



Received by \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_\_\_\_\_



TEXAS  
SENIOR SOFTBALL  
HALL OF FAME  
APPLICATION



Submit to: TSSHOF Chapter Director/Committee Members

(Please Type)

**Category:** Circle appropriate category: PLAYER, MANAGER, TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR, UMPIRE, SPONSOR, SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT <----- Special Achievement

**Candidate Name:** Fry Stan  
**Last Name** **First Name** **Initial**

**Address:** 2626 Loyola  
Lubbock TX 79415  
**City** **State** **Zip Code**

**Telephone:** 806 789-6666 **Residence:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** 3-7-1947 **Place of Birth:** Dallas, TX

**Current Occupation:** President - Electrifiers Electrical Contractors

**How did you first learn about Senior Softball?** For this and all other questions, please see attached memo.

**Positions Played:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Years Participating in Texas Senior Softball:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Team:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Previous Senior Softball Teams:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

July 3, 2025

To: Mr. Tom Altman and the TSSHOF Selection Committee

From: Jerry Koch and Gary McCoy, Lubbock Senior Softball Nominating Committee and Recommenders for Induction

RE: Stan Fry, Candidate for Induction – Special (Lifetime) Achievement

Stan Fry is the face of Lubbock Senior Softball. He was one of four founding coaches and sponsors that started the league in 1998, shortly after Stan turned 50. He has, continuously and to the present, sponsored and coached the team named for his family business – The Electrifiers. Stan is the President, and the team is aptly named for the energy he brings to the field. He also coaches and sponsors an SSUSA tournament team with the same logo.

The backdrop of Stan's service to Senior Softball is a lifetime of dedication to local sports. From the time Stan's two daughters were in elementary school, he coached Lubbock Girls Softball. His 6–8-year-old team placed 10<sup>th</sup> out of 100 teams in a National tournament in Detroit. His 8-12 team won the State championship, and his 13-18 team won the National Championship in 1998. He also coached boys and girl's city league basketball, winning several local titles. He remains Treasurer of Lubbock Youth Softball. In 2023, he was inducted into the Lubbock Boys and Girls Club Hall of Fame, and he provides ongoing electrical work for them as the need arises. Playing, coaching, and supporting all things Lubbock Sports is his life's work.

Under Stan's leadership and with his energy, those first 4 teams and 40 or so Lubbock Senior Softball players doubled in size by 2003 to 8 teams and nearly 100 players. The league steadily grew to 12 teams, peaking just prior to the pandemic at about 140. Rebuilding, the league fielded 10 teams in 2022 and 2023 and is back to 11 for the current season.

Stan played in the league from 1998-2013 and served on the Board from 1998-2022. He was elected President on and off for roughly half of his board service, and alternately served as Player Agent, Treasurer, and Commissioner. Through his business contacts, he recruited other sponsors and facilitated the printing and distributing of new team jerseys every year. Thus, for Lubbock Senior Softball, Stan has been a mainstay of service, wisdom, and enthusiasm for 27 straight years.

Stan is meticulous, organized, and relentlessly fair. For those who only know him from a distance, this is sometimes mistaken for irascible. Though does covet a "grumpy old man" persona, those who get to know him at all understand it's just cover for a heart that will not quit (see below). He is a thoughtful and dignified leader who honors the game with a quest for excellence.

Over the past 20 years, Stan's Electrifiers League Team has finished with a winning record 16 times and won the season championship 5 times. This is because he is meticulous, organized, and relentlessly fair. Our league re-organizes the teams every year, and we fill rosters with a coach's draft. Stan does his homework and keeps records. He takes copious notes at the start-of-season "tryouts." This is essentially an opportunity for new members to show their skills. No one is denied membership. But Stan pays attention. Throughout the season, he keeps a close eye on the players across the diamond. He notes who plays where, how they carry themselves, hit, and field. He brings all of that to the next draft, and he picks the best available player for the position he next needs to fill. That's why they win. Moreover, his teams are remarkably cohesive, sportsmanlike and loyal.

