

Alabama Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame



DARRELL HOBSON **Class of 2016**

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

Darrell Gene Hobson was born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on June 8, 1960. He is the son of Wayne and Rachel Hobson, both deceased. Darrell has been married to his wife, Jenny, for 31 years. They have a daughter and a son, Jordan and Jeremy. Coach Hobson and his wife presently live in Grove Hill, Alabama where they are both employed at Clarke Preparatory School.

Darrell is a 1978 graduate of Bibb County High School. As a student there, he participated in baseball, basketball, and football. He excelled as a baseball player, earning All-State status during his junior and senior seasons. In addition, he set records for “most career hits” and “career batting average,” both of which still stand today. From 1980-1981, he attended Marion Military Institute and played as a member of the baseball team for two years. He later attended Livingston University from 1981-1984 where he earned a Bachelor of Education and also played on the college baseball team for two years.

Hobson began his coaching career at the high school level in 1985. During the years of 1985-1989, he served as the varsity basketball and baseball coach at West Blocton High School. In 1990, he had the opportunity to return to his alma mater, Bibb County High School, as the head baseball coach, assistant basketball coach, and assistant football coach. During his career at Bibb County High School, Hobson’s baseball teams received many honors. He led the school in winning their only baseball state championship title in 2001. In addition, he led the Choctaws to play in three additional State Championship finals during the years of 2000, 2002, and 2007. During his leadership, Hobson’s baseball teams earned a record of 553 wins and 151 losses. He coached three teams that finished the regular season ranked as #1 in the final polls. His Choctaws were area champions for seventeen of the eighteen years he coached at Bibb County. While serving at Bibb County High School, 84 of Hobson’s players received baseball scholarships. Six of those players continued their careers by playing baseball and football at the professional level. During Hobson’s term, he was selected as State Coach of the Year three times and West Alabama Coach of the Year on ten occasions. In 2001, he received his highest honor when he was named NFHS (National Federation of High Schools) South Section Coach of the Year. Coach Hobson retired from the public school system in 2010 after 27 years of service.

In 2011, Coach Hobson was hired at Clarke Prep School as the head varsity baseball coach, physical education teacher, and junior varsity football coach. Under his direction, the school’s baseball teams have finished their seasons ranked in the top 10 during each of Hobson’s four seasons as the Gators’ head coach. His record as head baseball coach at CPS is 92-37-2. The 2014 team won the AISA State Championship title with a record of 29-8-1. In 2014, Hobson was named AISA Coach of the Year. He has coached the West All Star teams in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015. Seven of Hobson’s players have received baseball scholarships during his career at Clarke Prep. Coach Hobson has achieved a total career record of 645-188-2 over his 29 year career of baseball service.

Although Coach Hobson is proud and honored to be a part of great baseball achievements, he believes his most profound achievement was not accomplished as part of his long-standing baseball career. Rather, he feels his greatest accomplishment was accepting the Lord as his Savior in 2010. This is a gift he strives to impart to his current and future players in addition to his baseball knowledge and love for the game.

Inducted January 22, 2016