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For Immediate Release:

From: Tom Critchley; MBCA Executive Director

For further information: <http://www/mshsca.org/boysbasketball>

2018 MBCA Hall of Honor

The MBCA Hall of Honor has been established to honor those persons who have helped to improve/promote/ and or serve basketball in Minnesota. Honorees have been longtime supporters of their local teams or have given outstanding service to the game of basketball. Awards are given in four categories: Officials, Media, Coach - Head/Assistant, and Friend of Basketball. To be eligible for the Hall of Honor, a person must have been involved with basketball for at least 20 years. That person must be nominated by a MBCA member, the MBCA Executive Board, or the MBCA Hall of Fame committee.

The following individuals will be inducted as the members of the MBCA Hall of Honor in 2018:

- **Bill Bentson; Media/Friend of Basketball** –Bill has been involved in nearly every aspect of a basketball game: player, coach (head, assistant, varsity, junior high, 5-6 grade for 40 plus years), scorekeeper, timer, public address announcer, radio announcer, TV commentator, referee, athletic director, principal, conference stat person (Pheasant and Three Rivers), and newspaper writer. Bill currently writes for and conducts the state-wide rankings for the Minnesota Basketball News, a task which he has done for the past 17 years.
- **Ron Haman; Official** – The 2018-19 basketball season will be Ron's 47th season as a MSHSL basketball official. He has served as assignor for the Suburban Officials Association, assigning basketball officials 38 years and softball officials 35 years. He has also been involved in the Suburban Officials Association mentoring program which he assisted in establishing. He served as a member of the MSHSL Basketball Advisory committee and also serves as a college basketball official. He has also officiated softball for 41 years, baseball for 10 years, and has officiated state tournaments in basketball and softball numerous times.
- **Bob Knutson; Coach** – Bob coached basketball for 42 years including 13 years as the Head Coach at New London-Spicer and 9 years as the Head Coach at Ridgewater College. His NL-S Wildcats teams won four Conference, seven Sub-Section and three Section Championships. Coach Knutson was recognized as Sub-Section and Section Coach of the Year multiple times. He also coached football as a head coach and assistant coach, assistant track coach and started the Girls BB program in '75-'76 (3yrs as head), with a Sub-Section Championship and COY in 1976. Bob continues to serve as a leader in the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation.
- **Ken Klawiter, Friend of Basketball** –Ken began doing the scoreboard for football, boys and girls basketball, and wrestling at Hayfield HS in 1972. The 2018-19 season will be his 47th consecutive year of serving Vikings athletic programs. He continues to do boys and girls basketball and wrestling full time and rarely has missed a game or match over the years. He has kept scoreboard for girls basketball from its very beginning at Hayfield. Ken taught math and industrial arts at Hayfield Community Schools from 1964-1998.
- **Tom Lano, Media** – Tom is in his 40th year of broadcasting going back to his high school days in Grand Rapids. Beginning at Grand Rapids in 1978, he has served with stints in Grand Rapids, Park Rapids, Grafton, ND and 30 years at KKCQ in Fosston. Tom has broadcasted almost 7,000 games [baseball, softball, football, volleyball, hockey, girls and boys basketball]. He has broadcasted every Minnesota State Boys Basketball Tournament since 1990, including the 1997 117-113 overtime game between Red Lake and Wabasso.

The honorees will be honored guests, recognized, and presented with a plaque at the MBCA Fall Clinic Awards Luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Minneapolis on Friday, October 26, 2018.