



COLORADO SKI & SNOWBOARD HALL OF FAME NOMINATION
WALT EVANS
SPONSORED BY MARK TACHE
CATEGORY SPORT BUILDER
ACHIEVEMENTS 1970 – 2016



Mark Taché
1001 East Hyman
Aspen, CO 81611

February 16, 2017

Dear Hall of Fame Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Walt Evans, for consideration for induction into the Colorado Ski Hall of Fame.

Walt is a Colorado native, born and raised in Frasier, who grew up skiing on the rope tows in nearby Winter Park, Hot Sulphur Springs, and Tabernash. Walt was involved in Colorado and US ski racing for 46 years until his retirement from the Aspen Valley Ski Club in 2016.

Walt's competitive highlight was competing on the 1968 University of Wyoming Alpine ski team that won the NCAA title. In 1970, post-graduation, Walt returned to Colorado to head up the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club's Alpine program, while also being a rancher. Walt said, "I was a lot closer to skiing than I was to ranching, so when the position opened up, I was excited to get involved." By 1978 Steamboat's program had 280 members and 28 coaches, of which Walt became one, but no Executive Director, so Walt created the role, becoming Steamboat's first Executive Director, a position he held until 1983 when he went to work with the United States Ski Association as Alpine Program Director for the Rocky Mountain Division. In 1997, he became the USSA National Competition Director, overseeing and rebuilding their domestic competition program in all US Ski and Snowboard sports.

During his time with the USSA, Walt helped engineer the National Development System, a program which worked with top clubs nationwide to provide elite training opportunities for rising Alpine racers. The program proved to be hugely successful, and was seen to benefit U.S. skiers, in their record-breaking results, in the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games.

Walt returned to his Colorado roots in 2012 to finish up his storied ski career by taking the position of Director of Excellence with the Aspen Valley Ski Club, a position from which he retired in 2016.

In 2013, The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association honored Walt during its annual USSA Congress in Park City, Utah, with the John J. Clair Jr. Award, recognizing service to the organization where he spent nearly 30 years.

Walt's ski legacy is unique in Colorado history. He will surely be recognized in US Skiing history for his lifetime commitment to the sport. He is a true leader and exemplifies all that is admirable in sport and life with his true "salt-of-the-earth" Colorado character, and tireless approach to innovative leadership.

Walt Evans deserves to be recognizing by the COHOF for his contribution to Colorado and North American skiing.

Thanks for your consideration,

Sincerely, Mark Taché

CHOF member (2006)

Walt Evans
Biography
Box 680333
Park City, UT 84068
435.640.8502
Evans.walt@gmail.com

FAMILY

Married: Pamela Upham Evans

Children: Christine Evans Goerke, Todd Evans, Emily Evans Briley (deceased)

EDUCATION

B.S., UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING, Laramie, WY • Degree in Agriculture

Member: NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP SKI TEAM • *Varsity Team Member and Captain:* ALPINE SKI TEAM

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

USSA Certified Level 500 Alpine Coach as well as FIS TD Alpine Official

International Alpine Technical Delegate: FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE SKI

NOLS Risk Management Education and Training – 2015

NOLS Wilderness First Aid Training - 2012

Member: USSA/Rocky Mountain Division Board of Directors

Member: INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION COMMITTEES / FIS

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

USSA JOHN J. CLAIR AWARD – 2013

Service to US teams in international competition

USSA RMD HALSTEAD MEMORIAL AWARD - 2005

Leadership to Rocky Mountain Division Athletic Programs

USSA RUSSEL WILDER AWARD – 1985 and 1996

Focusing interest of youth in America on Winter Sports

CAREER HISTORY

ASPEN VALLEY SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB, Aspen, CO 2012 - 2016
EXCELLENCE DIRECTOR

U.S. SKI AND SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION / U.S. SKI TEAM, Utah and Colorado 1983 –
2012

SPORT DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR (PARK CITY, UT; 2011-2012)

NATIONAL COMPETITION DIRECTOR (Park City, UT; 1998 – 2011)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN/CENTRAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR (Park City, UT; 1995 – 1998)

USSA YOUTH DIRECTOR/ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL DIRECTOR (Park City, UT; 1988 – 1995)

USSA YOUTH DIRECTOR/ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL DIRECTOR (Colorado Springs, CO; 1983 – 1988)

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS WINTER SPORTS CLUB (SSWSC), Steamboat Springs, CO 1972 –
1983
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Background and History in Skiing

Walt grew up in Grand County, Colorado on the Hurd Creek Ranch outside of Tabernash and on the Diamond Bar T Ranch northeast of Fraser. He attended grade school in a three-room schoolhouse in Tabernash. Recesses and lunch hours were spent behind the schoolhouse on the ski slope and ski jumps that the school kids spent hours preparing. Evenings were spent on the Tabernash Ski Hill skiing under the lights.

