



INTERNATIONAL JEWISH SPORTS HALL OF FAME

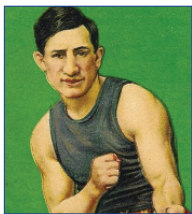
Yad Le'ish Hasport Hayehudi

"The Deeds of the Past Shall Inspire the Achievements of the Future"

Winter 2015

IJSHOF ELECTS SEVEN

Four Americans, a Canadian and two Russians have been elected to the International Jewish Hall of Fame for 2015. Honorees are:



San Francisco's **MONTE ATTELL** won the vacant World Bantamweight Championship in June 1909. He relinquished it the following year in a 42-round battle. During the period Monte held his title, older brother Abe Attell (an IJSHOF honoree) was World

Featherweight champion. The brothers are the only known siblings to hold simultaneous World Boxing Championships.

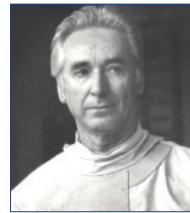
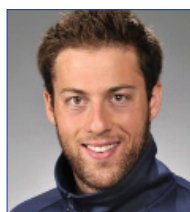
Figure Skater **ILYA AVERBUKH** was World Ice-Dancing champion in 2002 (with Irina Lobacheva). The Moscow-born husband-wife skaters were silver medalists at the 2002 Olympic Games, and took silver again at the 2003 World Championships. From 1997 to 2003, the Ilya-Irina team never finished lower than fourth at the annual World Championships.



Collegiate All-America and women's professional basketball pioneer **DONNA GEILS ORENDER** was president of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) 2005 to 2010. An All-American at Queens College (NY) in the mid-70s, she starred

for four teams in the only three seasons of the Women's Professional Basketball League (WBL).

American swimmer **GARRETT WEBER-GALE** won a pair of gold medals at the 2008 Beijing Games in the 4x100m Freestyle and Medley Relays, including the highly-charged event that resulted in an eighth gold medal for teammate Michael Phelps. Garrett also earned gold medals on U.S. 4x100m Freestyle and Medley Relay Teams at seven World Championships between 2005 and 2012.



Protégés of the late **DAVID TYSHLER**, Soviet-Russia's most celebrated fencing coach, won 27 Olympic medals, 17 of them gold, and 40 World Championship honors, 31 of them gold. As a competitor, Tyshler won either silver or bronze medals at five consecutive World Championships, and a Team bronze at the 1956 Olympics.

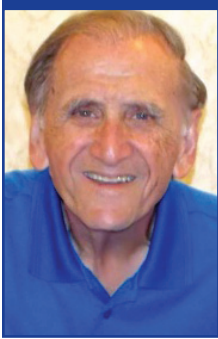
STEVE SANDLER, "the one-wall kingpin", won United States Handball Association Singles Championships eight times, 1966-71, 1973 and 1981. He was elected to the Handball Hall of Fame in 1985.



Canada's **SHERMAN GREENFELD** was International Racquetball Federation's World Champion in 1994 and 1998. In 1990, 1994 and 1998, he won Tournament of the Americas Championships. Sherman won more international championships (all sports) than any other Canadian.



Former NBA Commissioner David Stern, center, received his IJSHOF induction medal from Israeli basketball icon Tal Brody, right, at a special presentation in New York City earlier this year. At left is Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball franchise principal Oudi Recanadi. Brody, Israel's first modern-day sports hero, is a past IJSHOF honoree. In 1965 the New Jersey-born University of Illinois All-American opted to forgo the NBA to join the Maccabi-Tel Aviv team.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Each time I write a "From The Chairman" message, I comment about how the IJSHOF Museum is gasping for space. Our Israeli

associates have been enormously creative dealing with the minimal available space. Therefore, the reality is that we have to begin thinking about remodeling the existing HOF and bringing it into the new millennium of technology. I am estimating that the cost should be somewhere around \$250,000.

The IJSHOF Museum is situated on the third floor of Wingate's Student Union Building. We need to install a special handicap elevator for disabled students and guests, and elderly visitors. Currently, it is extraordinarily difficult, if not impossible for many visitors to struggle up, then down, three flights of stairs to reach the Museum or adjacent auditorium. This is a \$400,000 project.

I would be remiss if I did not mention my grateful thanks to those members of the International Executive Board who continue to support our efforts year after year.