Stan has more institutional wisdom and respect for the game than anyone who has ever taken the field in our league. When rule changes are proposed, he brings hindsight and foresight to the implications. Above all, he holds our feet to the fire, so the rule changes don't fundamentally change the game. Thus, changes are usually limited to what makes play safer and more fun.

He brings that same mindset to the sometimes-dicey task of making All Tournament selections in SSUSA play. This can be a minefield for morale, but Stan keeps the rubric pretty simple: Batting average in Bracket Play. You can't win if you don't score; you can't score if you don't hit. To Stan, "All-Tournament" means bringing your best when it matters the most. This past season, our #10 hitter caught lightening in a bottle in the two qualifying tournaments. Now he has two patches – something he never thought possible.

Stan took over coaching our SSUSA team toward the end of their 55+ eligibility. For the next few years and through 60+ play, the team played hard, travelling to Georgetown, El Paso, Grapevine, Aurora, Tulsa and Las Vegas, culminating with a "Finalist" trophy at the Chili Pepper Classic in El Paso, 2019.

As soon as enough of us were eligible, Stan re-organized the current 65+ team to play Double A starting in 2022. We both play on that team. We now close this essay with a recap of that team's exploits, using these stories to showcase how and why Stan is our cherished leader, mentor, and friend.

**2022.** We played Chili Pepper in El Paso, the Texas State Championships in Grapevine, and the Rocky Mountain Championships in Aurora. In El Paso, we got well and truly pasted in pool play. Late in the day, Stan checked the next day's schedule and sort of stomped into the dugout. "We play tomorrow at 8 o'clock. Be here at 7:30." He turned and apparently heard us groan at the thought. El Paso in March can be freezing in the morning, and the sunrise is blinding. Stan turned back around and declared rather forthrightly (and correctly as it turned out): "You wanted to sleep in you shoulda played better." Enough of us saw the tiny smirk and head tilt. It cracked us up. We played some better, but it was a short tournament for us to say the least.

Then we played better for real. We won the State Championship in Grapevine, undefeated in the bracket. Then we won Rocky Mountain in Aurora, staying in the winner's bracket by coming from 13 runs down with one out, last at-bat in the buffet.

**A heart that won't quit - August 2022.** As we were packing up in the dugout after the Aurora trophy presentation, Stan let us know he'd be having heart surgery in a couple of weeks. He'd been putting it off to attend his granddaughter's July wedding in London. We wished him well and took note.

His surgery itself went well but the recovery took a dark turn. He stayed on the ventilator for over two weeks, and there were background discussions on what to do should it become even more clear he might not make it off. One of our guys became a liaison with his wife and – with unusual access to the hospital – was able to keep the team informed. Our guy called her shortly before the league game a couple weeks hence. He reported to an ad hoc team meeting that it wasn't getting better. And might not. And then – two hours later and very late in the evening - we got another text: He'd taken a turn forward.

He spent September into December in either the hospital or a rehab facility. He was getting grumpier and losing weight but not giving up. By Christmas he was safely home, and in early February on a plane to coach us at Nationals. None of us will ever forget him being wheeled from the parking lot to the dugout, then walking the lineup card to the plate.

It would be a fairy tale ending to say we won. But we got third.

Stan is not one for speeches or sentiment. But when he gathered us up near the parking lot, he said just enough so there'd be no mistake: He knew that "each and every one of y'all" -- our chemistry, spirit, and friendship -- helped him stay in the game. We will never forget it. We are still that team.

**2023.** By this time his health had leveled yet even now remains a work in progress. We won in El Paso in '23, but wound-up Finalists at Grapevine and Aurora. So we didn't qualify for Nationals. But that Chili Pepper trophy, just 6 months past life support, is a treasure.

**2024.** A couple of guys got healthier. Another guy got older and was able to play down with us. We double qualified again with wins at Grapevine and Aurora. And in January 2025, Stan led us to the 65+ AA National Championship.

Stan Fry's Induction into the Texas Senior Softball Hall of Fame, as a national champion, might just put a smile on the face of Lubbock Senior Softball.

We thank you.