In 1958, at the age of 10, he received his competition card from the Southern Rocky Mountain Ski Association and started competing in all four disciplines. Initially representing the Tabernash Ski Club, in the early 60's the Grand County Ski Club and in the mid 60's the Winter Park Ski Club. In the spring of 1966 Walt was named to the Rocky Mountain Division Junior National Team.

Walt was recruited by the University of Wyoming ski team and competed for the Cowboys from 66-70. In 1968 the University of Wyoming Ski Team won their first NCAA title. During his time at the University of Wyoming, Walt had opportunities to compete in the Wild West Classic World Cup at Jackson Hole, Wyoming and also in the Roch Cup events at Aspen.

After college, Walt and Pam moved to Steamboat Springs working on the Fetcher Ranch and began ski coaching with the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club. Their three children were born in Steamboat and enjoyed skiing in the winters and ranching in the summers.

From 1972-83 Walt coached and directed the Winter Sports Club that provided programs and coaching for children in all disciplines of skiing. He created a multidiscipline training squad for children 13 and younger and started the Steamboat Cup (a season long series with competition in all disciplines). During Walt's tenure of the SSWSC the club climbed steadily in athletic performance to become the strongest club in the Rocky Mountain Division, as measured by the RMD Faski award and also by the team title at the Jr. 3 Olympics. Athletes emerging from that program included USST athletes: Craig Thrasher, Matt Grosjean, Jack Miller, Heidi Bowes and Jace Romick.

In July of 1983 Walt began his career with the United States Ski Association and moved the family to Colorado Springs. From 83-88 Walt directed the alpine program for the Rocky Mountain Division. Along with Esther DelliQuadri, Ev Masbruch and Bob Dart they established the Rocky Mountain Trophy Series as the dominant FIS series in the USA, stabilized the alpine downhill progression utilizing the courses at Crested Butte and established Team Colorado and the Colorado Ski Country Allstar program

The family moved to Park City in 1988 when USSA and the US Ski Team merged business operations. Walt continued to oversee the RMD and the USSA Youth Ski League. With the assistance of many individuals and key clubs, the Colorado Ski Games was organized and has evolved into the premiere domestic alpine competition in the United States. Rocky/Central, as a newly formed region, climbed out of the cellar with the Regions Cup competition and won the Regions Cup for the first time in 1996-97 and continued to win this award for the next five years as Tom Garner took the helm of RMD in the season of 97-98.

In the spring of 1997, Walt was offered the job of National Competition Director, overseeing and rebuilding the domestic competition program in all ski and snowboard sports. The first step was to stabilize the staff structure and rebuild credibility with timely delivery of service. The USSA Points system was rebuilt and standardized race scoring software was developed and provided free of charge to all USSA Clubs.

Walt was instrumental in recruiting and training the alpine officials for the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games and served as the Assistant Chief of Race for the Men's and Women's Olympic Slalom events at Deer Valley.

An exciting opportunity was presented when the Aspen Valley Ski and Snowboard Club recruited Walt to take the new position as Excellence Director in October 2012. Walt served in that position overseeing AVSC staff, facilities and athlete programs until August 2016. Developing the Stapleton Training Center at Aspen Highlands was a key project enhancing athlete development opportunities.

Walt retired in summer 2016 and is currently volunteering as a race official and consulting with the Utah Olympic Legacy Foundation on several projects.



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Feb. 21, 2017

Nominating Committee
Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame
PO Box 1976
Vail, CO 81658

Dear Nominating Committee,

Please accept this letter as a second in support of Walt Evan's consideration for the prestigious distinction of membership to the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Walt Evans is the classic definition of an "inspirational" *Colorado* ski sport builder. A Colorado native, he grew up in Tabernash, and learned to ski during recess behind the three-room schoolhouse on the ski slope and ski jumps that the school kids spent hours preparing. Walt went on to become a top competitor for the Rocky Mountain Division and raced in the World Cup. But what makes Walt very special are his more than 30 years of devoted leadership to advance competitive skiing for youth in Colorado and the United States.

I had the pleasure of working with Walt in Park City during the period of 1987-1990 following the historic merger of the United States Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) and the U.S. Ski Team. At that time, Walt directed the alpine program for the Rocky Mountain Division for USSA and the USSA Youth Ski League. Later in 1997, Walt became National Competition Director, overseeing and rebuilding the domestic competition program for all ski and snowboard sports.

The Aspen Valley Ski and Snowboard Club recruited Walt to take the new position as Excellence Director in October 2012.

