Tom Hansen
1986	Larry Folk
1986	Lawrence Patterson
1986	Bob Hayes
1986	Lee Peppard
1996	Doug Furry
1997	Jim Wiswell
1997	Ed McCloud
1998	Dan Kaiser
1999	Carrie Walegir
1999	Dave Courington

## USA TABLE SOCCER HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

2000	Johnny Lott
2001	Steve Simon
2002	Steve Murray
2003	Bob Furr
2003	Link Pendley
2004	Brent Bednar
2005	Todd Loffredo
2005	Dieter Thiele
2006	Cindy Head
2006	Jim Stevens
2007	Tom Spear
2008	Terry Moore
2008	Gil Jackson
2009	Dave Gummeson
2010	Tina Rhoton
2011	Mike Belz
2011	John Smith
2011	Kathy Brainard

**Hall Of Fame Classic Ceremony will be held Sunday at 5:00PM in the main ballroom. Followed by a player's party and huge player's raffle, please attend this special event!**