

## RH HoF Reference Data for Brian Wolcott

**Nominated as: Player**

**Vetter: Bill Bierne, HoF Trustee**

**Nominator: Rich Seiler, HoF 2024**

**References: Willie Boyd, HoF 2017, & Dave Cooper, HoF 2015**

**Bill Bierne Notes:**

I believe Brian checks all the boxes to be considered for the 2025 Class.

## Career and Achievements from nominator and references

### Quick Facts

- **Born:** 1958
- **Hometown:** Plymouth, Michigan
- **Roy Hobbs Experience:** 16+ years
- **Teams:** Border City Brewers
- **Position:** Pitcher/Middle Infielder

### The Warrior

One word defines Brian Wolcott: **Warrior**. From Little League to Roy Hobbs, from the classroom to the diamond, Wally embodies fierce competitiveness, endurance, and the heart of a champion.

### Championship DNA



**12 Roy Hobbs World Series Championships**



**Multiple MVP Awards** (including 2023 & 2024)



**Championships in every division played** (45+, 53+, 60+, 65+)



**Never lost a Championship game he started**

### The Clutch Performer

**2023 AAAA Championship:** 7-inning shutout

**2024 AAAA Championship:** 9-inning, 124-pitch complete game gem

**Signature Move:** Always gets the call for semifinals and championships

**Mental Mastery:** Plays chess while others play checkers

### Career Highlights

**Youth Success:** - Started Little League at age 8 - Led team to 2 community championships by age 12  
- 8-0 record as middle school ace - 15-0 senior year in high school - First-Team All-State Dream Team  
- State Championship winner

**College Excellence:** - Michigan State University scholarship recipient - Big Ten Championship team member - 3x Academic All-Big Ten - Tied school record for career victories

**International:** - 1980 & 1981 USA Baseball team member - 1981 Gold Medals: World Games & Intercontinental Cup - Championship game hero vs. Cuba (bases loaded, 10th inning save) - Signed with Milwaukee Brewers organization

### Beyond Baseball Excellence

**Educational Leadership:** - 38-year career in education - Teacher of the Year - Oakland County, Michigan - Alumni Administrator of the Year

Led school to "Top 50" high school in nation designation - 12 years as Principal at Father Gabriel Richard High School - 12 years as Youth Minister

### The Wolcott Way

**Dedication:** - Plays through pain when team needs him - 2023: Could barely lift arm, still won championship - Drives home immediately after victories, arm throbbing - Never makes excuses, always delivers

**Objectivity:** - Acknowledges great plays by opponents - Maintains grace under pressure - Psychological mastermind on the mound - Wins with humility, loses with dignity

### Family Man & Mentor

- Married 43 years to Dorothy
- 3 successful children (including MSU baseball player)
- 3 athletic grandchildren
- Currently coaches grandson's U11 travel team
- Mentored countless youth through teaching and ministry

### What Sets Wally Apart

**The Ultimate Teammate:** - First to praise others' success - Quiet leadership by example - Makes everyone around him better - Consummate professional in victory and defeat

**The Competitor:** - Saves best for biggest moments - Masters of adjustments and strategy - Changes speeds, varies deliveries, finds ways to win - Thrives under championship pressure

### Recent Heroics

In recent years, when most would be slowing down, Wally continues to excel: - Regular pitcher in quarterfinals and semifinals - Two straight MVP performances in championship games - Still playing middle infield when not pitching - Leading new generation of Brewers to titles

### Why Wally Belongs in the Hall of Fame

Brian Wolcott represents everything the Roy Hobbs Baseball Hall of Fame stands for: - **Excellence:** Championships at every level - **Longevity:** Still dominating in his 60s - **Character:** Teacher, principal, mentor, minister - **Leadership:** Quiet strength that elevates teams - **Clutch Performance:** Never lost when it mattered most - **Complete Player:** Elite pitcher and position player - **Life Impact:** 38 years shaping young minds

From Little League phenom to international champion, from educator to Roy Hobbs legend, Brian "Wally" Wolcott has spent a lifetime proving that true warriors never stop competing, learning, and giving back.

*"Still ready to take the ball when the game is on the line."*

## **Nominator Rich Seiler's Comments:**

### **1. Please tell us how this individual and his character affect Roy Hobbs Baseball, the game of baseball and his baseball colleagues on and off the field, and why.**

Brian Wolcott...he can be summed up in a word: Warrior. The word evokes fierceness, a competitive Spirit, and endurance. Having played against and with him, Brian is a player I have observed that is always ready to take the field in whatever position he is asked to play. He dominates as a pitcher. He is the "go to" guy to pitch in the many championship games on teams that he has lead throughout the years, especially the Border City Brewers in the Roy Hobbs World Series.

