

RH HoF Reference Data for Steve D'Ercole

Nominated as: Player

Vetter: Bill Russo, HoF Trustee and HoF 2024

Nominator: Jose Rosado, HoF 2023

References: Troy Cox, HoF 2013, & Steve LaRussa, HoF 2019

Bill Russo Notes:

If we were going by stats alone, Steve D'Ercole is a qualified candidate the RH Hall of Fame. From his nominator and the references, Steve is not only an outstanding player, but also he is an excellent leader of men. He does this mainly by example and quietly goes about volunteering and helping in his community.

Steve was very active with Gives Kids the World in Kissimmee. Steve would volunteer installing communications cabling in buildings and the lodges for terminally ill children.

He would install fiber optic cables between buildings as well as copper cabling inside to improve voice and data for workers as well as guests of the facility.

Steve has also worked with the Safe House of Seminole (Battered women's shelter) helping the Orlando Baseball league during its annual food drive by both collecting and delivering of donations. Steve has Volunteered to man the grill during our annual Bikes and BBQ event.

Steve and his coworkers have participated in a day of caring by helping the Orlando chapter of Habitat for Humanity build some of the homes in the Orlando area.

Steve volunteered at Lake Mary Elementary with what was called Net Days. Which included donating and installing communications cabling so the children could have access to high-speed Internet. Steve spent an entire weekend pulling and terminating cable from the admin building to the different wings and classrooms. High speed Internet is now available to students to help with their learning.

Numerous times, Steve has volunteered at Seminole County Schools educating students on the world of communications and networking to give students a better understanding of how it works.

Career and Achievements from nominator and references

Quick Facts

- **Born:** 1959
- **Hometown:** Lake Mary, Florida
- **Roy Hobbs Experience:** 20+ years
- **Position:** Shortstop/Pitcher
- **Teams:** 35+ Palm Bay Americans, 45+ Orlando Brewers

Championship Pedigree

🏆 **Multiple 4A Championships** in both 35+ and 45+ divisions

🏆 **2017 MVP Award** - Game-winning hit in 4A Championship game

🏆 **17+ League Championships**

★ **Multiple MVP Awards** in league play

The Clutch Player

Steve stepped up when it mattered most. In the 2017 4A Championship game, he delivered the game-winning hit that secured victory for his team, earning MVP honors. This wasn't luck—it was the culmination of years of preparation meeting opportunity.

Leadership On and Off the Field

Steve's baseball IQ sets him apart. He's the defensive quarterback of the infield, always positioning himself and his teammates for success. His knowledge of the game and ability to anticipate plays make everyone around him better.

Team-First Mentality: Volunteers to sit during tournaments to ensure everyone gets playing time - Always encouraging teammates to improve - Known for his mild-mannered approach and unwavering loyalty

Community Champion

Steve's contributions extend beyond the diamond: - Regular volunteer at league events (All-Star games, HOF ceremonies, fundraisers) - Annual participant in SafeHouse food drive - Always willing to help grow the league and support fellow players

Professional Baseball Journey

- 📌 **1979:** Drafted by Philadelphia Phillies (10th round)
- 🎓 **1981:** Played in College World Series with Mississippi State University
- ⚾ **1981:** Signed as free agent with New York Mets
- 🌐 **1983-1985:** Canadian Professional League
- 🇮🇹 **1985-1987:** Italian Professional League

Hall of Fame Credentials

- Member of Orlando Baseball Association Hall of Fame
- 30+ years playing in Orlando area (MSBL and Orlando Baseball Association)
- Respected by teammates, opponents, and league officials alike

What They Say About Steve

"Steve is not only a great player but a player any manager would love to have on his team; he's what you would call a true team player." - Jose Rosado, Nominator

"You would be hard pressed to find anyone who has anything negative to say about Steve." - Team testimonial

The D'Ercole Difference

Steve embodies everything Roy Hobbs Baseball represents: - Competitive excellence - Sportsmanship - Leadership - Community involvement - Love of the game

After 20+ years of Roy Hobbs World Series appearances and countless championships, for the Roy Hobbs Baseball Hall of Fame.

Nominator Jose Rosado'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.

Steve Has attended the Roy Hobbs world series for more than 20 years and has won multiple 4A Championships in both the 35+ and 45+ divisions playing for both 35+ Palm Bay Americans and 45+ Orlando Brewers. Even getting the game winning hit in the 2017 4A Championship game and winning the MVP award. He's played in the Orlando area for the past 30 years in both the MSBL and Orlando Baseball Association

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?

Team leadership and knowledge of the game sets Steve apart from most players. He's always in the right place defensively and does excellent job of positioning his teammates to make the plays. He's definantly a leader on and off the field with his wiliness to help the league during league events (All Star games, HOF ceremony, Fundraisers, etc.) and always volunteering during our annual SafeHouse food drive are just some of the things that make Steve a great candidate.

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. *

Steve is not only a great player but a player any manager would love to have his team; he's what you would call a true team player. Whether he's playing shortstop or on the mound, he's always giving it his all and always encouraging his teammates to do better. Steve would volunteer to sit to give others playing time or at bats which makes my job as manager a lot easier especially during tournament play. His mild manner ways and his loyalty to his team, the league and fellow teammates set him apart. You would be hard pressed to find anyone who has anything negative to say about Steve.

Here are a few examples of some of the charity work Steve has done, both in our baseball league and in the Orlando area as well.

1. Steve was very active with Gives Kids the World in Kissimmee. Steve would volunteer installing communications cabling in buildings and the lodges for terminally ill children. He would install fiber optic cables between buildings as well as copper cabling inside to improve voice and data for workers as well as guests of the facility.
2. Steve has also worked with the Safe House of Seminole (Badder women's shelter) helping our league during our annual food drive by both collecting and delivering of donations. Steve has Volunteered to man the grill during our annual Bikes and BBQ event.
3. Steve and his coworkers have participated in a day of caring by helping the Orlando chapter of Habitat for Humanity build some of the homes in the Orlando area.
4. Steve volunteered at Lake Mary Elementary with what was called Net Days. Which included donating and installing communications cabling so the children could have access to high-speed internet. Steve spent an entire weekend pulling and terminating cable from the admin building to the different wings and classrooms. High speed internet is now available to students to help with their learning.

5. Numerous times, Steve has volunteered at Seminole County Schools educating students on the world of communications and networking to give students a better understanding of how it works.