USSA has recognized Walt for his contributions to the advancement of Snowsports:

- USSA JOHN J. CLAIR AWARD – 2013
Service to US teams in international competition
- USSA RMD HALSTEAD MEMORIAL AWARD - 2005
Leadership to Rocky Mountain Division Athletic Programs
- USSA RUSSEL WILDER AWARD – 1985 and 1996
Focusing interest of youth in America on Winter Sports

Walt has distinguished himself through a 30-year career of advancing competitive snowsports for youth at the highest levels both nationally and in Colorado. Walt deserves to be inducted into the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame for the following three reasons:

1. As a Colorado native, Walt Evans has spent a career advancing competitive skiing in the U.S. and Colorado.
2. Walt has developed several races series nationally and in Colorado.
3. Walt Evans has been a great ambassador for Colorado and the sport of skiing having risen to the highest levels within the national governing body where he was and is a distinguished and nationally recognized leader and mentor to youth.

Thank you for your consideration.

John McMurtry
Honored Member
Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame
U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame

February 14, 2017

Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame
231 South Frontage Road East
Vail, CO. 81657

Dear Hall of Fame Nomination Committee,

It is indeed a pleasure for me to contribute this letter, seconding the nomination for Walt Evans for consideration of inclusion in the Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame for 2017. I have had the good fortune to have known Walt for a number of years through his tremendous work with the U.S. Ski Team and USSA, as well as his time as an international FIS Alpine Technical Delegate, and I feel that he is extremely qualified to be warranted serious consideration for this prestigious honor.

Walt is the epitome of a Colorado Sport Builder as is evidenced through his work with the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club, the USSA Rocky Mountain Division and finally, the Aspen Valley Ski Club. In 1983, he then took that same dedication and devotion to the national and international level through his efforts with the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Association (USSA), becoming National Competition Director in 1997. In that role, the USSA Points system was rebuilt and standardized race scoring software was developed and provided free of charge to all USSA Clubs

He was instrumental in recruiting and training the alpine officials for the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games and served as the Assistant Chief of Race for the men's and women's Olympic slalom events in Deer Valley.

As a result of this work, he has received numerous USSA annual awards, including the 1985 and 1996 Russel I Wilder Award for focusing the interest of youth in America on Winter Sports, the 2005 RMD Halstead Memorial Award for leadership to the Rocky Mountain Division Athletic Programs and the 2013 John J. Clair Award for service to U.S. Teams in international competition.

All of these accomplishments harken back to his early days of growing up in Tabernash and learning to ski behind the three-room school house during recess. An accomplished racer in his own right, Walt became a top competitor in the Rocky Mountain Division, becoming an integral part of the University of Wyoming's 1968 NCAA Championships team, while also earning a World Cup opportunity in Jackson Hole, as well as the Roch Cup events in Aspen.

Walt has worked tirelessly for ski racing and ski racers in Colorado and the United States for over 30 years, finally retiring from the Aspen Valley Ski Club in 2016. He has been a tremendous ambassador for both U.S. ski racing and skiing in Colorado, while also serving as a mentor for youth and a nationally recognized leader within our sport's governing body.

Thank you for your consideration of Walt Evans as a nominee for the 2017 Hall of Fame Class.

Sincerely,

John Garnsey

WALT EVANS SUMMARY

Walt is a Colorado native, born and raised in Frasier, who grew up skiing on the rope tows in nearby Winter Park, Hot Sulphur Springs, and Tabernash. He was involved in Colorado and US ski racing for 46 years until his retirement from the Aspen Valley Ski Club in 2016. Walt's competitive highlight was competing on the 1968 University of Wyoming Alpine ski team that won the NCAA title. In 1970, post-graduation, Walt returned to Colorado to head up the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club's Alpine program, while also being a rancher. By 1978, Steamboat's program had 280 members and 28 coaches, of which Walt became one, but no Executive Director, so Walt created the role, becoming Steamboat's first Executive Director, a position he held until 1983 when he went to work with the United States Ski Association as Alpine Program Director for the Rocky Mountain Division. In 1997, he became the USSA National Competition Director, overseeing and rebuilding their domestic competition program in all US Ski and Snowboard sports. During his time with the USSA, Walt helped engineer the National Development System, a program which worked with top clubs nationwide to provide elite training opportunities for rising Alpine racers. Walt returned to his Colorado roots in 2012 to finish up his storied ski career by taking the position of Director of Excellence with the Aspen Valley Ski Club, a position from which he retired in 2016. In 2013, The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association honored Walt during its annual USSA Congress in Park City, Utah, with the John J. Clair Jr. Award, recognizing service to the organization where he spent nearly 30 years.