

ALABAMA CATTLEWOMEN'S HALL OF HONOR AND COWBELLE AWARD GUIDELINES

Name

The Hall of Honor was established in 1990 as an honorary to be called the Alabama CattleWomen's Hall of Honor. The Cowbelle Award was established in 2002 as an honorary to deceased Alabama CattleWomen.

Purpose

The purpose of the Alabama CattleWomen's Hall of Honor is to bestow honor and recognition upon living CattleWomen who have made significant contributions in support of the Alabama CattleWomen's Association and the promotion of the beef industry. **The purpose of the Cowbelle Award** is to honor posthumously those CattleWomen, who during their lifetime, were an inspiration, mentor, and promoter of the Alabama CattleWomen's Association and the beef industry. The Cowbelle Award is a way to pay tribute to deceased Cattlewomen who gave their time, dedication and resources in service to Beef Promotion, Youth and the ACWA, but were not honored during their lifetime through induction into the Hall of Honor.

Meetings

Members shall meet immediately following the Hall of Honor and Awards Luncheon held during the Alabama Cattlemen's/women's Association State Convention Hall of Honor luncheon. This meeting will be held to update the Hall of Honor members.

Hall of Honor Coordinator

The Hall of Honor Coordinator will be elected from the Hall of Honor membership. She will serve a three year term. During the coordinator's second year, a co-coordinator will be elected in order to be mentored by the Coordinator. After one year of mentoring, the co-coordinator will become the Hall of Honor Coordinator.

Nominations for Hall of Honor

Each calendar year, the Hall of Honor may elect one new member for induction into the Hall of Honor. The Hall of Honor members have the option of not inducting any new member during a calendar year.

- Any member of the ACWA who has been a member at least two (2) years may make a nomination.
- Nominations to the Hall of Honor should be made through the individual county CattleWomen's organization. Individuals or county chapters may submit nominations.
- A CattleWoman in good membership standing may nominate a CattleWoman who resides in another county than her own. As a courtesy, the nominee's County President is to be notified of the nomination.

- The nominee must have been a county and state member for at least 2 years prior to her nomination with one exception: the ACWA president is not eligible for nomination or induction into Hall of Honor until two years following her year of service.
- Nominations will be kept for 2 years. If a nominee is not inducted, the nomination can be updated and resubmitted.
- Three letters of recommendation must accompany the nomination forms.
- The deadline for nominations and letters of recommendation is on or before December 31st.
- The nominee must receive 51% of votes returned from active Hall of Honor members in order to be inducted into their membership.

Nominations for Cowbelle Award

The Cowbelle Award may be given once annually if an appropriate nomination is received. The recipient will be memorialized during the Hall of Honor and Awards Luncheon at the annual convention. The ACWA will donate \$100 in the award recipient's name to the Louise Wilson Scholarship. Her name will also be added to the plaque on permanent display at the ACA building in Montgomery.

Criteria for Cowbelle Nominations

The nominee must be *deceased* and meet at least three of the following qualifications:

- Was an active ACWA member in good standing for at least 2 years.
- Served in a leadership position in her county or the ACWA. (i.e., County president or officer; state officer or county/state committee chairperson).
- Was active in her county and/or state activities (Cook-off, Beef Ambassador, promotions, etc.)
- Promoted youth in the beef industry.

Two letters of recommendation must be submitted with the nomination form.