Lastly, I would like to personally thank the International Selection Committee for its remarkable process that determines the HOF's honorees year after year, and their commitment to our high standards for recognition.

Warmest wishes for a healthy and peaceful new year to all,

Alan Sherman

301.602.9953

asherco@verizon.net



Read more about each of the honorees at:

WWW.JEWISHSPORTS.NET

IJSHOF'S 2015 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO PATRIOTS ROBERT KRAFT



Robert Kraft, owner of the National Football League's New England Patriots, Major League Soccer's New England Revolution, and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of The Kraft Group, has been named recipient of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame's 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Awarded annually, the Lifetime Achievement Award honors those individuals who have contributed to Jewish life, Israel, society and the community at large, through sports.

Born and raised in Brookline, Massachusetts, Kraft has owned the Patriots since 1994, and Revolution, a charter MLS franchise, since its founding in 1996. TKG is a diversified holding company with assets in paper and packaging, sports and entertainment, real estate development, and a private equity portfolio.

The Kraft family has gifted more than \$100 million to a variety of philanthropic causes, most significantly those related to health, education, child/women's issues,

and Israel. Included are the Kraft Family Stadium in Jerusalem and the Kraft Family Israel Football League, in support of American Football Israel.

Among Kraft's numerous personal honors are the NCAA's Theodore Roosevelt Award, induction into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and, in 2012, he was the first NFL owner in the 43-year history of the Pro Football Writers of America's George Halas Award to receive the annual honor.

3 WAYS TO VISIT THE HALL OF FAME

#1 Visiting Israel?

One historic stop you don't want to miss is the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame Museum in Netanya.



In fact, you shouldn't miss seeing the Wingate College campus, itself, where Israeli Olympians train, and Middle East coaching hopefuls and future sports physiology candidates learn their trade.

The Hall of Fame Museum extols the history of successful Jewish athletes and sportsmen/women at the highest levels of sport, and features photos, biographies and personal artifacts of more than 350 Jewish sport heroes.

The Wingate campus is easy to reach. From Tel Aviv it is on the Tel Aviv-Haifa Road—the main drag between TA and northern Israel—as you approach Netanya; from the north (Haifa) as you leave Netanya.

And, if you email or phone ahead of your trip, our Hall of Fame Director will arrange a V.I.P. tour for you.

#2 However, if you don't have plane tickets you can still visit the IJSHOF on your computer, at: www.JewishSports.net.



#3 Or, you can purchase the fourth edition of Jewish Sports Legends, the coffee table book that mirrors both the live IJSHOF Museum and Hall of Fame website (thru 2005), plus more!



Jewish Sports Legends makes a great gift for the Jewish sportophile, as well as bar and bat mitzvah celebrants.

Jewish Sports Legends can be purchased via your favorite on-line book seller and at conventional book stores.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS



World champion fencer Sada Jacobson Baby, right, received her IJSHOF induction medal this past summer at a private ceremony hosted by IJSHOF Executive Board Member Dr. Steve Wertheim in Atlanta. Elected in 2012, Sada was the World's #1 ranked women's sabreur in 2004. She won two gold medals, a pair of silvers and a bronze at World Championships in 2000, 2004–2006. She earned a bronze at the 2004 Olympics, and a silver and bronze at the 2008 Games.



This past summer, Harry Swimmer, right, a Charlotte, N.C. community activist, was recipient of the annual IJSHOF Lifetime Achievement honors. The Lifetime Award was presented by IJSHOF Chairman Alan Sherman, center, and Hall of Fame Board member Mel Miller, left. 2014 marked the 20th anniversary of Swimmer's Misty Meadows Mitey Riders project, a therapeutic equine-assisted activities program for children with special needs.

No KIDDING?

For better or worse, Jews generally know little about the rich history of our people's accomplishments in the sportsworld. More often than not, the concept is a set-up for a joke, or a total revelation that Jewish athletes have won more than 350 Olympic medals, and set new World records, or have been a significant success factor for events played in ballparks, athletic fields, courts and arenas.

The International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame's mandate is to establish and call attention to factual information regarding the contributions of Jewish athletes and sportsmen/women.

The IJSHOF has relied on the goodwill of its adherents and advocates for the past 35 years to voluntarily contribute to the continuity of the Hall of Fame's facilities, on-going research, and varied activities.

