

# Alabama Baseball Coaches Association Distinguished Service Award



## **RON INGRAM** **1999 Recipient**

*“In Recognition of a Lifetime of Outstanding Achievement in the game of Baseball.  
The State of Alabama will forever be in your debt.”*

Ron Ingram is a graduate of Pike County High School (1970) and the University of Alabama (1974) with a degree in Journalism and minor in Radio and Television. He served as sports editor of the Dothan Progress from 1975-1981, then as sports editor of the Dothan Eagle from 1981-1984.

A four-sport participant in high school (football, baseball, basketball, track), he became prep sports editor of the Birmingham News in 1984 and remained for 24 years before joining the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) as an Assistant Director in 2007. The award-winning writer has been named the Alabama Sports Writers Association (Bill Shelton Award) Sports Writer of the Year and has captured the ASWA's sweepstakes writing award twice (1987 and 1994).

He started and chaired ASWA state football rankings, basketball rankings and All-State teams from 1978 until 2008 and initiated the ASWA Mr. Football, Mrs. And Miss Basketball, Mr. Baseball and Miss Softball Awards, which are given annually. He also managed the Birmingham News All-State Teams for football, basketball, softball, baseball, wrestling and volleyball.

He is currently in his 10th year as Director of Communications for the AHSAA. He has served on the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS) Hall of Fame Screening Committee, was chairman the NFHS National Records Committee from 2014-17 and currently serves on the NFHS Heart of the Arts and Spirit of Sport Award committees. He has been a member of the Bryant-Jordan Selection Committee and Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame Committee for more than 25 years.

Ingram was inducted into the Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame in 2009, inducted into the Alabama Sports Writers Association Hall of Fame in 2013 and the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2015. The Alabama Sports Hall of Fame presented him the Mel Allen Media Award for meritorious service as a sports journalist in 2017 and was also recognized as the Alabama Community Journalist of the Year in 2012 by Auburn University. He received the Hector Award from Troy University for his work in journalism in 1996. He was inducted into the Alabama Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1999 (for Distinguished Service), received the Birmingham Tip-Club's Frank Nix Award and was presented a lifetime membership by the Alabama Football Coaches Association for Distinguished Service. He received the Fellowship of Christian Athletes John Russell "Ambassador of the Game" Award in 2006.

Ingram has authored two books, *Tales of Alabama High School Football* (with Rubin Grant), and *Sammy Dunn - Dynasty on the Diamond*.

**Honored January 10, 1999**