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ACROSS THE ISLAND

Time Approaching To Name Athletes

By NEIL A. MATHESON

THE TIME TO name athletes to the Prince Edward Island Sports Hall of Fame is rapidly approaching. Nominations are asked for from sports minded Island people and the chairman and directors of the Sports Hall of Fame board of directors will meet on the afternoon of July 4 to chose three names from the ones who will be nominated by them.

Phil MacDonald, a former Olympic man; the late Whackey MacEachern, from Charlottetown, and George A. Callbeck of Summerside were named to the Hall of Fame last year at the first meeting of the present Sports Hall of Fame directors.

A dozen or more additional names were submitted last year, in addition to those who were chosen. These names will be open for consideration in this year's selection, as well as any new names that may come in.

Most Effective Way

I'M NOT TRYING to tell people who to nominate, but I would like to advise that the most effective way to nominate a man for consideration is to list all of the outstanding performances he was responsible for in as many sports as he competed in.

For several former athletes last year we had as many as 15 different people sending nominations. In one case five or six of the letters merely said: "I nominate this man for consideration for the Sports Hall of Fame".

Remember the nominations are being considered by men who for the most part do not know the athlete who is being proposed. The only way they can honestly consider the nomination is by the information contained on the nominating papers.

There are six members on the Sports Hall of Fame association committee. Wesley Hardy, Alberton; John McNeill, Summerside; Pius Callaghan and Johnny Squarebriggs, Charlottetown; Peter Milburn, Murray River and Aquinas Ryan, St. Peters are the members who do the selecting.

How Choosing Is Done

I HAVE THE honor to be the chairman. This means that I do not vote unless there is a tie. There was no tie last year, nor is there likely to be a tie under the system of calculation used.

Each of the six men selects the first five nominees in their order of preference. Values are assigned to first, second, and third placings, and the same for the fourth and fifth.

When each man's selections are made known, the points for each man selected are added up. The ones with the first, second and third highest totals are then declared elected.

If this resulted in a tie for either first, second or third placings, I would then have to reveal my selections, as chairman. They would be added to the previous totals and this would likely break the tie.

Some of the men whose names were sent in last year had really good careers in sport. But a number of them should have better information on their nomination papers.

And that reminds me, one of the nominees was a lady. And she had a colorful career in sports.

Mail your nomination to either John MacNeill, Summerside or to me either at The Guardian-Patriot or to my home address which is now Charlottetown RR 1 and get them in prior to July 4.

Information On Mrs. Graham?

I REMEMBER getting a story about a Mrs. Donald Graham from the scrap book of my friend Rae Barbour in Alma. I recall, among other things that she lived to be 111 and that she was unusually bright, with unusually good eyesight right up to the day that she died.

In my talk last week with Ira Brown, I found that Mrs. Graham was a Brown and Ira told me "I'd like to get in touch with the descendants of Donald Graham who was married to Catherine Brown in 1775 – she died in Margate in 1885, age 111. She is the oldest person on record on the Island that I know of."

Catherine Brown who became Mrs. Donald Graham was the daughter of Laurence Brown the first Brown who came to this Island. As I said last week he came out on the "Falmouth", the ship that brought the families whose landing at Stanhope the people of that North Shore area, and surrounding areas, recalled in celebrations last weekend.

The weather was horrible but many hardy people braved the weather, I am told, to carry out their original intention.

I believe that Rae Barbour's scrapbook said that this Mrs. Donald Graham died in Alma, and Mr. Brown thinks that may be right, though she lived for most of her life as Mrs. Graham in Margate.