Since the last newsletter, **supporters have made it possible to: install air conditioning within the Museum area;** which, in turn, not only provides year around comfort for visitors, but now allows the display of organic memorabilia sensitive to arid middle east climate (uniforms, boxing gloves, balls, art, etc.). **We are hopeful** that the generosity of supporters will also provide funds to develop a fifth edition of **Jewish Sports Legends**, updating the popular series of books to include information and photos beyond the previous 2005 edition.

It's no bulletin that financial times are difficult, certainly no more so than in the State of Israel. In other words, **we can use your financial help NOW!**

The Hall of Fame, via American Friends of Wingate, is a 501c3 organization. **Donations are tax deductible.** You can also participate in our Tribute Program or with a personal financial gift. **We need you on our team.**

CRITERIA FOR ELECTION

In addition to a potential candidate having at least one Jewish parent AND considers him/herself Jewish, the candidate must have accomplished at least one of the following:

- An Olympic gold medal
- A World Championship gold medal
- Multiple-Olympic or World Championship medals
- A World record
- Amateur or professional World Championship
- Been elected to the hall of fame of the athlete's/contributor's sport
- Recorded a unique achievement(s)
- Was a sports pioneer, innovator or key participant in commemorative circumstances



**INTERNATIONAL
JEWISH
SPORTS
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Israel:

Wingate Institute ■ Netanya 42902
phone: 09.8639521

Eastern United States:

7922 Turncrest Dr. ■ Potomac, MD 20854
301.602.9953 ■ fax: 301.765.9865

Western United States:

1371 S. Beverly Glen Blvd., #303
Los Angeles, CA 90024
310.475.4370 ■ fax: 310.474.0960

website: www.JewishSports.net
email: jsportslegends@aol.com

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pr@wingate.org.il

PAST CHAIRMAN Joseph Siegman

... Who Knew?

- That in 1922, 25-year old Wisconsin cattleman and football enthusiast **Nate Abrams** was named Green Bay Packers franchise owner when he gave team player-coach Curly Lambeau \$3,000 to cover team expenses.
- That prominent Danish mathematician **Harald Bohr**, younger brother of 1922 Nobel Prize physicist Niels Bohr (considered the greatest physicist of his time), was a soccer silver medalist for Denmark at the 1908 Olympics.
- That the Brooklyn Dodgers signed University of Cincinnati hurler **Sandy Koufax** in 1955 for \$6,000 (plus a \$14,000 signing bonus). The signing gave the Dodgers a pair of rookie southpaw pitchers. So they sent the other lefty, Tom Lasorda, to the minors.
- That Russia (Soviet Union) did not compete in the Olympics until 1952, the same year **Israel made it's Olympic Games' entry**. Inasmuch as the Soviets were involved in an international cold war and Israel had only recently been founded, back-room chatter claimed the two national entries were green-lighted as a package deal between international sport leaders who weren't particularly fond of one-another.
- That **Barney Ross**, holder three World boxing titles during the 1930s, trained as a young amateur with Chicago buddy Jack Rubenstein — later known as Jack Ruby, the Texas nightclub owner who shot Lee Harvey Oswald, killer of President John F. Kennedy.
- That Romanian table tennis champion **Farkas Paneth** played the longest match in recorded history — 2 hours, 12 minutes — at the 1936 World Championships vs Polish champion Alojzy Ehrlich (also Jewish). The ball crossed the net more than 12,000 times. After 70 minutes, the score was 0-0. Paneth lost the match, but led his Romanian team to the World silver medal.
- That England's **Lewis Gompertz**, inventor of the rudimentary bicycle chain and steering mechanism in 1821, was a founder of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
- That **Benny Lom**, a 3-time Cal-Berkeley triple-threat All-American is best remembered as the heady halfback who famously caught and tackled his disoriented teammate who ran the wrong way with a recovered fumble at the 1929 Rose Bowl game.
- That Topps v.p. **Sy Berger**, "the father of modern day baseball cards," who Ted Williams called "the Jewish bubble gum guy," dumped uncut sheets of 1952 baseball cards (including the prized Mickey Mantle rookie cards) into New York's East River, because the gum manufacturer was pressed for storage space. In 2010, just one Topps Mantle rookie card sold for \$130,000!

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7922 Turncrest Dr.
Potomac, MD 20854