A lot of so-called experts say that the Championship game is the most important game in a tournament. You have to win the semi-final game, usually, in order to get a chance to play in the Final Championship game. Earlier in his baseball tournament life, Brian, who we call "Wally," would get the call to pitch and win that game to get his team to the Finals. Now, he hits and plays the field, waiting for his turn to win in the final game. He has started and won numerous Championship games for the Brewers over the years and not lost any.

Wally is that 'guy' on the bench too. He misses nothing, praises great plays, whether for or against, and shares in everyone else's success. All the while talking about something or another that interests him or that he (usually) finds amusing generally. He has the enviable character of being humble while retaining the heart of a Tiger on the prowl during games.

You don't hear him bellowing out raucous chatter, yet, he is the consummate teammate by supporting everyone with a pat on the back or positive word that would often make the difference for his team to be successful.

### **2. What qualities and/or Roy Hobbs Baseball accomplishments make this individual special ... that they STAND APART from their peers and should be recognized through induction to the Roy Hobbs Baseball Hall of Fame?**

Qualities and Accomplishments: Wally has what it takes to win in every facet of life, whether it be Baseball, Family, or Career. He has used his talents and abilities to reach the pinnacle of each.

As a Family man, he has been blessed with 3 wonderful, successful children accompanied by his wife of 43 years, Dorothy. Through mentorship, coaching and living by example, his children are thriving as model citizens as they pursue careers and their own paths.

As a Career, teaching young children for many years is one of the most Noble pursuits in society. Wally's efforts were well recognized by his peers. He was selected to be chosen as a school Principal for 12 years at Father Gabriel Richard High School. That school is one of the top ranked schools in all of America. This standing is directly the result of Wally's leadership, vision, dedication and devotion to finishing what he has started. A truly remarkable achievement crowning a terrific career. In addition to his already demanding role as Principal, Wally served as a Youth Minister for

over 12 years, yet another testament to his devotion to the spiritual growth and discipline of the youth he mentored.

Many of Wally's Baseball accomplishments are listed herein. There are a few I want to make note of here that stand out with regard to Roy Hobbs Baseball. He has been involved with playing in the Hobbs World Series in Ft. Meyers for at least 16 years, all with the Border City Brewers Baseball Team. He has won Championships in every division he has played: the 45s, where he won at least one MVP; the 53s, where he was on several winning teams; the 60s and more Championships; and now the 65s where he has several more Championships as well as two MVPs. He has 12 Roy Hobbs World Series Championships, several Second-Place finishes, a rare pitching shutout and a complete game victory in his most recent Championship game. The Brewers as a team have won many games. On a team with numerous Hall of Fame Players, Wally has held his own and excelled as a teammate who plays with the passion to win, and his baseball success is but a reflection of his success in life.

**3. From your list of character qualities and/or your line of reasoning in support of your candidate, if you could pick only 2, which would they be and why? These should be compelling, and your stories should demonstrate how your candidate is EXCEPTIONAL in regard to Roy Hobbs Baseball. \***

The two characteristics that Wally has in abundance are these: dedication, and objectivity.

First, Wally is dedicated to baseball and dedicated to the finest levels of competition. Many has been the time when his overworked pitching arm was called upon yet again to master a lineup of 9 skilled opposing players. Many's the time that he has elevated the level of his own play to match them, put aside the torment and fire in his right shoulder, and soldiered on. It takes a lot of dedication.

Last year, in the AAAA Championship Game, Wally was in that exact state. He could barely lift his arm to eat. Silently, and relentlessly, he changed speeds, dippy doodled his deliveries and carried the day against arch-rivals, the Washington Titans. The game was close for the first 4 or 5 innings, but he held them, and the Brewers prevailed. Right after the game, he, and two teammates from Detroit were in the car, heading home, with Wally at the wheel, driving with his other arm.

Second, Wally has objectivity. He approaches the game with honesty, humility, respect, dedication, but fundamentally, with objectivity. Objectivity is the foundation for many things in this game – primarily though, sportsmanship. Wally has the blessing of objectivity. He doesn't get bent on a bad call, nor do great plays made against him cause him grief. He readily acknowledges them for what they are and continues.

He's a psychological mastermind, playing the cat and mouse game within a game all the time, and he does it with grace, humility, and almost always, a big smile on his face. As a direct derivative of his life experiences and leadership skills, that would not be possible without his terrific ability to be objective.

From a Little League standout to a collegiate star, from an international gold medalist to a Roy Hobbs warrior, Brian Wolcott's baseball story is one of excellence, longevity, and heart. Through it all, he's remained a student of the game, a mentor to others, and a fierce competitor—still ready to take the ball when the game is on the line.